Wolman Elementary
Kindergarten Curriculum
School Hours

• Students may be dropped off no earlier than 8:00 a.m. They will go to their classroom.
• Tardy bell rings at 8:20 a.m. Please make sure that your child is in the classroom before the tardy bell rings.
• Dismissal is at 3:40 p.m.
Cafeteria

• Students use ID cards to pay for lunches.
• Parents may pay in advance for the week or month(s) online with Mealpay Plus. The link can be found on katyisd.org.
• If sending money, please send money in a baggie or envelope labeled with your child’s first and last name and “lunch money.” Parents are welcome to join students for lunch. (Our lunch: 10:25-11:13 am) We ask that you please say your goodbyes in the cafeteria at the conclusion of our lunch period.
• Please wait until after the second week of school to eat lunch with your child. This gives your child time to become comfortable with the school routines and helps with separation issues.
• Please discuss extra purchases (water bottles, snacks, etc.) with your child. Ice cream is available on Fridays for $1.00.
Schedule Continued

- 12:50-1:40 - Specials
- 1:40-2:15 - Snack time/Science/Social Studies
- 2:15- 2:35 - Recess A
- 2:35-2:55 - Recess B
- 2:35-3:20 - Word Study/Centers
- 3:20- 3:40 - Pack-up/Dismissal
Language Arts Block

- **Phonological Awareness Skills**: rhyming, alliteration, syllable segmenting, sentence segmenting, blending (/c/ /a/ /t/ = cat) and segmenting phonemes (cat = /c/ /a/ /t/)
- **Phonics**: letters have specific sounds.
- **Pre-Reading/Reading Skills**: stories, songs, finger plays, poems, big books, print rich environment
- **Writing**: daily independent writing time, stages of writing, writing conventions
- **Handwriting**: focus on letter formation and pencil grip
- **Shared Reading**: teachers and students work together to read big books focusing on concepts of print
- **Read Aloud**: stories read aloud with a focus on comprehension strategies
- **Guided Reading**: reading on your child’s instructional reading level in a small group setting
Small Group/Guided Reading

• **Small Groups** - I will pull small groups of children during language arts time to focus on reading skills and development. During this time, children will participate in activities on their own level.

• **While I am meeting with small groups, other students will be engaged in a variety of reading-related activities including read to self and word work. These activities also allow them to work on their level at their own pace.**
Math

- Our goal is to lay the foundation for learning by teaching basic math skills.
- We do this through the Math Workshop Approach.
- Concepts taught: numbers 1-20, 2D and 3D shapes, sorting, graphing, addition, subtraction, counting to 100 and measurement.
- We also focus on creative and critical thinking, problem solving, and real world application. Children will use manipulatives, draw, and then use abstract representations to solve math problems.
Social Studies and Science

• Social Studies units include topics from all about me, to basic map skills, and important historical figures/events. These objectives will be taught through integration in our language art block.

• Science concepts are “hands on” activities designed to encourage discovery learning. We will be doing experiments and integrating objectives in our writing block. In the first semester, we will have a Discover Learning day that covers a social studies topic. In the spring we will have an Explorer Science day where parents will teach children and do experiments with the children.
Daily Communication Folder

• This red Wolman folder will be sent home daily to communicate behavior. If there was a problem, I will write a brief note on the sheet. Please initial **daily** so I know that you are aware of what is happening at school.

• All important papers as well as your child’s work will come home daily. Please check **AND empty the folder each day**!

• If you have notes for me, please place them in the red folder. (PLEASE put name on envelope/baggie if sending money.)
Behavior Management

• In our kindergarten classrooms, we use lots of positive praise and reinforcement for desired behaviors. Each classroom has a class discipline system. Each child has a sticker chart in his/her classroom. Children earn stickers for following directions and displaying desired behaviors. When the child’s sticker chart is full, then the child gets to visit the “treasure bucket” to choose a special prize. The sticker chart is positive reinforcement for each child’s behavior. Teachers may reward the entire class for great things involving all students. For example, all children might be on task during workstations so the teacher rewards the class. When the whole class earns reward points (marbles, stickers), they can vote for a big special treat! Examples could be extra recess time or “shoes off day” in the classroom. These discipline systems help our kindergarteners experience success at RJWE.

• As part of learning how to work together in kindergarten, we have one main rule with 3 parts: 1. Respect all people and property 2. Listen to and follow directions 3. Practice safety

• Consequences could include: Think time away from the group and/or loss of a privilege. If problem is severe, the student will visit with the principal.
Home Work

• Envision books will be sent home and can be used as an optional math resource. These do not need to be returned.

• The homework is designed to reinforce/strengthen skills that are taught in our classrooms. Kindergarten students should spend about 30 minutes each evening on homework. Kindergarten homework will consist of a bag/folder which will contain (5 or more) leveled readers from our literacy library. Lost books will result in a $20 replacement fee.

• Parents are strongly encouraged to read to/with their child on a daily basis to strengthen reading skills.
Conferences

• Conferences will begin in October. This will give me adequate time to observe and assess your child’s academic abilities.

• Conferences are a time to discuss your child’s kindergarten progress. During the meeting, we will identify goals for your child, specific skills to focus on as well as ways you can assist your child at home.

• You may request a conference at any time.

• Conference times are Wed., Thurs., Fri. from 12:50-1:40.
• Report cards will be sent home every nine weeks. Children are assessed on Language Arts, Social Studies, Science and Math skills. Progress notes will inform you of your child’s performance according to grade-level expectations. Students will be assessed throughout the school year using both district assessments and teacher observations.
Birthdays

It is required that birthday treats be store bought, healthy, individually packaged servings. Typically, treats will be eaten during our recess period. Teachers will distribute birthday treats; therefore, treats should be easy to distribute. Cookies, donuts, and mini cupcakes are strongly encouraged for treats. Students may not bring/deliver party favors or birthday invitations at school.
Volunteers

- Explorer Science Day
- Discover Learning
- Workroom/work basket
- Parent Readers
- JA (Junior Achievement)
- Cafeteria Helpers
- Various school year activities
Reminders

• Please keep a change of clothes in a Ziplock bag in your child’s backpack in case of an accident. Please label with your child’s name.

• Please do not send loose notes in backpacks. Always place them in the folder.

• If you have a change in transportation note, please put your child’s name on the note and date it. Please put it in your child’s folder. We will not take your child’s word for a transportation change. It must be in writing or you must notify the office before 2:00pm. Please fax (281-644-1875) a note and a copy of your ID to the front office as soon as possible. **Transportation changes through e-mails cannot be accepted.**

• Please send a healthy snack each day. Please do not send snack in a separate lunch box. Water bottles must have a sport top.
Library and Computer

• We will go to the library to check out a book every week.

• Our students will be participating in Digital Art using the computer lab as part of their specials rotation.
Kindergarten Canvas

• This year we are rolling out Canvas as a new way to communicate with you all about what is happening in your child’s classroom! It is our desire to build a strong relationship with you all and become your partner with a common goal of making your child’s Kindergarten year their best school year ever!

• [http://tinyurl.com/rjwekinder](http://tinyurl.com/rjwekinder)
Notes from the nurse:

- If your child has a fever of 100.4 or higher, is vomiting, or having diarrhea, they MUST stay home.
- Students must be symptom free (without medication) for 24 hours before returning to school.
- Any medication must be kept in the nurse’s office in the original container and should be accompanied by a note.
- Please help your child start each day off right by ensuring they get enough rest and eat a healthy breakfast.
- If your child is going to be out sick, please call our ADA clerk (281-234-1815), and let her know. If you know a specific diagnosis, please inform her of this so it can be passed along to the nurse.
Field Trip
Dewberry Farms...Here we come!
Friday, October 23
Thanks for coming!