



Kindergarten Orientation

Olympic Heights School
2026-2027

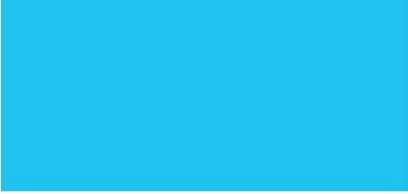


Calgary Board
of Education

Agenda



- Parent Council
- Tour through classrooms
- Presentation explaining Kindergarten Program



Parent Council



Tour Through Classrooms



The Calgary Board of Education



The early years are a time of significant development in a child's life. Personalized attention is extremely beneficial to early learners.

At the Calgary Board of Education, we understand that children bring their own unique talents and gifts to their learning experience. Our dedicated staff know how to help children reach their full potential.

Getting Ready for Kindergarten



Build your child's independence by encouraging them to:



- dress themselves (zippers, buttons)
- use the bathroom and wash their hands on their own
- put away toys and help out in other small ways at home
- practice opening and closing snack containers and using a water bottle
- play games, take turns and compromise
- develop a consistent bedtime routine



What Do I Need to Bring to School?



For the **First Day** and every day after that, your child will need:

- Nut-free snack and water bottle (**no juice boxes, fruit cups or yogurt tubes please**)
- Backpack large enough to easily fit your snack, water bottle, and a large library book
- Indoor shoes that will remain at school **and can be independently fastened by your child**

Getting Ready for Kindergarten



Read to your child every day:

- read stories together in *your first language* to help your child develop vocabulary, listening and speaking skills
- enjoy reading different types of books: picture books, information books, nursery rhymes, poetry
- encourage your child to talk about the pictures and stories as you read together
- visit your community library (when possible)

Learning Through **PLAY**



More than just skill building or practicing for the world we will grow into, play is the primary way which children manipulate new information, fit it into existing schema or create new ones and then adjust their understanding accordingly.

formulating **hypothesis**

engaging in experimentation and exploration

discovering patterns

creating **theories**

Learning Through PLAY



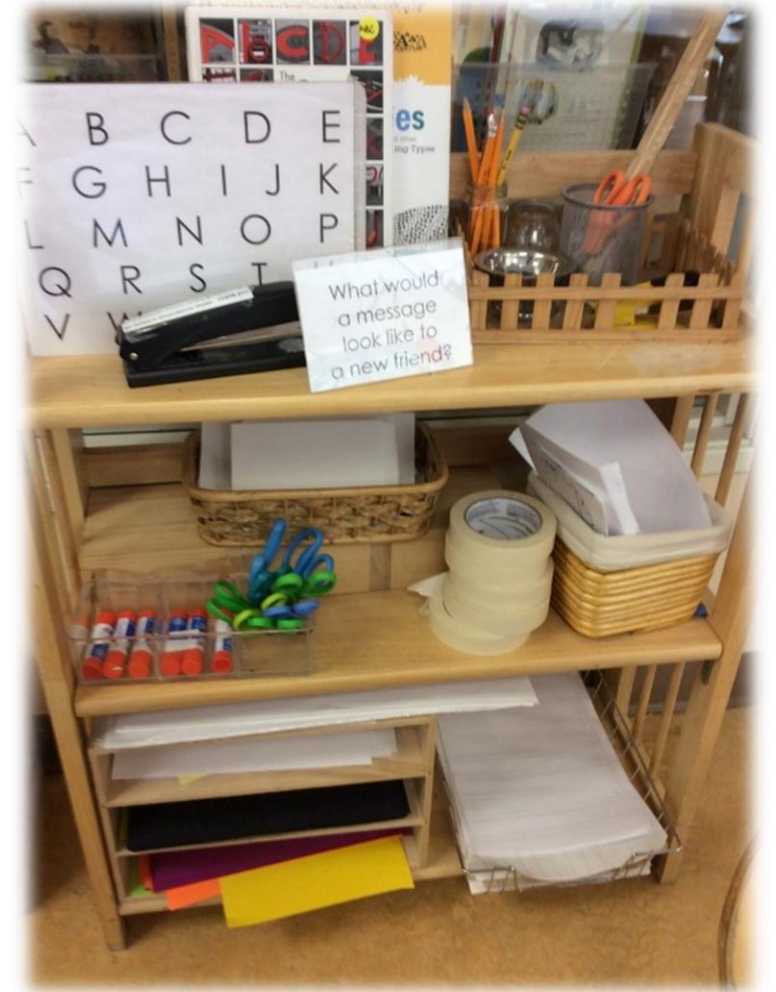
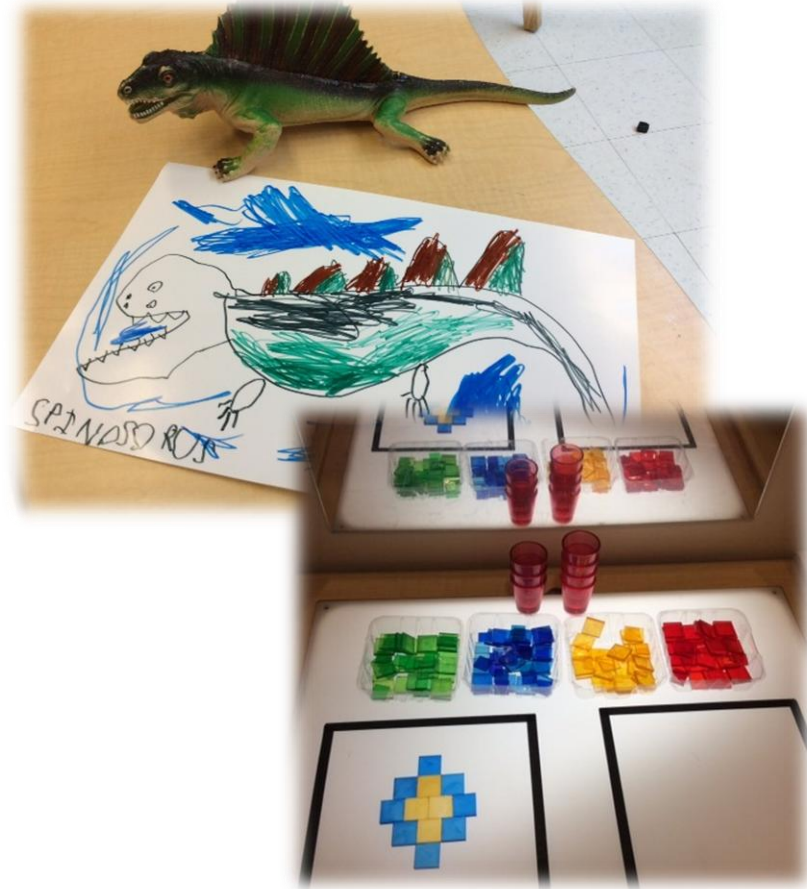
Learning Through PLAY



“Research shows that children who engage in complex forms of socio-dramatic play have greater language skills than non-players, better social skills, more empathy, more imagination, and more of the subtle capacity to know what others mean. They are less aggressive and show more self-control and higher levels of thinking”

~Miller & Almon

Early Literacy & Numeracy



Enhanced Supports



The classroom teacher is at the centre of your child's learning team and is supported by a school learning team. Based on classroom needs, each kindergarten program will also be supported by a multidisciplinary team that works with large and small groups in the classroom.

This team may consist of:

Education Assistants or Early Childhood Practitioners

Early Learning Strategists

Speech-Language Pathologists (SLPs)

Psychologists

Occupational Therapists (OTs)

Physiotherapists (PTs)

School Family Liaison (SFL)

English Language Learners



Kindergarten is a language-rich environment with a focus on oral language development and social skills. Play-based tasks and centers provide opportunities for intellectual engagement and English Language development.



Programming is strength-based and individual needs are met through differentiating instruction and scaffolding language-based activities to further English Language proficiency. Formal Alberta Education coding for EAL Learners tied to funding allocation only begins in grade 1.



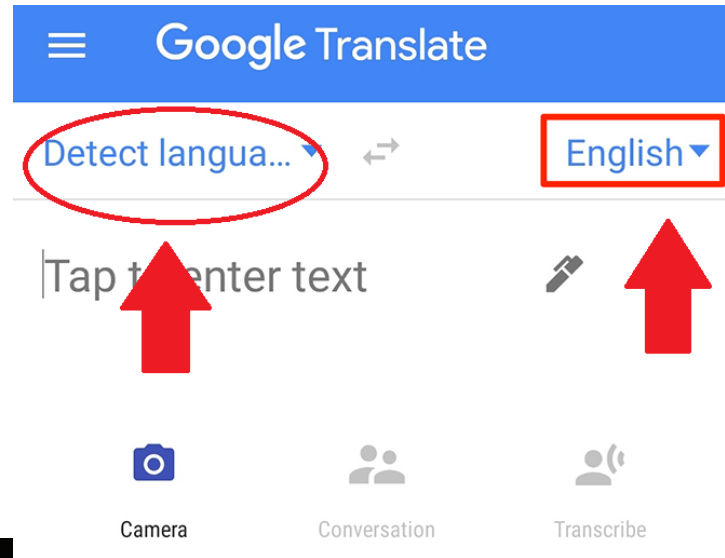
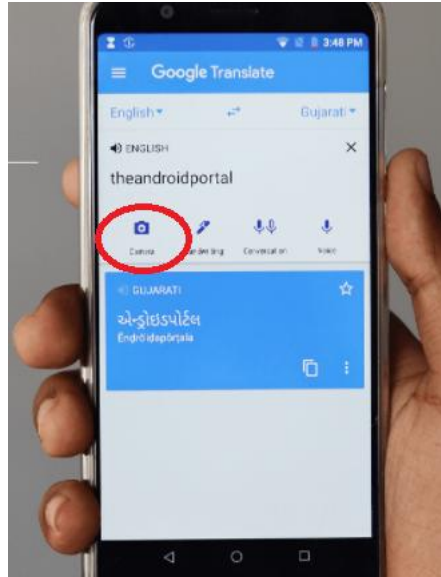


Google Translate on CBE Websites

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `school.cbe.ab.ca/school/ForestLawn/Pages/default.aspx`. The browser's address bar and tabs are visible at the top. The website header includes navigation links: News Centre, Calendar, Print, For Staff, QuickLinks, and a search bar. A red circle highlights the "Google Translate" dropdown menu in the top right corner of the website. A large red arrow points upwards from the center of the page towards the Google Translate menu. Below the navigation, the Forest Lawn High School logo is displayed on the left, with the school name and motto "Viator Via Veritatis | Travel by Way of the Truth". A horizontal menu contains links for "About Us", "Teaching & Learning", "Extracurricular", "Culture & Environment", "Get Involved", and "Registration". Below this is an orange alert banner: "ALERT: KINDERGARTEN TO GRADE 12 LEARNING FROM HOME" with a bus icon and a "View Full Details" link. The main content area features a blue banner with the words "HAPPY" and "AFRAID" overlaid on images of faces. To the right, there are two news snippets: "Kindergarten to Grade 6 Students Move to At-Home Learning" and "CBE Recognizes CMHA Mental Health Week 2021". The footer includes the Calgary Board of Education logo and name.



Google Translate App



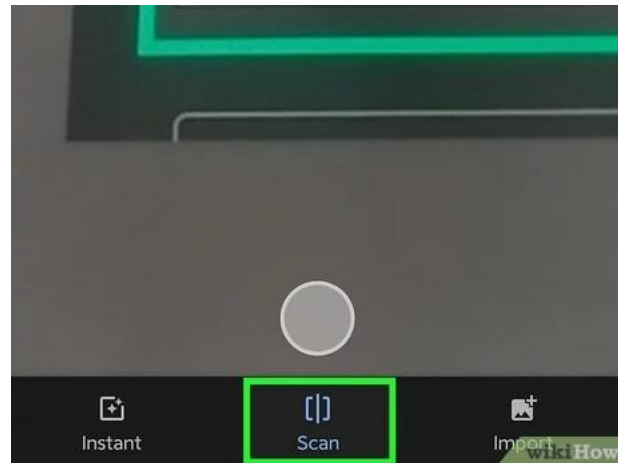
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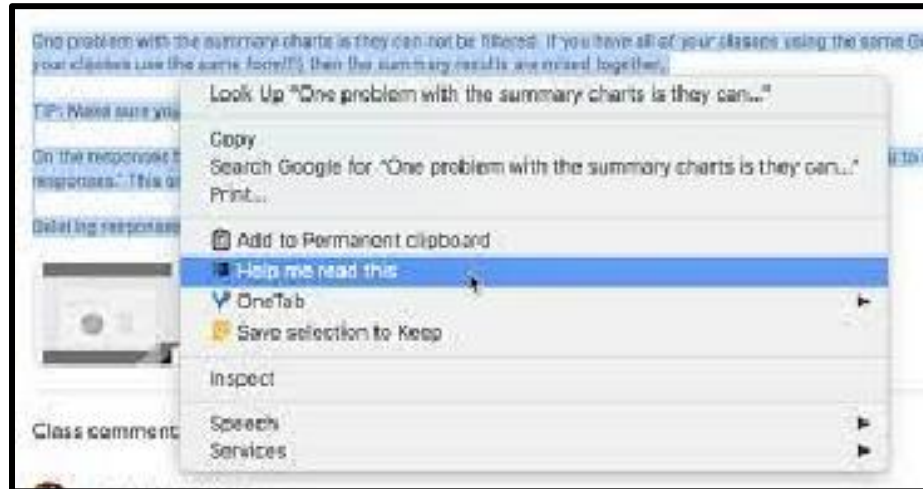
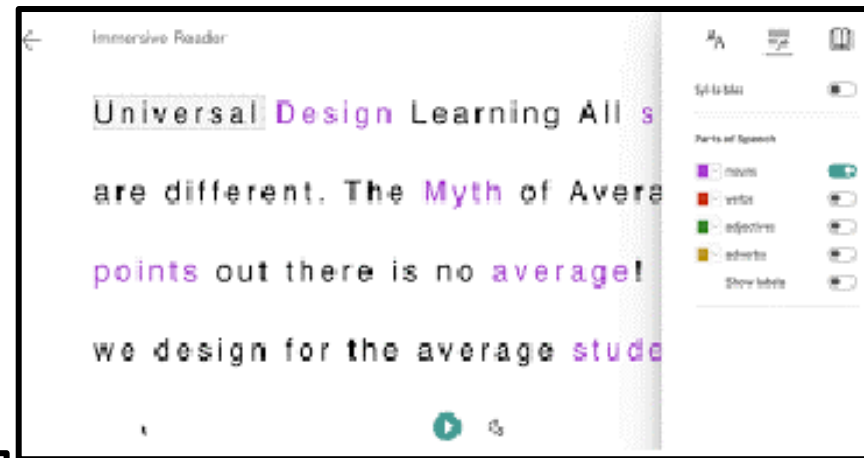
If you have a **long document** tap the **camera** and then the **scan button** at the bottom of the app to translate the entire document.



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Immersive Reader

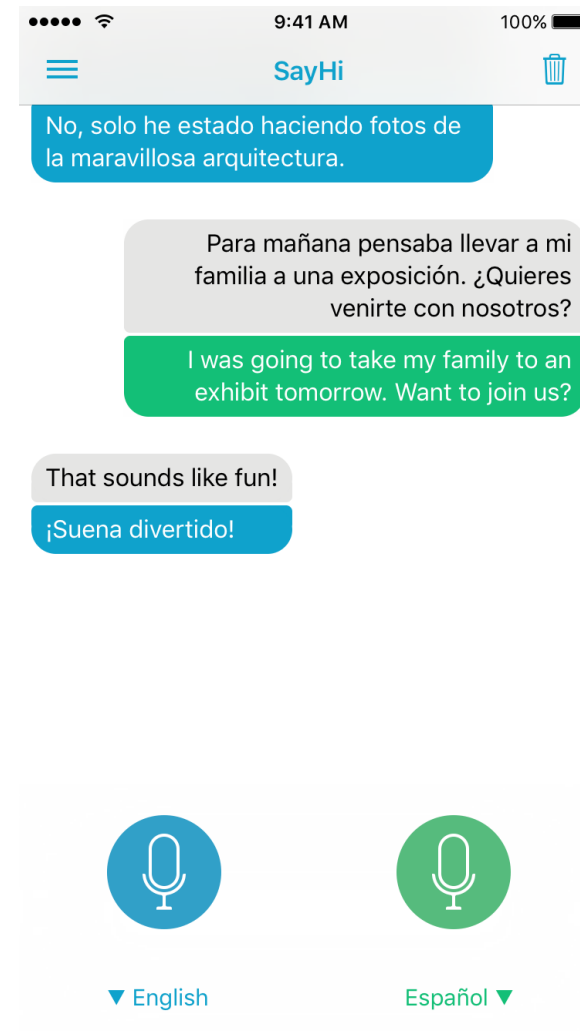
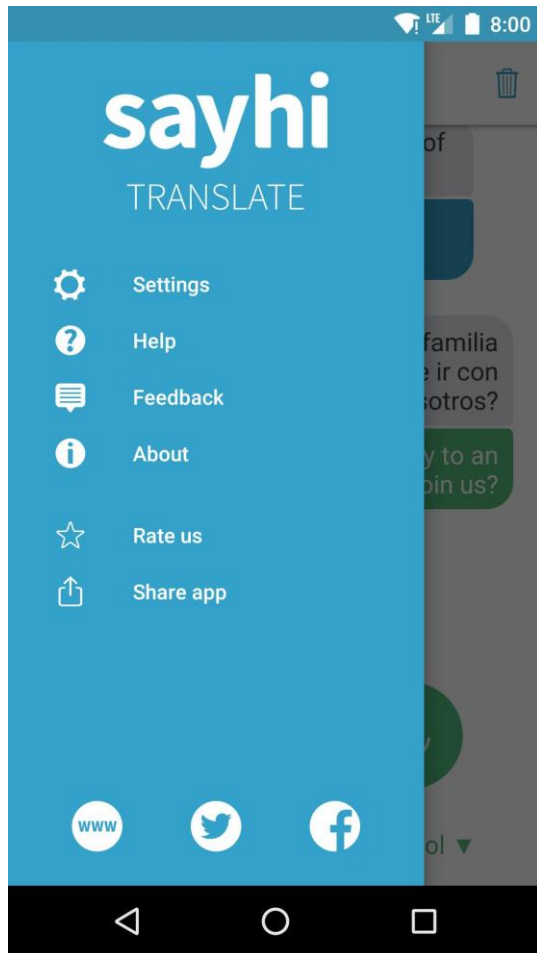


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SAY Hi App for Speaking Translation



Transportation | Bussing



Kindergarten students in half-day programs will be transported one-way only. This means that students in the morning program will have transportation to school and students in the afternoon program will have transportation to their homes at the end of the school day. No mid-day transportation service will be offered. Fees for half-day will be 50 percent of the non-mandated fee.

Pre-registration is available using [MyCBE/Powerschool](#). Families must register by June 8 for students to be added to routes for the start of the school year. Transportation continues to accept registrations after the deadline; however, students are added to the closest existing stop with available space. Processing times could be up to six weeks at the beginning of the school year due to volume.

With all the uncertainty families are currently facing, we want to assure families that there is no risk in pre-registering for transportation. If families think they may need transportation services for the next school year, please pre-register by the deadline.



Important Times & Dates



Kindergarten Hours



Monday –Thursday
9:00am-12:14pm

No school for kindergarten children on Friday



First Days of Kindergarten



Staggered entry (where only half of the students attend class at a time), allows for a more gradual introduction to school and classroom routines.

September Staggered Entry:

Aug. 31 – Surnames A-L attend only

Sept. 1 – Surnames M-Z attend only

Sept. 2 – All students attend

Meeting Spot - Kindergarten West Garden



All Kindergarten students and parents/caregivers will gather at the **West Garden Doors** when you arrive for class and at dismissal time.

Please note that it can become very congested at this time and it may take longer to find a parking spot.

Please allow yourself additional time.

OHS Kindergarten Video



[Welcome to Kindergarten Video - CBE](#)

Additional Resources



The Calgary Public Library- Top Tips for Kindergarten Readiness*:
<https://calgarylibrary.ca/library-news/kitchen-table-classroom-kindergarten-readiness/>



The Calgary Public Library- Kindergarten Booklist:
https://calgary.bibliocommons.com/list/share/393767397_calgarylibrary_kids/1859193931_books_to_get_ready_for_kindergarten?ga=2.167944481.1601611572.1619640025-939542020.1599601380



I'm Ready for Screens- Parent Resource:
https://banff.ca/DocumentCenter/View/11018/ImReadyForScreens_English

*Developed in collaboration with the CPL, Calgary Board of Education and the Calgary Catholic School Division

Questions

