

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As the new school year at SchoolNova is about to start, I am excited to welcome your children and you to the Math for 4-5 year olds class! My name is Tatiana Murat - you can address me as Ms. Tanya - and I will help the students to explore the very basics of mathematics this year.

Over the course of the year, through various fun exercises and games the children will learn to recognize numerals, understand the concepts of "how many" and the meaning of numbers as well as the basics of relationships between them. We will explore basic shapes and challenge our spatial thinking and imagination. We will work on problem-solving skills, logical and critical thinking. Our program is designed to be very hands-on and engage the students with mathematical concepts in simple everyday life activities as well as with help of purposely educational materials.

Our classroom is SBS\_N103, located on the first floor of the Social and Behavioral Sciences building, in the North wing.

Please read the information below to make the start of the classes smooth and easy-going for all of us. And of course feel free to contact me at [murat@schoolnova.org](mailto:murat@schoolnova.org) if you have any questions or concerns!

**Arrival/Dismissal:**

1. Please plan your time to **arrive** at the classroom about **5 mins before the class**. The students need time to prepare and "tune in" to the lesson. Moreover, being late is disruptive for the lesson and may obstruct the late coming child from normally participating in the class activities. At the same time, I ask you not to come too early, as the room needs to be set up for the lesson.
2. Please **pick up your child from the classroom** and let me or our TA know that you are leaving. We will not let the students leave the classroom without their adults.

**Classroom policy:**

1. The students are welcome to have their water bottles with them, but please make sure to finish snacking outside the classroom.
2. Please **do not bring any toys** to the class, as this distracts both the owner and their classmates.
3. Please make sure to **use the bathroom before** the class.
4. Due to limited space, I ask parents to wait in the hall during the class. However, if separation is hard for the student, the parent is welcome to stay for the first time.
5. Please stay in the hallway during the class, as sometimes parent's assistance or comforting is needed.
6. Once the **classwork workbooks** are distributed, the students **must bring them to each class**. No other supplies are necessary.
7. We may use **edible counting materials** (e.i. crackers, berries, breakfast cereal, etc.) in the class. Please **let me know** if I should be aware **of any allergies, restrictions or**

**family preferences** via email. In case you don't have any, I would appreciate it if you confirm that too!

8. If the student is not coming to the class, please let me know via email so I would not wait for them to begin the class (a note in advance is highly appreciated, but Sunday morning is fine).

**Homework:**

1. Homework is assigned after each class and is due the next class. Starting from the end of September, there will be two homework workbooks. The student will bring a workbook with the completed homework to the class and exchange it for another workbook with the homework assigned for the following week.
2. While realizing that parents' help is required to understand the tasks, I encourage the students to do their best independently. Homework is a teacher's instrument to see how the material is understood. If you still assist your child with particular tasks and see they are having a hard time, please leave a note next to the task, so I would know to pay more attention to the topic.
3. The best practice is to start working on homework shortly after the class (the same or the next day), as the material is still fresh and well remembered and there is no pressure of a deadline.
4. Sometimes homework is large, so do not worry if a student has not finished it. While discipline is necessary, it is truly important to keep the learning process enjoyable!

I am looking forward to meeting you all on Sunday!

Sincerely,  
Ms. Tanya