The Kindergarten Handbook

2026-2027

The Adventure to Kindergarten begins here!

Ready, set, let's go!

Welcome to WOCS Kindergarten!



Our Mission:

To provide a Bible-based elementary education that helps your child grow spiritually strong and scholastically sound through faith in Jesus Christ.

Class Theme:

Woodlands Rangers for Jesus

This school year, our classroom environment centers around a vibrant Woodlands theme where the students are recognized as active Rangers for Jesus!

Our anchor scripture that serves as the heart of our community choices is taken from Psalm 28:7, "The Lord is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him."

This verse explicitly connects our weekly behavior goals to scripture. It functions beautifully as a daily reminder to our little rangers that God continually provides them with the inner strength to follow classroom rules, protects them like a shield, and fills their hearts with joy and praise.

Meet Mrs. Walters

Dear Kindergarten Families,

Welcome to an incredible milestone year! I am so honored and blessed to be your child's Kindergarten teacher, and I am truly thankful that your family is here. I cannot wait to partner with you as we make this a year full of learning, growing, fun, and adventure!

This year marks my **11th year of teaching**, and I have an absolute passion for students and for discovering how each child naturally learns and grows. While my previous teaching experience includes 1st through 3rd grade, this is my **very first year teaching Kindergarten** and I could not be more excited! I have always felt a magnetic draw toward this special grade, and I absolutely love the joy, curiosity, wonder, and excitement that Kindergarten brings.

Teaching is especially meaningful to me because of the educators who shaped my own life. Both of my grandparents were career educators, and my second-grade teacher completely transformed my worldview simply by being **"Jesus with skin on."** The love, grace, and influence they poured into my life have had an immeasurable and lasting impact. Their example deeply inspired my own call to teach.

A Little About My Family

My husband, Lance, and I have been happily married for 26 years. We are blessed with four wonderful children: Sean, along with his wife, Payton, and our precious grandson, Waylon; Brooklen; Delicity; and Devyn.

As a family, we truly believe in the foundational power of Christian education and the eternal impact it can have on a child's life. While your child will learn important Kindergarten foundations such as letters, sounds, numbers, reading skills, writing, and so much more, my greatest prayer is that they will also come to **know Jesus and understand His deep and unconditional love for them.**

It is a privilege to come alongside you as parents and help build your child up in a mighty and Godly way. I believe that children thrive when parents and teachers work together as a team, and I am excited to walk closely alongside your family throughout this school year.

Grace for the Journey

As we begin this adventure together, I want to remind you that we are all human and we all make mistakes. I will be the first to admit that even on my best day, I am a sinner in

need of grace. One of the greatest gifts God gives us is His grace, and I pray that we will extend that same grace to ourselves, our students, and one another.

One of our classroom sayings will be:

"If you can't make a mistake, you can't make anything. Mistakes are proof you are trying."

Kindergarten is a year of trying new things, making mistakes, asking questions, discovering, and growing. My hope is that our classroom will be a safe place where your child feels loved, encouraged, challenged, and confident enough to keep trying.

Communication & Partnership

I also ask that we follow what I lovingly call the **Mrs. Miller Rule**, based on Matthew 18:15: if you ever have a concern involving our classroom, please come directly to me first. Open and honest communication helps prevent confusion, allows us to address concerns quickly, and helps us maintain a strong partnership centered on what is best for your child.

This handbook contains important information about our classroom routines, policies, expectations, grading, and important dates. Please take some time to read through it carefully and return the final page signed.

Most importantly, please know that **I have been intentionally praying for your student and your family**, and I will continue to lift you up in prayer throughout the school year.

I am so thankful God has brought us together for this special season. I cannot wait to see how much your child grows academically, socially, emotionally, and spiritually. I am excited for all the laughter, discoveries, celebrations, challenges, and precious Kindergarten moments that are ahead of us.

Let the adventure of moving mountains begin!

With love, grace, and great excitement,

Serving Christ Together,
Mrs. Danyal Walters
Kindergarten Teacher

📞 **Communication:** Communication is very important to the school and me. I truly believe that to have a successful year each parent and teacher must have a great working relationship. I love how much each of you care about your child's learning, however, this year we were asked that all school-related communicants are on GroupMe. I have set “office hours," that way you know when I will be able to answer questions. If it is an emergency, please let me know, however all my parents are FANTASTIC, and chances are another parent might know the answer to general questions, please feel free to ask one of them.

- **Office Hours**: Monday–Friday, 8:30 a.m.–6:30 p.m.
- **Email**: dwalters@wocs.org
- **Phone/Voicemail**: Call the school and leave a message. I will return calls as soon as possible.
- **GroupMe**: Used for reminders, updates, and photos throughout the year. Also used if we must transition to virtual learning.
- **Facts**: Our grading and assignment platform. Check regularly for updates, lesson plans, and missed work.

Policies & Procedures

- **Discipline/Classroom Management:** Each kindergartner begins the week with three cards (Badges). A student will lose a card if he/she breaks a rule or if Mrs. Walters feels it is necessary, because of other disruptive reasons. If the child keeps the green badge card, the yellow card, and the red card by Friday, the child will be able to choose out of the “treasure chest.” If the child loses the green badge only on or before Friday, Mrs. Walters will choose out of the treasure chest for the child. If the child loses both the green badge and the yellow badge the child will be unable to receive a treasure that week. Each week they start over with the green card and the yellow card. I am hopeful all my students will have all cards every Friday.
- They also have a red badge card. This card can be replaced each day. If a child has lost both the green card and the yellow card and needs to pull a card, they will pull their red card. This means they will not receive the P.M. snack for the day. This card can be replaced each day. If a child pulls the card after the P.M. snack, they will lose it for the next day. I have found some students need a new chance each day.

- The "Ranger Shield"
    - Psalm 28:7
    - **"The Lord is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him."**
    - **Why it works:** Because our classroom discipline plan relies on **Green, Yellow, and Red "Badge" cards**, this verse directly connects their daily behavior goals to scripture. It reminds all the rangers that God gives us the strength to follow rules and protects us.

- **GroupMe:** I will be using the mobile app "GroupMe" to communicate with each of you throughout the year. I will post pictures of what we're doing in class as well as send updates and reminders for you. Please make sure you are signed up to have access to your child's account, so you don't miss anything. This is also the platform we will use if we must move to virtual learning.
- **Facts-** Please make sure that you check your account periodically for your student's grades. This is our platform for grades, lesson plans, and communication. If your student is absent this is where you will find the assignments for the day or week. I update these weekly. If you also would like to know what we are learning or doing each day you can view our lesson plans also.
- **Take Home Folders and Tuesday Folders:** Take Home folders are YELLOW and need to be returned to school the following day. The students MUST have these folders at school every day. Tuesday folders are BLUE and need to be returned on Wednesday. Please make a note that each folder has a section for items that need to be returned to school.
- **Grades:** The first nine weeks all kindergartners will receive satisfactory or improvement grades. The second nine weeks we will start taking letter grades. The Bible grade is based on their memory verse each week. The reading homework does affect your child's reading grade. All other grades are based on graded papers. **Homework:** Each student will have on Tuesday/Thursday when we start reading groups. If work is sent home I will let you know why it is coming home.
- **Walters' Reading Program:** Reading Goals-We will be participating in a version of Braum's Book Buddy program, August through March. To meet each month's goals, you will need to color all the objects on each month's page. Reading to your child at this age is especially important. Exposure to literature while a child is learning to read is crucial. I would encourage you to read to your child daily. By April if the student has completed every month we will have an ice cream party to celebrate their hard work.

- **Classroom Library:** The kindergartners started checking out books on August 12th. Library days are Monday-Thursday. We will have Show and Tell on Fridays when we start. We have a classroom library. The students are welcome to check out two books at a time from it. They have a book buddy bag that their books will come home in and need to be returned in. I will take inventory of the books at the end of the year. If a book is not returned, you will be asked to replace it.
- **Show and Tell**: Show and tell are on Fridays. Our show and tell will correlate with the letter or subject matter we are studying. I will let you know the letter we are studying, in my weekly note, and your kindergartner may send a show and tell that begins with that letter.
- **Pastor Appreciation:** Our class service project is going to be pastor appreciation. In February, we will be making candy jars for our pastors and praying over them as a class. Each student will deliver these jars to their home church pastor. We will also participate in Operation Christmas Child as a class.
- **Field Trips:** We will take at least one field trip every nine weeks. The following are the field trips we will take in kindergarten. The dates are not completely determined as soon as I know I will let you all know as well.
    - Steven Fite, Community Helpers, Children's Theatre, Blue Zoo, and CBA.

- **Class Parties:** You will have the opportunity to sign up to help with one or more class parties at the first Parent/Teacher Conference.
    - Christmas Party: Friday, December 18,2026
    - God's Love Party: Friday, February 12, 2027
    - Resurrection Party: Thursday, March 25, 2027

- **Birthday Parties:** Each student will receive a special blessing in chapel on their birthday. I highly recommend you come and be a part of our chapel every day of the week but especially on the day we will honor your child's birthday. You have two options- we can celebrate in our classroom right after chapel or at the end of the day. You may bring or send a treat for the class if you would like. I will get in touch with you to arrange a day and time. If your child has a summer birthday, we will pick a day that works for everyone.

**Please note that all the above is subject to change at the teacher's discretion; however, if something changes, I will let you know in a note. Thank you for all your support. **

Please sign and return only this page.

Mrs. Walters, we have gone over each section in your Kindergarten syllabus. If we have questions or concerns, we will communicate with you as a team to come up with the best solution possible. We are excited for the journey God has put us on. We look forward to an amazing year!

I am looking forward to the best year with you and your family!

Parent's Signature: _____

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