Dear Pre-K Families,
Welcome to Pre-K! The Kindergarten Readiness Newsletter provides your family with MNPS pre-K information, activities and tips to support your family and your child prepare for kindergarten. Your child’s Pre-K teacher will provide the newsletter monthly.

We also encourage you to connect with your child’s Pre-K teacher and school to find out about other ways to support your child during the school year, and how to be involved in your child’s school.

Warm Wishes, MNPS Pre-K Team

Family Activity Corner

Starting Pre-K is a big step for you and your child. It's very exciting and it's also a time of transition. A fun book to read about transition and starting routines is Llama Llama Misses Mama by Anna Dewdney.

After reading the book, encourage your child to talk about an exciting experience that happened to them at school. Ask them how they feel about school and encourage them to express their feelings.

**Activity Idea: “Fun with Words”** Select vocabulary words from the book that might be unfamiliar to your child, such as shy, strange or cuddled. Write the words down and describe their meanings. Ask your child to try to act them out.

For More Activities & Information Visit: www.mnps.org/countdowntokindergarten

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

MNPS District Important Dates

Teacher PD Day
Students Do Not Report for School
Friday, August 31st

Get Ready for Kindergarten Tip

When a child misses school more than 2 days a month, they miss important learning opportunities that are preparing them for kindergarten.

Here are a few tips to support your child’s Pre-K attendance:

- Set a regular bedtime & morning routine.
- Layout clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Develop a back-up plan for getting your child to & from school if something comes up.
- Check the “Attendance Sign” outside your child’s classroom to see their classes’ progress.

This product was provided to you by a Preschool Development Grant (PDG-E), an activity supported by Metro-Nashville Public Schools and funded with federal funds.
More Important Information

Parent Spotlight

Pre-K is not only new for your child, it can be new for the entire family. Starting a new school year provides a good opportunity to get your family into healthy routines and habits to support your child’s development.

Meal times provide a great opportunity to set healthy habits. During those times leave electronic devices in another room and focus on conversing with the family. By conversing, you are supporting your Pre-K student to develop their language and communications skills.

When your family ends their day, practice a consistent bedtime routine with your child. The routine could include reading a bedtime story, brushing their teeth and changing into pajamas. This will signal to your child that it’s time for bed, so they can get rest for a new day!

Supporting Literacy at Home

Ninety percent of a child’s brain develops before the age of five (5). Reading with your child each day is a great opportunity to support their development. A great local resource families can use to support literacy is the Nashville Public Library. The public library has branches throughout Davidson County and a library card is FREE if you complete an application.

The library not only can provide books for the entire family, there are also DVDs, Music, and you can even use their computers. Also, make sure to check your local library event calendar, since they offer free puppet shows and workshops for the family.

Some great books to read as a family to help prepare your child for kindergarten are:

- Ten Little Caterpillars By Bill Martin
- Where is the Green Sheep? By Mem Fox
- Yo! Yes? By Chris Raschka

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

- Before you start to read ask your child “What do you think the story is about?”
- Share the name of the author and illustrator.
- Read with expression!
- Ask your child questions after you read: “What happened in the story? What did you like best? What was the funniest part?”

For more information on the Nashville Public Library visit https://library.nashville.org or call (615) 862-5800.