

May 2016

Dear New Kindergarten Families,

Welcome to North Beach! We are pleased that you're beginning your child's educational journey with us! Right now staff members are preparing for your arrival. Good news... due to an increase in state funding, there is no longer a charge for all day kindergarten! Another new aspect to kindergarten this year is the *Family Connection Meeting*. This is an individual meeting that will provide time for us to welcome you to North Beach, establish a relationship with the classroom teacher, and create a smooth entry for all new kindergartners. These meetings will be scheduled on September 7, 8, and 9. That means that the "first day of school" for kindergartners will be on Monday, September 12, 2016.

The options to have your child attend for a half-day or a full-day kindergarten will still available.

Enclosed please find the following materials:

- Summer Information sheet, with Typical Jump Start Schedule on the back (salmon)
- Jump Start Flyer (white)
- Confirmation of Kindergarten Plans (Orchid) This form includes Jump Start Registration & Kinder Experience Appointments.
- Health Registration (Blue)
- Emergency Information (Green)
- Letter from Nurse Julie with information about how to know when to keep your child home from school (pink)
- Immunization Requirements (buff)
- Summer Reading Challenge form (ivory)
- Volunteer application packet (blue & yellow)
- PTA information (goldenrod)
- Preliminary Supply List & Popsicle Playdate invitation (bright yellow)

We would like to call your attention to the information about ***Jump Start*** and the **Kinder Experience** appointment. *Jump Start* is an exciting, week-long, half-day, program for students entering kindergarten. This is complemented by the Kinder Experience where the teachers have an opportunity to get to know your child better socially and academically. **It is important that you complete and return the (Orchid) Confirmation of Kindergarten Plans by June 3, 2016** as the school closes for the summer on July 1st. This will help us know who is planning to attend *Jump Start* and school itself in September so that we can be prepared with staffing, curriculum materials and supplies. This also allows the Kindergarten teachers to contact you during the summer to set up a specific time for your Kinder Experience appointment.

We would like to invite you to a Popsicle Playdate on our playground at 3:50 on June 16th. This will be an opportunity to meet current kindergarten families and other incoming kindergarten families, as well as our staff.

In late August we will send you another letter that will include the name of your child's teacher, general school information and information about our Meet 'n Greet. The Meet 'n Greet will be held September 6th from 3-4 pm, followed by Playground n' Popsicles from 4-5 pm.

So... what are the next steps?

1. **Send or bring in your orchid Confirmation of Kindergarten Plans form by June 3rd.**
Include the blue Health Registration and the green form with Emergency Information.
2. Come to our Popsicle Playdate from 3:50-4:50 on Thursday, June 16th. Plan to attend one or more of the PTA playdates during the summer.
3. Read books to or with your child during the summer and return your reading challenge form in the fall.

Please visit (and bookmark!) our school website, www.northbeaches.seattleschools.org. You can find lots of important information there throughout the year. If you are not familiar with them already, you might also want to check out the school district site at www.seattleschools.org and our PTA's website www.northbeachelementary.org.

This is an exciting time in your child's life and we feel privileged to be a part of it. Please feel free to contact us should you have any questions. We look forward to seeing you in August!

Sincerely,

Julie A. Cox, Principal