

Preschool Press



Principal's Message

Dear Parents,

It is amazing how quickly the New Year comes and goes. We are already beginning to plan for next year!

Many of our students will be moving on to Kindergarten in the fall. This can be a very stressful and overwhelming transition for young children and their families. In order to help you navigate the school system and make this transition easier we will be doing some preliminary work with you and the elementary schools. In order to start Kindergarten you must enroll your child in your assigned elementary building. This can be done during your schools Kindergarten Round-Up. The AAPS District schedule for Kindergarten Round-Ups have been published. Students scheduled to move on to Kindergarten should have received a letter regarding which elementary school you are scheduled to attend based on your home address. We encourage ALL families to attend Kindergarten Round-Up. There is valuable information for you and your child at this event. Kindergarten Round-Up and Enrollment information can be found in the last pages of this newsletter.

We will also hold an informative meeting for **parents of children with IEPs** on January 23rd from 6-7 called **The Road to Kindergarten**. At this meeting you will receive more information about this transition and the steps you will need to take for enrollment. It is very important to read backpack mail and newsletters in order to stay informed.

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's transition to Kindergarten, please feel free to talk with your teacher or give me a call at your convenience.

Let's start the year off right! Make sure you are on time bringing your child to school and picking them up from school.

Morning Session: 8:30 – 11:40 Afternoon Session: 12:35 – 3:45

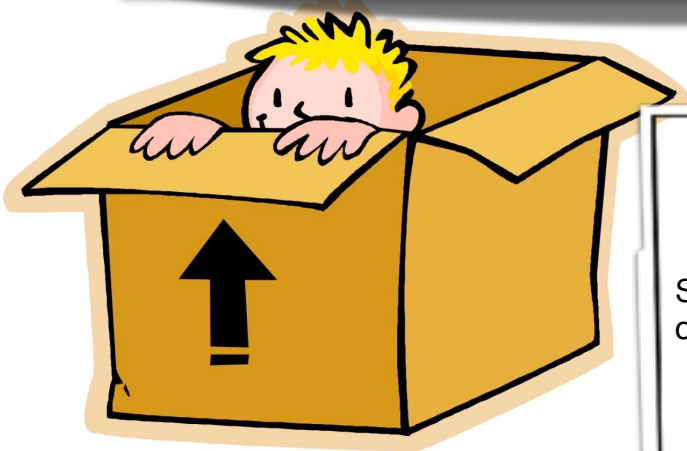
Full Day: 8:30 – 3:45

If You ARE Running Late Please call to let your teacher and front office know.

Michelle Pogliano, Principal

Winter weather means more play indoors. Below are some suggestions of activities, which are fun and without realizing it - children are developing fine motor skills!

1. Pressing buttons on a tape player, to listen to children's books on tape, this helps finger isolation and strength, or to turn on music to dance for body awareness and coordination!
2. Helping your child push the phone buttons to for a surprise call to the parent at work or grandparents.
3. Using small letter or character stamps with washable ink-pads strengthens thumb and fingers.
4. Peeling off stickers and placing them on paper/lunch bags for homemade wrapping paper works on grasp skills and eye-hand coordination.
5. Drawing on a blackboard easel or one that is attached to the wall or drawing on freezer paper that is taped to the wall, helps wrist and upper body strength and pencil grasp.
6. Under the bed (shallow) storage containers placed on a large piece of plastic can be filled with a variety of items such as dry rice/sand/sea shells/flour/snow for practice grasping, pouring, dumping and feeling. (Caution: do not use small items if your child would put them in his/her mouth.)
7. Large cardboard boxes can be transformed into houses and castles with markers, crayons, glue sticks and colored paper for hours of fun.



VITA is a **FREE** Tax Preparation Service for families that qualify.

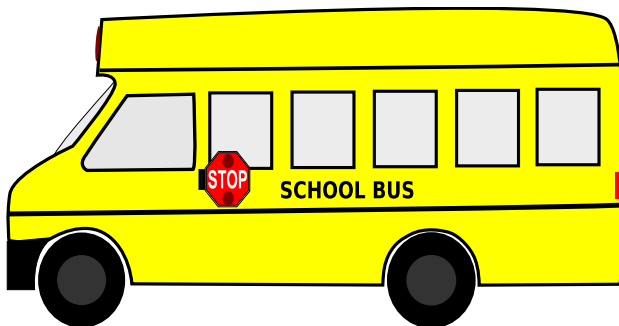
Schedule an appointment today! Call 734-677-7235 or email at : vita@uwwashtenaw.org

To prepare your own taxes online for FREE go to: www.myfreetaxes.com

Sledding Safety Tips From Kathy Gaines PT

Even though it's starting late this year, the snow is bound to come...and stay for a while! Snow means lots of outdoor fun, but be aware that thousands of children are injured each year while sledding. Here are some tips from the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons to help you and your child have fun and be safe this winter:

- Wear a helmet. Adults can too!
- Wear warm clothing to protect against cold and injuries.
- Always sit in a forward facing position. Never sled head-first.
- Disks, saucers, inner tubes and plastic sheets are more dangerous because they cannot be steered. Also, never sled when it is icy because you will be unable to steer or stop the sled.
- Learn to steer or stop a sled by dragging your feet in the snow. If your sled gets out of control, just roll off and worry about the sled later.
- Only sled with adult supervision.
- Never sled near streets, driveways or parking lots.
- Never sled into a snow bank, which could be covering a rock or tree stump.
- Never sled in the dark.



Reminder to ALL Parents/Guardians

February bus changes will be coming home in backpack mail on January 30, 2020. Remember changes will not take effect until Monday, February 3, 2020.

We expect the bus tracker app for Westerman to be down January 27, through February 2, 2020, while routes are being adjusted.

NAAPID

February 10, 2020
8:45 - 11:30

Save the Date

Come join us and spend time with your child at School.

JANUARY 2020				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
HOLIDAY BREAK		1	2	3
				
6 WELCOME BACK!	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20 No School MLK Day	21	22 All bus changes are due.	23 6:00pm - 7:00pm The Road To Kindergarten	24
27	28	29	30	31 Engaging Families in Literacy Session: 1 10:00 -



Kindergarten Round-Up

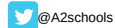
An Exceptional Education Begins with Ann Arbor Public Schools

Join us for our upcoming Kindergarten and Young Fives open houses. We're excited to share with you and your children the fun that awaits them in September. Meet the staff, learn about the programs, the enrollment process, and get answers to your questions.

You are welcome to attend any of our scheduled open houses, or call your school to schedule a visit. We look forward to seeing you!



Learn more at www.a2schools.org



Search for Ann Arbor Public Schools

2020 Kindergarten & Young Fives* Round-Up Schedule

Abbot*	Tuesday	Feb 18	6:00 - 7:00 pm
Allen*	Thursday	Feb 6	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Angell*	Thursday	Feb 27	6:00 - 7:30 pm
AA Open	Tuesday	Feb 25	6:15 - 7:30 pm
A2 STEAM*	Wednesday	Feb 26	6:00 - 7:00 pm
Bach*	Thursday	Feb 27	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Bryant*/Pattengill	Thursday	Feb 20	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Burns Park*	Thursday	Feb 6	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Carpenter*	Thursday	Feb 27	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Dicken*	Thursday	Feb 20	6:00 - 8:00 pm
Eberwhite*	Thursday	Feb 6	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Haisley*	Thursday	Feb 20	6:00 - 7:30 pm
King*	Wednesday	Feb 19	6:00 - 7:00 pm
Lakewood*	Thursday	Feb 27	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Lawton*	Thursday	Feb 27	6:00 - 7:00 pm
Logan*	Wednesday	Feb 12	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Mitchell*	Thursday	Feb 20	6:00 - 7:00 pm
Pittsfield*	Thursday	Feb 27	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Thurston*	Thursday	Feb 20	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Wines*	Wednesday	Feb 5	6:00 - 7:30 pm

*Indicates Young Fives Program. To be eligible for Young Fives, children must turn five years old between May 1 and December 1, 2020.

Wondering if your child is ready for Kindergarten? Contact your school for readiness screening or attend the district screening event

Early Childhood Expo / District Screening Event

Drop-in, no appointment necessary

W. Scott Westerman

Preschool & Family Center Saturday Feb 15 10:00 am - 1:00 pm





KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

Whether you are planning to attend your designated neighborhood school or wish to apply to attend another AAPS elementary school, all newly enrolled Kindergarten and Young Fives students must complete an enrollment application. General enrollment information follows.

We encourage all families to apply at the earliest opportunity The first window, for neighborhood/attendance area school enrollments, is scheduled to open on Tuesday, January 14, 2020. In the first window applications for regular Kindergarten will be available. Young Fives applications will be available at a later date, to be shared soon.

Space Available In-District Transfers (for families residing in the Ann Arbor School District boundaries) and Schools of Choice (for families who reside outside of the Ann Arbor School District boundaries) dates will be shared soon.

Kindergarten - Young Fives Program - Determined by Space Available for all students


- Eligible students must turn 5 between May 1 and December 1, 2020, to be considered. Exceptions to the December 1st deadline are not allowed. Students who turn 5 after December 1, 2020, are eligible for enrollment in regular Kindergarten in the Fall of 2021.
- Enrollment is limited at each building.
- Full-day Young Fives is offered at all elementary and K-8 buildings with the exceptions of Ann Arbor Open and Pattengill Elementary. In addition, half-day Young Fives is offered at Abbot Elementary school only.
- Interested families must complete an online pre-enrollment application at a2schools.org/enroll. Note: Interest forms collected at the schools are **not** applications for enrollment.
- Pre-enrollment applications for AAPS residents will be available at a later date, to be shared soon.
- In each application window, as applicable, priority is given to 1) Students who live in the school's attendance area, 2) Resident In-District Transfers, and then 3) New Schools of Choice students. Random draws will determine placement as needed. Priority for siblings does not apply to the Young Fives program.
- **Young Fives placement for students whose family does not live within the boundaries for that school is for one-year only.** No priority is given at that school for regular Kindergarten placement in the following year. A space-available In-District Transfer application is required in the following school year.

Kindergarten - Regular

- Eligible students must turn 5 by December 1, 2020, to enroll in Kindergarten. Exceptions to the December 1st deadline are not allowed. Students who turn 5 after December 1, 2020, are eligible for enrollment in regular Kindergarten in the Fall of 2021.
- Families must complete an online pre-enrollment application at a2schools.org/enroll. Note: Interest forms collected at the schools are **not** applications for enrollment.
- Pre-enrollment applications will be accepted only for students that live in the school's attendance area in the first window, scheduled to open Tuesday, January 14, 2020. Applications for In-District Transfer will be accepted starting in the second window as determined by space availability. Dates will be shared soon.
- In each application window, as applicable, priority is given to 1) Students who live in the school's attendance area, 2) Resident In-District Transfers and current Y5 Schools of Choice students, and then 3) New Schools of Choice students. Random draws will determine placement as needed.
- **Current Young Five In-District Transfer (IDT) students will be assigned to their neighborhood/attendance area school for Kindergarten. Families wishing to attend any school other than their neighborhood/attendance areas school placement must apply for space available In-District Transfer. In-District Transfer applications will be accepted during the second enrollment window. Dates will be shared soon.**
- **Current Schools of Choice (SOC) Young Five students MUST apply for their desired Kindergarten placement during the In-District Transfer process. Once admitted to the AAPS, SOC families are considered to be "In-District". SOC Families should select "yes" to the first question in order to access the IDT application. Current SOC families should **NOT** wait for the Schools of Choice window to apply. In-District Transfer applications will be accepted in the second enrollment window. Dates will be shared soon.**
- In-District Transfer regular Kindergarten students applying to attend the same school as a sibling, have placement priority provided that the currently enrolled sibling will attend the same school in the enrolling year. An In-District Transfer application MUST be submitted. Please apply in the earliest available window.

Questions

- If you have any questions about the Young Fives or regular Kindergarten program please call any of the school locations or the office of Elementary Education at 734-994-2252.
- For questions regarding the online enrollment process, please contact the Student Accounting and Research Services office at 734-994-2249 or enroll@a2schools.org.



Ann Arbor PTO THRIFT SHOP

- ✓ **SHOP**
- ✓ **DONATE**
- ✓ **SUPPORT**
- ✓ **FUNDRAISE**
- ✓ **VOLUNTEER**

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Supporting Ann Arbor Public Schools and its Students Since 1993

Shop Happenings December 2019 – March 2020!

- ❖ Hey Students! Do you need Service Hours?
Volunteering at our shop is a fun way to earn them!
- ❖ Need help getting into the Holiday spirit?
We have everything you're looking for!
- ❖ Does winter have you feeling restless? Treat yourself!
Shop our Martin Luther King Day Sale on Monday,
January 20, 2020, 9am-7pm, and Save 50% OFF Everything!
- ❖ We support all students in AAPS – your support is the key to success!



Don't forget to visit our Showcase,
where you'll find unique and
collectible treasures every day!
(Located next to our Donations Door)



SHOP HOURS: MON-FRI 10-7 / SAT 9-6 / SUN 11-5

DONATION HOURS: MON, THU, FRI 10-6 / CLOSED TUES & WED / SAT 10-5, SUN 12-4

Call 734-996-9155 to schedule a FREE Furniture Pickup



ANN ARBOR PUBLIC SCHOOL EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS

Engaging Families in Children's Literacy Development

A Complete Workshop Series

JOIN US on FRIDAY, 1/31/2020
10:00 – 11:30

LOCATION: WESTERMAN PRESCHOOL & FAMILY CENTER

- LEARN ABOUT CHILDREN'S LITERACY DEVELOPMENT
- MAKE-IT AND TAKE-IT – FUN FAMILY FOCUSED
READING AND WRITING ACTIVITIES TO TAKE HOME
- LEARN WAYS TO BUILD READING AND WRITING INTO
YOUR DAILY ACTIVITIES AT HOME

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

10:00 – 10:30	WELCOME & PARENT PRESENTATION (CHILDCARE IN THE GYM)
10:30 – 11:30	CHILDREN JOIN PARENTS FOR LITERACY ACTIVITIES



Save the date for our future Literacy Events: February 21, March 27, April 24 & May 29, 2020

R.S.V.P.

PLEASE RETURN THIS BOTTOM PORTION BY WEDNESDAY, 1/29/2020

_____ I WILL BE ATTENDING THE FAMILY LITERACY WORKSHOP

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME: _____

CHILD'S NAME: _____

TEACHER: _____

AGES OF CHILDREN ATTENDING: _____

(CHILDREN UNDER 2 YEARS MUST REMAIN WITH PARENTS AT ALL TIMES)