Dear Pre-K Families,

You may have heard that MNPS’ School Options Application is now available. If you have a child that will be joining MNPS for kindergarten for the 2017-2018 school year, now is a great time to explore your school options and participate in school tours.

For further information on the MNPS School Options Application and process, please visit the MNPS website (www.mnps.org).

Warm Wishes, MNPS Pre-K Team

Family Activity Corner

Rhyming with your child is a great way to develop their early literacy and oral language skills. A fun book that can help your child practice rhyming is The Cat in the Hat by Dr. Seuss.

After you read the book together, go over the rhyming words in the story with your child. Play a rhyming game using the words in the story - say two words from the book and have your child tell you if they rhyme.

Activity Idea: "Cat in the Hat - My Rhyming Hat" - Fold the top of a lunch or medium sized paper bag, and paint red and white strips on the bag with your child. Use crayons, markers or paint. Tie a piece of yarn or string to each side of the open part of the bag to create a tie to hold the hat in place for your child. Have your child choose two rhyming words from the story and have your child try to write them on the bag.

Follow MNPS Pre-K on Facebook & Twitter: @MNPSPreK

For More Activities & Information Visit: www.iTrails.org

Contact Information
Metro Nashville Public Schools
Pre-K Department
(615) 298-6766 Ext. 5

MNPS District Important Dates

November 23rd – 25th
MNPS Thanksgiving Holiday

December 2nd 5:30 P.M.
MNPS Optional Schools Application Deadline

Get Ready for Kindergarten Tip

It’s not too early for pre-K families to start exploring their child’s kindergarten school options. Metro Schools is hosting Walk-Through Tuesdays across Davidson County for families to participate in school tours.

Walk-Through Tuesdays will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on the following dates:

October 18 & 25
November 1, 15, 22 & 29
January 24 & 31

Please contact schools to confirm times and dates or if you need a tour outside of the times provided.
**Parent Spotlight**

Many pre-k students really enjoy books and probably need your help in reading a book. However, there is so much more that you can do than just read the words on the pages with your child.

The next time you read a book with your child, try the following:

**Go For a Picture Walk**

Let your child know that before you read the book that you are both going to explore the pictures to get familiar with the book. Start with the cover and ask your child what they see and what they think the book will be about. Then start going through the pages, and ask your child questions as you explore the pictures. After you’re done, read the book together.

**Let Your Child be the Storyteller**

Look at the book’s pictures with your child, and work with them to create their own story based on the pictures. For example, if there is a bear in the story, ask your child, “Where do you think the bear is going?” and start creating a story together.

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**School Tour Tips**

One of the best ways to know if a school is a good fit for your child is through school tours. School tours provide you an opportunity to learn more about a school and find a school that provides a comfortable learning environment for you and your child.

Here are a few tips to consider for school tours:

- Visit more than one school. Make a list of all the schools you want to visit. Visiting several schools will provide an opportunity for you to compare different learning environments.
- Contact the school you are interested in to schedule a tour.
- When you are on the tour, listen to the interactions between teachers and students, as well as among the students themselves.
- Make observations about the school’s environment.
- Take notes during and after your tour.

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**EVERY CHILD COUNTS!** Did you know that missing 10% of preschool/pre-K (one or two days every few weeks) can make it harder for a child to develop early reading skills & to get ready for kindergarten?

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