

Saint Bridget of Kildare School

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Dear Future Kindergarten Parents,

I would like to take this time to give you some information on the "Early Prevention of School Failure Assessment" that will be taking place on Friday, April 8th. On the day of the assessment, enter the school main entrance and directions will be given to you. Your child will visit a number of stations where they will be asked to perform various activities. The assessment should take a minimum of 1 ½ hours; you are free to leave at this time.

Areas being assessed are visual discrimination and memory, receptive and expressive language, fine motor skills, gross motor skills, listening and memory skills.

The child's speech, vision, hearing and motor skills, like jumping, skipping, hopping and throwing will also be assessed.

We try to make this assessment a low key and fun introduction to school. The purpose of the assessment is to determine each child's strengths and weaknesses and by so doing be able to provide you with some activities that you can do with your child over the summer to help him/her be ready for school in August.

As a professional educator, these are my suggestions to you.

- Make sure your child is well rested and has had a good breakfast on the day of the assessment.
- Do not discuss the assessment with your child by saying you have to do good or you won't get into school. Reinforce that he/she should just do their best.
- Bring your child in comfortable clothing. Since there are various activities including movement activities, he/she should wear clothing loose enough to move and athletic shoes.

When the assessment is completed, he/she will receive a cookie and some juice and as soon as he/she is checked out, you may take your child home.

The amount of time that your child takes for the assessment does not determine how well he/she did on the activities. There are many stations that your child will need to visit during the assessment and each person at the various stations takes time with your child to help him/her feel comfortable and to obtain a true indication of his/her abilities. We do not rush the children through just to get done.

Upon completing all of the stations and a detailed analysis of your child's results will be provided. The computer compares each child to other children of his/her exact age on the date of assessment and not to other members of the class. We will find your child's strengths and weaknesses and be able to give you some activities to help him/her over the summer.

Once you have looked them over, you can call the school at (440)886-1468 ext. 10 with any questions and I will get back to you as soon as possible. Thank you for your patience and cooperation with this very important part of kindergarten.

Sincerely,

Ms. Lydia Hritz

Mrs. Sarah Marcelo

Kindergarten Teachers