

# Mrs. Gorman's Kindergarten



2017-2018

# Meet the Teacher!



My name is Jaimie Gorman, and I am so excited to be your child's Kindergarten teacher. It is going to be a fun year full of learning and new adventures. Before we embark on this journey together, I would like to share a few things about myself.

I attended Christ the King School from Kindergarten through eighth grade. I graduated from Father Ryan High School in 2005. I attended the University of Tennessee for undergraduate and graduate school, where I received a Masters of Science in Teacher Education in 2010. Go Vols!

My husband, Lowell, is also a graduate of Father Ryan High School and UT. We have a daughter named Annie (born in Dec. 2015), and a yellow lab named Remi. I love spending time with my family!

I started teaching in 2010. Prior to teaching at Christ the King, I taught at Granbery Elementary. While at Granbery, I taught first grade for three years and Kindergarten for two years. During my teaching career at Granbery, I was honored with the Blue Ribbon Teacher Award in 2014 and was named Teacher of the Year for the 2014-2015 school year. I returned back "home" to Christ the King in 2015. I absolutely love teaching at the school that helped shape me into the person I am today.

I look forward to partnering with you in your child's educational journey.

Sincerely,

Jaimie Ragghianti Gorman

# Important Information

## Contact Information

Please feel free to contact me via email or school phone with any questions or concerns that may arise during the school year.

Email: [jaimie.gorman@cks-nashville.org](mailto:jaimie.gorman@cks-nashville.org)

Direct Voicemail/Classroom Phone: 615-777-8929

School Phone: 615-292-9465

\*If something needs immediate attention, please contact the school office.

## Attendance/Arrival/Dismissal

Please refer to the Parent and Student Handbook for a complete list of attendance policies.

### Arrival

\*Early Arrival/Morning Care Program - The morning-care program is provided for students from 7:00-7:45 a.m. Students will go directly to the cafeteria where they will be supervised. They may not go to the classroom. I will escort the students to the classroom at 7:45 a.m.

\*Students arriving between 7:45-7:50 a.m. should go directly to the classroom.

\*Late Arrival (after 7:50 am): Please accompany your child to the office to get a late slip.

### Dismissal

\*Car Riders: Afternoon dismissal begins at 3:00 pm on full days and 12:00 pm on half days. All car riders will be picked up in the back of the school at the Oakland Avenue entrance via the pick up line.

- All students who have not been picked up by 3:15 p.m. will go to after-care, and parents will be charged the drop-in fee for this after-school service.

\*Walkers: Walkers will be escorted out from the cafeteria.

\*Grow Academy After-Care Program: Grades Pre-K - 8 - Please refer to the Grow Academy paperwork you received at Registration.

\*Change of Transportation: If your child goes home with a classmate or an adult other than a legal guardian, please send a written note in your child's Home Folder. If it is a change during the day, please call the office prior to 2:45 pm.

### Absences

Please make every attempt to have your child at school by 7:50 am each day. Their presence is important to their success and to the community of the classroom. However, absences are, at times, unavoidable. Please send me an email to let me know if your child is absent. If a student is absent due to illness for more than three consecutive days, please send a doctor's note.

Make-up work will be sent home with your child when he/she returns from being absent (or with a sibling). Please take as many days as you were absent to complete the make-up work.

## Uniform

Students are required to wear the school uniform daily. Please refer to the Parent and Student Handbook for a complete list of uniform policies.

Please label all clothing, including coats, sweaters, fleeces, hats, backpacks, lunchboxes, etc.

Please send in an extra change of clothing in a labeled gallon-size Ziploc bag to be kept in your child's backpack in the event of a bathroom accident or spill. This does not have to be a uniform. Please change the clothing seasonally.

## Daily Information

### Snacks

We will have snack in the classroom each morning. Please send your child with a nut-free snack daily. If you choose to put the snack in your child's lunchbox, please make sure he/she knows which item is intended for snack. Healthy snacks are encouraged. Please send a bottle of water with a lid for a drink during snack time. Please send only one food snack.

Please practice opening packages and containers with your child so that they can be opened independently. If your child needs a utensil, please send it.

### Lunch

Our lunchtime is from 11:30-12:00 each day.

Hot lunches are available daily. The cost is \$4.00 (drink included). All lunches should be ordered online at <https://stcharlescatering.schoolschoice.com>. Please try to submit orders at the beginning of each week. If your child is absent, please log in and cancel the order.

Milk can be ordered online or money can be sent in. The cost is \$.75. Milk cannot be charged.

Parents and/or family members are welcome to come have lunch with their child. Please sign in at the front office to receive a visitor's badge, and meet our class in the cafeteria.

### Recess

We will have recess daily. During warmer months, please put sunscreen on your child before school. During colder months, please make sure students have the appropriate outerwear (a coat or jacket in addition to a uniform fleece or sweater).

### Rest Time

For the first semester, we will have a 30-minute rest time each day. Students will bring rest mats home every Friday to be washed (excluding short weeks). Please send them back on Monday. We will phase out our rest time during second semester and have a short quiet time.

### Home Folder

Beginning August 14, our Home Folder will come back and forth from school to home daily. This will contain important notes, our calendar of events, the nightly reading log, homework, and daily behavior information. Please check your child's folder nightly. Please initial the calendar box each night. At times, there will be papers that need to be signed and returned. Please let your child know if they have something to turn in, so they can turn it in when they check their folder in the mornings. This will help foster responsibility.

### Friday Folder

Students will bring their weekly class work home in the Friday Folder. Please check the folder, keep the graded work (unless otherwise indicated), and sign and return the folder on Mondays. It is very important to look at your child's graded work, and review missed items together.

### Class Newsletter

A newsletter will come home on Fridays each week. This newsletter will communicate upcoming events in our classroom and at school. It will also contain learning activities that took place in our classroom that week and the learning goals for the upcoming week. The information in the newsletter will also be located on our class website.

### Daily Reading

It is very important that you read with your child daily. Please fill out the Reading Log Monday-Thursday evenings to indicate that you read with your child or that your child read to you. This should be kept in your child's home folder for daily checks.

### Sight Words

Students will take an initial sight word assessment in August. After this assessment, students will receive an individual sight word list. Each week, students will receive a new list of 5 or 10 words to be practiced at home. The number of words will increase by list level.

Students will be assessed on sight words monthly. To help practice sight words, a list of practice suggestions will come home each week in the home folder. Please indicate all the ways you practiced sight words that week. This will be on the same page as the reading log. Additionally, students will practice sight words at school when they visit the weekly sight word station.

### Homework

After Fall Break, students will have a homework page on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Homework pages will come home in the Home Folder and should be returned the following day. This homework will serve as a review of concepts we have already covered. Please assist your child as needed; however, please indicate if assistance is needed on most of the page.

### Behavior Plan

At the start of the school year, we will discuss rules together as a class. We will talk about importance of each rule so that students are familiar with our rules and why we have them.

We will use an online behavior management system called Class Dojo to track behavior. If students are earning Dojo points and following the classroom rules consistently throughout the day, they will receive a sticker on their calendar in the Home Folder. If students needed reminders and redirects throughout the day, there will be a note or behavior code indicating what behavior needs to be improved. If more than two points are lost, students will not receive a sticker. Please initial the calendar box daily.

If students earn a sticker every day of the month, they will have the opportunity to pick out of our class coupon box. These coupons are redeemed in the room (e.g. take shoes off in the classroom, move seats, etc.)

Other forms of positive reinforcement include praise, class Dojo points, class coupons (earned by table groups, as well as individually), energizer activities, and GoNoodle videos, just to name a few.

### Classroom Jobs

Each week, students will have a classroom job to help foster leadership, independence, and responsibility (e.g. calendar helper, meteorologist, line leader, door holder etc.).

### Grading

Kindergarten students have a checklist-style report card. Report cards will only be given at the end of the second, third and fourth nine week grading period. There will not be a mid-quarter progress report. Conferences will be scheduled to discuss your child's progress two times this year.

Conferences can also be scheduled at any point in the year if you wish to discuss your child's progress or particular skills. Please refer to the Grading Handout in this folder for a list of classwork grading styles that you will see in the Friday Folder.

## Other Important Topics

### All About Me

Each week, one child will be featured on the "All About Me" board. You will receive a questionnaire in the Home Folder to fill out about your child prior to your child's week. Please practice the answers to these questions with your child so he/she is ready to present to the class. Please send in a picture of your child, a picture of your family, and 4 other pictures. Your child will also be able to bring in one show-and-tell item on Monday (or the first day) of their "All About Me" week.

### Eighth Grade Buddies

Each kindergartener is assigned an 8th grade student to be their buddy throughout the school year. They will sit together at Mass, First Friday Benediction, Stations of the Cross, etc. We will also get together with our buddies for various activities throughout the year.

We only exchange gifts/treats with our buddies at Christmas and at the end-of-the year. We ask that you limit it to a \$10 gift. Cards are welcome for any holiday or party.

### Birthdays

We love to celebrate birthdays at school, but please remember that it must be kept simple. If you choose to bring a treat for your child's birthday, please let me know in advance. You can drop it off first thing in the morning for us to share during snack. Please make sure the treat is store-bought and contains a nut-free ingredient label and contains individual servings for all students (donuts, cupcakes, etc.). Some nut-free choices are Krispy Kreme regular glazed donuts, Oreos, and Popsicles.

Children with summer birthdays will be celebrated on a designated day at the end of the year or you may wish to celebrate on their half birthday. If you choose to celebrate on his/her half birthday, please let me know in advance.

Birthday party invitations cannot be passed out at school unless every student in the class is invited (or all girls/all boys are invited).

### Library

Our class will visit the library once a week. Your child will check out one book during our visit. Please make sure to have the book at school on our designated Library day - Mondays.

### Money

If there is a need to bring money to school for your child, please put the money in a sealed envelope with your child's name, my name, amount of money, and the purpose for the money.

### Parties

We will have the following parties or celebrations this year:

- 50th day of school, Halloween, Christmas, 100th day of school, Valentine's Day, Easter Egg Hunt, Class Retreat, End of the Year Buddy Party

Look for an email from our Room Parents to see how you can help with these events.

### Accelerated Reader (AR) Tests

We will begin using Accelerated Reader this year. Students will have the opportunity to take AR tests beginning in October (or as each child is ready to begin testing). When your child reads an AR book (or when you read one to your child), please fill out the form and return it in your child's Home Folder. If needed, tests will be read to students. Additional forms can be found on the class website.

### Field Trips

We have some fun and exciting field trips planned for this school year. Parents will be needed as chaperones for many of these trips. Room parents will contact you to coordinate driving/chaperoning. If you choose to chaperone a field trip, please refer to the chaperone guidelines listed in the Parent and Student Handbook. Please note that younger siblings cannot accompany us on our field trips.

Here are the dates for our field trips this year:

- Gentry Farm - October 18, 9:45-11:15 am
- The Clay Lady Studio - November 16, 10:00-11:15 am
- Nashville Children's Theater, "The Snowy Day" - January 25, 11:45-1:00 pm
- Nashville Children's Theater, "Dragons Love Tacos" - April 20, 10:00-11:15 am

### Mass Collection

Please consider sending your child with money for the Mass offering for our school Mass on Tuesdays. The collection benefits St. Vincent de Paul Society.

### Scholastic Book Orders

Scholastic book orders will go home in your child's Home Folder on occasion. If you would like to purchase a book, please do so online using our class code (HF6PL).

### Medicine

All medication must be sent to the office in the original packaging with a note containing dosing instructions written by the doctor or parent. Students will go to the office to take any medicine. All medication will stay in the main office (excluding Epi-pens).

### Sports and Clubs

Look for information for the following sports/clubs available for Kindergarteners: Daisy Girl Scouts, Cross County, Guitar Enrichment, Rhythm Kids, and Chess Club.

### Educational Assistant

Mrs. Wigger - [donna.wigger@cks-nashville.org](mailto:donna.wigger@cks-nashville.org) .

**Thank you for taking the time to read this information packet. Please feel free to contact me if you have any additional questions. I look forward to a wonderful and successful year in Kindergarten!**

**Jaimie Gorman**