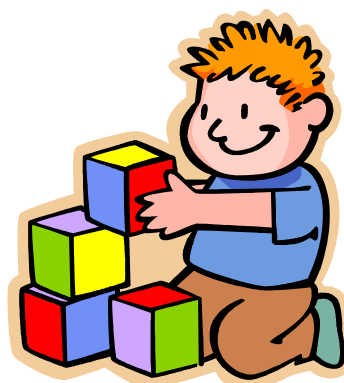
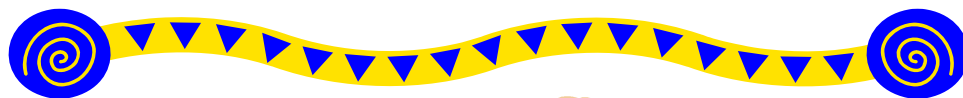
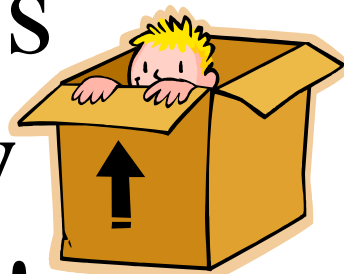
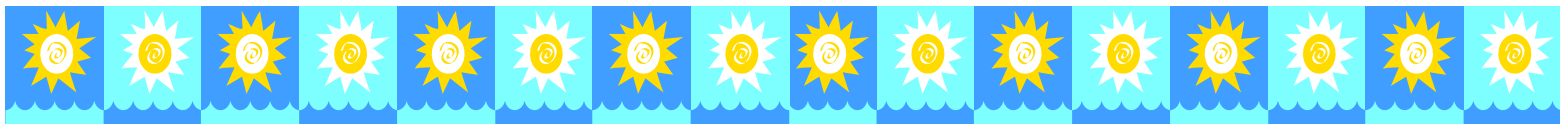


What you always
wanted to know
about preschool!



Kim Garcia, Director of Early Childhood
05.2008



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q. When will I find out who my child’s teacher will be?

A. This information will be mailed at the end of August.

Q. Will my child be able to meet his/her teacher before the first day of school?

A. Yes, there will be a preschool orientation meeting on September 5, 2008. Additional information will be mailed to you, in August, regarding the time and location.

Q. What will be the first day of school for pre-school children?

A. The first day of school for preschool children will be September 8, 2008.

Q. What is the staff/child ratio?

A. The staff/ child ratio is 2 adults for 18 children. Preschool enrollment can not exceed 18 children per classroom.

Q. What are the hours of the school day?

A. The school hours for Schools #1 - #4 are as follows:

Schools #1 - #4 Half-Day Students

	A.M. Session	P.M. Session	Delayed Time	Early Dismissal
Staff Arrival	8:50 a.m.			
Student Day Begins	9:15 a.m.	1:00 p.m.	11:15 a.m.	9:15 – 10:45 AM session
Student Day Ends	11:45 a.m.	3:30 p.m.		12:25 – 1:55 PM session
Staff Departure		3:50 p.m.		

Schools #1 - #4 Full-Day Students

		Delayed Time	Early Dismissal
Staff Arrival	8:50 a.m.		
Student Day Begins	9:15 a.m.	11:15 a.m.	
Student Day Ends	3:30 p.m.		1:55 p.m.
Staff Departure	3:50 p.m.		

Q. Is there a before and after school program?

A. Yes, if your child needs extended hours, they can be arranged. There is a cost for this service. Children must be pre-registered for this program. Each child must be signed in and out daily by an adult. Transportation is not provided. For more information, please call 856-767-2850.

Q. What is the attendance policy for the Winslow Township School District?

A. Children enrolled in a preschool classroom are required to attend on a regular basis, and be on time. Regular attendance ensures that your child will receive all the benefits of the program including achieving academic and social/emotional success. We know that children require, and adjust well, to predictable routines and consistency, which is achieved through regular attendance. If your child is habitually absent, or is continually late, your child may be subject to removal from the preschool program. Pre-school children must follow the Winslow Township Board of Education’s attendance policy (Policy No. 5200, see attached).

Q. Can my child come to school ill?

- A. Children who are medically ill, with a temperature, may not return to school until their temperature has been normal for a minimum of 24 hours. Children who are medically ill, or unable to participate in regular activities (i.e. broken arm, etc.), may not return to school until the child can resume regular school-day activities. Conditions such as lice, or symptoms such as vomiting, severe coughing or diarrhea, will require removal of the child from the school setting. If a child becomes ill while he/she is in our care, parents will be notified to immediately pick up their child. Until parents arrive, these children will be separated from the other children and cared for by the school nurse. An *alternate plan* for your child must be established if you are unable to pick up your child, or if you cannot be reached by telephone during the workday. This plan must be given to the school nurse who will keep it on file.

Please notify us immediately of a change of address or phone number. We need to have working phone numbers at all times. In the event of an emergency, we will need to reach a parent or guardian. (Policy No. 5200, see attached)

Q. Will my child need a doctor's note upon returning to school after an illness?

- A. School policy requires that you send in a note with your child to return to school when he/she is absent for any reason. Absences of five (5), or more, days require a Doctor's note; a form will be sent home reminding you to send in the required note. (Policy No. 5200, see attached)

Q. What should I do if my child is late to school?

- A. Late arrivals make for a difficult transition and children miss important learning activities. If your child does arrive late after 9:20 a.m., you must escort your child to the office to get a late pass.

Q. What if I must pick my child up before the close of the day?

- A. On the rare occasion that your child will need to be picked up before the close of the day, please stop at the hall monitor's desk and sign him/her out. The school will only release your child to a person authorized by the custodial parent. Anyone who is authorized to pick up a child will be asked to provide picture identification. Teachers will not release any child without permission from the office.

Q. Is transportation provided for preschool?

- A. Yes, transportation is provided. A parent/guardian must be with your child at the bus stop at all times. Bus drivers will not permit a child to get on or off the bus without an adult present. If there is not an adult present then, your child will be returned to school, and you must arrange transportation for him/her. Preschoolers must demonstrate acceptable behavior, both at the bus stop, and on the school bus.

Q. Will you transport my child to and from our caregiver?

- A. Transportation will be provided to a caregiver provided the caregiver is located in the child's regular attendance area. The caregiver also must be on an existing route. Pick up and drop off must be at the same location five (5) days per week.

Q. When will I find out my child's bus number and time of departure and arrival?

- A. The transportation information will be mailed with the school information at the end of August.

Q. How do I reach the transportation office?

A. If you have any transportation questions or concerns, please contact the Transportation Department at 609-561-4102 Ext. 7610.

Q. What if my child misses the bus?

A. If your child misses the bus, it is the responsibility of the parents or guardians to arrange transportation to the school.

Q. Should my child bring a lunch to school daily?

A. Yes, children can bring a lunch, including a beverage, every day. Lunch can also be purchased from the cafeteria. Each month a menu is sent home. If your child does not have a lunch, we will provide one and you will be charged. All charges must be paid the next school day. Our cafeteria offers several options for purchasing school lunch and milk. (See attached Lunch Newsletter)

Daily Lunch prices (milk is included)

Paid	\$2.10
Reduced	40¢
Milk	40¢

Q. What are the napping practices?

A. Your child will be resting for 30 minutes each day on a cot provided by the school district. Children are not required to sleep and may have a book or quiet activity on their cot. We will only permit children to sleep one hour. Please send a clean blanket or sheet for your child's cot each Monday. We will return it with your child on Friday to be washed. Please put your child's name on everything.

Q. Will the children's cots be disinfected?

A. Yes, one of our protocols is to sanitize all of the cots on Fridays.

Q. What if my child has an accident?

A. Young children occasionally have accidents. Please send in a spare set of clothes to keep in your child's classroom. We will send it home as the seasons change for more appropriate clothing due to weather changes.

Q. How should I dress my child for pre-school?

A. Please dress your child for an active day that includes painting, outside activities, climbing, running etc. Flip-flops are not permitted to be worn to school.

Q. What are the curriculum requirements for the preschool program?

A. New Jersey school districts are required to use a curriculum that is research or evidence-based with a written framework that is comprehensive, addresses the needs of the whole child, and provides a guide for decision making about content, instructional methods, and assessment.

Q. What curriculum has the school district adopted?

A. Preschool education consists of specifically designed educational experiences to stimulate and teach readiness skills before the child enters kindergarten. Our curriculum, “Creative Curriculum,” followed the New Jersey Early Childhood Expectations: Standards of Quality. It includes instruction in language arts/literacy, math, social and emotional skills, dramatic play, science, art, social studies, gross (large muscle) and fine motor skills, music and movement.

Q. How will my child learn?

A. The child’s learning takes place in a safe and nurturing environment. Children are active learners and learn best through activity-based learning. The benefits of activity-based experiences during the pre-school years are extensive and address academic goals for reading, writing, math, science, social studies and the arts.

Q. What are the assessment requirements?

A. We employ a systematic ongoing procedure for obtaining information from observations, interviews, portfolios, and developmentally appropriate assessments that can be used to make judgments about the strengths and needs of individual children and plan appropriate instruction. There are many methods of addressing these criteria. We assess children through their drawings, constructions, conversations and observations in the classroom. We utilize First Step, The Creative Curriculum Developmental Continuum and Individual Growth and Development Indicators.

Q. Will there be parent conferences for pre-school?

A. Yes, parent conferences are held twice a year. At this time you will receive information regarding your child’s progress. If you have any questions or concerns about your child’s progress or classroom activities please feel free to contact the classroom teacher to set up a meeting.