

2019-2020 WOODROE WOODS SCHOOL

KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM TESTIMONIALS

January 2020

To Whom It May Concern,

We came to Woodroe Woods from recommendations of our friends whose kiddos also thrived in Kindergarten. We are so grateful we listened to their recommendations.

Words cannot adequately express our gratitude that Teacher Debbie is our daughter's Kindergarten teacher. Our daughter is thriving in her classroom and asks each and every day to go to school. As a parent, to have our child WANT to go to school, even over the holiday break, speaks volumes about the welcoming tone that is established in the classroom. From day one, the students know that they are a part of the Kindergarten family and learn to treat their classmates like family. There is also the perfect balance of fun and academic learning that makes students want to come back to school each day. Each child knows they are safe, loved, and wanted in Teacher Debbie's class. ***Sincerely, Mrs. Bridget Britt***

Dear Prospective Kindergarten Family,

When my son started Kindergarten, he was nervous. Very nervous. He had trouble adjusting to the change - and we could not have asked for better teachers to help get him through. The extra attention that the kids get at Woodroe Woods made all of the difference for my son. Teachers would check in with him regularly, text updates to my wife and me, and give him as much attention as he needed. When our family spent a weekend away, the teachers even texted a video of our son's best friend saying he missed him. It seemed like no time until there was no trace of anxiety at all. It's the personal touches that make all the difference. My son is now blooming academically and writing complete sentences, which I believe would not have happened at a school where he was not drawn out of his shell. ***Michael Cohen***

Dear Sir or Madam:

I highly recommend Woodroe Woods School if you are going to enroll your child in Kindergarten. Words cannot express how wonderful the program is. I am glad that we chose Woodroe Woods School to start my little one's school life. Teacher Debbie and Emily have strong relationships with all students and show that they care about them. They are warm, accessible, enthusiastic and caring. They always make themselves available to students and parents who need them.

So far, my son (Jeremy) has learned a lot and it has surprised me. He has become more independent, confident, courageous, and respectful. His language, and social and emotional development have improved as well and I can notice the changes in him.

Before starting Kindergarten here, he was only able to count to 12 in order. He didn't know all twenty-six letters of the alphabet, or know his upper and lowercase letters. Now he can count to 100 nonstop, and count by tens. He knows what sound each alphabet makes. He can write short sentences telling stories and describe things with gestures, read books, etc.

Choose Woodroe Woods. You will not be disappointed! ***Sincerely, Yan, Current Kindergarten Parent***

Dear Family,

The Kindergarten program at Woodroe Woods is beyond comparison. I could write for hours about the exemplary hands-on learning curriculum and high-quality lessons and activities they offer, though I'd rather just tell you a bit about the incredible changes we are seeing in our son.

Drew has been diagnosed with anxiety and depression (with a side of ADHD). During the first few weeks of school, he would cry at drop off, pick up, and occasionally throughout the school day. He would never raise his hand nor answer any questions. He would only speak softly through his teeth and would not make eye contact with his teachers. Now, Drew is the first one to raise his hand and even volunteers to read the daily words at the front of the classroom! He begs to be "helper of the day" and he speaks with a clear, assertive tone. In September, Drew could write his full name pretty well. Now (halfway through Kindergarten), he's writing full sentences BY HIMSELF!! He's learning to spell, learning to read, and is a math-whiz to boot! WHAT?!

We attribute ALL of these changes to Drew's amazing teachers, Debbie and Emily. In just a few short months, my son has done a complete 180! It is nothing short of miraculous. We are so proud of Drew, but also incredibly grateful to his wonderful teachers. Teacher Emily is a thoughtful "giver" who takes each child under her wing and helps them feel special. She is amazing at realizing their potential early on, and bringing it up to the surface. Teacher Debbie's "mom hugs" leave the children feeling safe and warm, and her sense of humor creates a light, fun atmosphere. She has decades of experience, and there simply isn't anyone better to prepare your child for entering the 1st grade. Both teachers are very approachable, and always make time for you and your child.

Kelli Rockafellow, Kinder parent

To whom it may concern,

Woodroe Woods' approach to each individual's development has given our daughter the self-confidence to tackle more complex tasks. The small class sizes, loving teachers and staff have made her feel like she's part of a community where she feels comfortable and safe to be herself. ***Tom & Becky Maciel Lester and Vivian, Kindergarten***

Dear Prospective Kindergarten Family,

When our little guy came to the school, we was TERRIBLY nervous about the transition. He knew he was leaving good friends behind and had been so comfortable in the environment of his preschool. We had many tears leading up to the first day of Kindergarten.

On the first day of school, he hid behind me and began to cry a little, knowing that I was going to leave him there. Teacher Emily swooped in, encouraged him to the circle, and Teacher Debbie began greeting the children. She is captivating! As I snuck towards the door, he stood up in panic. Teacher Emily gently reached over, pulled him onto her lap, and he relaxed in her arms as he listened to Teacher Debbie again. That 1st day, when we picked him up, he greeted us with a huge smile and said, "I have the best teachers ever! I guuuueessss I can try to stay at Kindergarten."

We are now 100 days in and there are never any tears. Each day we ask, "How was your day?", and every time he practically yells, "I had a SUPER GREAT DAY!" He LOVES school! By Sunday each week, he gets excited to come back on Monday. He has lots of friends and is devastated when someone isn't at school for a couple of days. He desperately wanted to read and is so proud of himself as he is finally starting to do it! He has gained confidence to share in front of the class with weekly share days, so much that he even played his guitar for the class to an entire song last week! Art is a big focus here and Teacher Donna will rock your child's world with the coolest art projects-- Bring a tarp for the car to take glittery things home!

Woodroe Woods is a place where your child comes to learn more than just curriculum. They will learn to be a part of a community. ***Current 2019-2020 Kindergarten Parent***

Dear Prospective Kindergarten Family,

I can't say enough about Teacher Debbie and Emily! Our daughter has bloomed since starting in Kindergarten and it's wonderful to watch. Each year since starting at Woodroe (4 years ago) she has gotten better and better with this year being the best by far. Our daughter's excitement each day to learn is great and her face lights up when she reads and writes a new word... priceless.

On a personal note, I now I can call Debbie day or night, weekends too and she will always be there big or small. I have a friend for life!

Teacher Emily is just as amazing! I now I too can call on her outside of school and will be helped. Another friend for life!

We have another daughter that will join Debbie and Emily's class for the next school year and we cannot wait to watch her grow and learn as well.

Thank you for being amazing. ***Current 2019-2020 Kindergarten Parent***

To Whom It May Concern,

We love Woodroe Woods School!

Our son has attended Woodroe since preschool and now is in Kindergarten with Teacher Debbie and Emily (wonderful teachers!). We moved to San Leandro so we could be close to Woodroe, that's how much we believe in the school! Woodroe is more than a school, it's a community and a family. When we drop off at school in the morning, we have no doubt that he is being well cared for and is safe.

We are so happy that we made the decision for our son to attend Kindergarten at Woodroe. Our son has a love for learning that stems from the classroom and so much so, that he asks for homework even when it isn't due. He has progressed so much in reading, writing and has acquired a love for math--even in the first few months of Kindergarten. He is comfortable at Woodroe, which has helped develop his self-confidence and ongoing enthusiasm to learn new things. Teacher Debbie always gives us timely feedback on how our son is doing in class and tells us stories about his day, which is so important especially being working parents. He authentically cares about his classmates and has built lasting friendships. As parents, we have also built many parent-friends that our now part of our community.

Most of all, he is encouraged to be a critical thinker by making connections between himself and how he impacts the world. We couldn't be happier! ***Current 2019-2020 Kindergarten Parent***