Welcome to Rutherford Elementary

KINDergarten

We are excited about the adventures awaiting you and your child. Kindergarten is an important year and will build the foundation for lifelong learning. We look forward to working with you to create an enjoyable and successful school experience for your child. We strive to offer a learning environment best suited to each child’s specific needs and abilities.

Our kindergarten philosophy

Kindergarten is a time for children to expand their love of learning, general knowledge, ability to get along with others, and interest in reaching out to the world. While kindergarten marks an important transition from preschool to the primary grades, it is important that children still get to be kids and have fun.

Our program:

• Welcomes each child at their current level of ability and provides developmentally-appropriate learning activities.

• Creates a child-centered curriculum that has high expectations for academic achievement and individual growth for all.

• Allows children time to explore, make discoveries, and experience enriched, hands-on activities.

• Offers an honest, respectful, caring and safe school environment that recognizes, accepts and promotes diversity.

• Encourages cooperation, teamwork and partnership in working with students, their families and faculty.

Meet our teachers

"I teach kindergarten because I enjoy seeing kids at the start of their academic career and being the foundation to a solid beginning. It is fun to see the growth, both academic and social over the year."

– Deb Simcik

"I love teaching kindergarten because I can celebrate the learning that happens right in front of me. That learning happens at different levels and at different paces. Sometimes it’s academic and sometimes it’s social/emotional, but it’s all amazing."

– Amy Skaj

"I love teaching kindergarten because everyday is full of pleasant surprises! These little people are always eager to learn and make each day joyful."

– Kelly Taverna

"As a kindergarten teacher, I want to create a feeling of belonging and joy so children will love coming to school and thrive as responsible learners with a strong educational foundation for a life full of learning."

– Holly Yehlik
Join us for pre-kindergarten events

There are several upcoming opportunities to support the transition into kindergarten. We look forward to seeing you at these upcoming events.

2019-2020 guided tours
Guided tours will be offered on the following days: Dec. 5 at 9:15 a.m., Dec. 9 at 1:30 p.m., Dec 19 at 9:15 a.m., Jan. 8 at 1:30 p.m. and Jan. 13 at 9:15 a.m. Tours are designed for adults only and offers you a chance to observe kindergarten in action. Call the office at 651.351.6400 to confirm which tour you will be attending or to make other arrangements.

Kindergarten Orientation – February 28, 2020
This event allows your child to spend some time in the kindergarten house with teachers, while parents learn more about the program from the principal and support staff. An official invitation with details will be mailed to you in early February.

Ready, Set, Go (RSG) Conference
The purpose of the RSG conference is to help develop a student-parent-teacher relationship and give teachers and students a chance to read together. Getting to know parents/guardians and their children personally is important to us. Successful beginnings and transitions help prepare the way for successful experiences.

“The kindergarten experience at Rutherford is amazing! My kids love the open-concept classroom because they can interact with all of the K students, not just ones in their class. And I love that they basically have five K teachers and they are learning great things from each of them.”
~ Kristen Hellyer, Parent

Please visit again before next fall!

While we pride ourselves on having a warm and welcoming community at Rutherford Elementary, don’t take our word for it. Come experience it. You’re invited to join us for any or all of these upcoming school events.

PTA meeting
May 12, 2020 – 3:30 p.m.
At the May PTA meeting incoming families will be officially welcomed by the PTA.

5G End of School Year Community Service Event
May 15, 2020 – 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Join us for Giving, Grounds, Grilling, Grooving and Games!

Band, orchestra and choir concert
May 18, 2020 – 1:15 p.m.
Rutherford's student band, orchestra, and choir will be performing. A perfect time to hear our fifth and sixth graders in concert.

Enrolling is easy!

• Go to our website stillwaterschools.org and click on “Enroll now”
or
• Visit us at Central Services
  1875 S. Greeley St.
  Stillwater MN 55082

Questions? Call 651.351.8412