



Elementary I | What to Expect

Dear Parents,

Welcome, Elementary I (ELI) families, to an exciting new school year filled with growth, learning, and endless possibilities! We're here to support your student throughout the year and look forward to seeing you around campus. All students will have Mark and Katie. Please know that we are here to support you throughout the year. Do not hesitate to reach out with any questions you may have. Below is some vital information about life in ELI.

Typical Daily Schedule:

8:15 - 8:30am	Arrivals
8:30 - 12:00pm	Work and lesson time: Students choose activities with guidance and support from their teachers, and small-group and individual lessons take place.
12:00 - 12:30pm	Lunch
12:30 - 1:00pm	Recess
1:00 - 3:10pm	Specials
3:10 - 3:25pm	Dismissals

Specialist Schedule:

ELI students participate in a rotating schedule of enriching specialist classes each week. The specialist schedule will be shared with you prior to the start of the school year, and includes:

- Agriculture
- Art
- Design Thinking in Agriculture (Third Trimester)
- Music & Drama
- P.E.
- Reading Round-Up
- Science Fair Prep (First Trimester)
- Social-Emotional Learning Curriculum (Second Trimester)
- Spanish

Drop-Off and Pick-Up:

The drop-off window for ELI students is from 8:15 - 8:30 am. All ELI Parents will enter the main entrance of the campus and bear left to pull into the ELI drop-off line. Children leave the vehicle independently, gather their belongings, and walk into the classroom without a



chaperone. Please do not line up prior to five minutes early on either end since it blocks traffic at the lower end of campus.

If you arrive after the drop-off window, you must come to the main office and sign your child into school.

The pick-up window for Elementary I is 3:10 - 3:25 pm. At dismissal, a Bay Farm staff member will escort your child to the vehicle.

We will provide drop off/pick-up color-coded cards on Welcome Back Day to be placed on your dashboard for the beginning of the school year to help with traffic flow.

Snack and Lunch:

Children bring their own snacks to school. We have a designated area for snacks in each classroom, and ELI students choose when to have their snack during the day. Due to allergy concerns, students are prohibited from sharing food with their classmates.

Lunch is from 12:00 - 12:30 pm. We encourage students who desire a hot lunch to make use of insulated containers.

Allergies are handled on an individual basis, according to the children's needs and individualized health plan. All staff are trained in Pediatric CPR, First Aid, and medication administration.

PEANUT ALERT: Our ELI classrooms are not peanut-free. Although we are not a nut free school, we may ask you to refrain from sending food containing peanuts or other allergens if there is a student allergy in the class.

Homework:

In Elementary I, the purpose of homework is to practice skills, establish personal responsibility, and begin to teach time management. There is weekly homework that goes home on Monday and returns on Friday. This work consists of a spelling book and math practice. A good rule of thumb is 10 minutes per grade per night, e.g., 20 minutes per night in 2nd grade.

We expect every to read every day. Additionally, each semester, the students will be assigned a long-term home-based project. You will receive full details on these home-based project assignments in a timely manner.

Volunteer Opportunities:

We look to parents to help us with chaperoning field trips, organizing holiday events, and helping with events such as Field Day and Montessori Parent Association events. If you are interested in volunteering, please email communications@bfarm.org. You may also reach out to your classroom parent.



Classroom Observations:

New and returning students' parents are welcome to schedule a classroom observation time after the first four weeks of school. Please contact the Front Desk (x10) to schedule a time. Observing a working classroom will help you gain an understanding of how Montessori education works and can facilitate insight into our educational goals and strategies. Follow-up questions for the teachers may be sent via email or shared at conference time.

Communication:

In urgent circumstances, call the Front Desk at 781-934-7101, Ext. 10. For non-emergency communication, our communication folder system and emails work best, frontdesk@bfarm.org and/or teacher email. Please allow 24 hours for an email response.

Please read the communication flyer in this summer's mailing for more information on Bay Farm School and teacher communication.

Elementary I:

Mark Benoit and Katie Byrne

MarkB@bfarm.org, KatieB@bfarm.org

Elementary I support:

Kelley Collins, Assistant Head of School

kelleyc@bfarm.org