



# Meet the Teacher

# MS. DOWNS



Ms. Downs and Maizy

## About Me

Hi there! My name is Ms. Downs, and I am so excited to be your teacher this year. This is my fourth year at WVCS, and my fourth-year teaching Kindergarten. Before my time at WVCS, I taught TK for 3 years. I received my BA in Early Childhood Development in 2017, and my MA in Education in 2019. My passion is teaching early learners, and I am so blessed to have the opportunity to work with your child and instill a love of learning at a young age for them. I am a huge believer in hands on learning and making learning FUN for children. I believe developing strong interpersonal relationships built on trust, respect, and understanding is a key component to successful learning in school, and I so look forward to getting to know your child, and your family.

## Welcome to Kindergarten!

I am so excited to welcome you to the wonderful world of Kindergarten. This year your child will immensely grow their skills in areas such as math, reading, phonics, writing, science and Bible in fun hands-on activities. Kindergarten is also a time where social emotional skills blossom. This is an exciting year full of new learning opportunities- such as learning beginning reading skills, writing, and other discoveries.

I am so blessed to be able to work alongside you and your child to make this year full of engaging learning, and a memorable first year of elementary school!

## Fun Facts:

- ❖ I love dogs! I have a 10 year old Chocolate Lab, named Maizy!
- ❖ I love all things Disney (specifically the movie, UP as you will see in my classroom!)
  - ❖ I LOVE coffee and need it daily.
- ❖ I love the beach and reading (but not the sand)
  - ❖ English was my favorite subject in school!
  - ❖ I love music and going to concerts.

## Contact Info

Email:

[mdowns@westvalleychristianschool.com](mailto:mdowns@westvalleychristianschool.com)

Classtag:

Our class will be using Classtag to communicate throughout the year. This is where you can easily message me, see announcements, and our weekly newsletters☺

## Important Info

### UPCOMING DATES:

- ❖ Student Orientation: August 12<sup>th</sup> 2024  
1:00-3:00 pm
- ❖ First Day of School- August 13<sup>th</sup> 2024
- ❖ First Week of School Dismissal times:
  - ❖ Tues 13<sup>th</sup> - Wed 14<sup>th</sup> - 11:45 am
  - ❖ Thurs 15<sup>th</sup>- Friday 16<sup>th</sup> - 2:55 pm

### Summertime Kinder Prep Suggestions

- ❖ Practice name writing Talking about letters- including name and sounds.
- ❖ Practicing writing numbers and learning their names.
- ❖ Practice cutting with scissors and holding them correctly.
- ❖ Reading!!! Everything from food labels to the street signs can be used as practice for reading, and becoming familiar with our letters and the sounds they make.
  - ❖ Social emotional/Self help skills-- using the restroom by themselves, sharing, waiting their turn, being a good sport... things like this are huge especially for those who have never been in school!
- ❖ Fun hands-on learning ideas: ABC hunts, I-Spy (in the grocery store, while driving, at the park),
  - ❖ Salt/Sugar tray for letter recognition.
  - ❖ name/number practice, shaving cream on the table for letter recognition & name/number practice.

## Additional Supplies

- ❖ (3) large containers of Clorox wipes
  - ❖ (4) rolls of paper towels
  - ❖ (1) box of Kleenex
  - ❖ (1) Foam pump soap
- ❖ Current family photo print, 4x6 size only
- ❖ Extra change of clothes in a gallon Ziploc bag labeled with your child's first and last name (a WVCS polo, shorts/pants, underwear, and socks)

## Tell me about you!

- ❖ I would love to get to know each other before school officially starts, please feel free to send me an email about yourself and your family! Please be sure to include your name. You can send your note to me at my email address below. This is just for fun and is not required but I would love to learn about you!

Email:

[mdowns@westvalleychristianschool.com](mailto:mdowns@westvalleychristianschool.com)

I look forward to meeting you soon!

# Additional INFO