Thompson School District
Early Childhood Program Newsletter
800 S. Taft, Loveland, CO 80537 (970) 613-5052
https://www.thompsonschools.org/preschool

A Note From Our Administrator…

Vision: Children and Families Empowered for a Lifetime of Learning

Mission: The mission of the Thompson Integrated Early Childhood Program is to provide high quality, developmentally appropriate education, and family-centered services that value and respect the diversity of individual children and families. Through collaboration with community and educational resources, we will strive to identify and alleviate barriers that interfere with the ability of families and children to reach their full potential.

Each year, I like to share our program’s mission statement because this is what drives our work. The vision and mission statements were developed with staff, parents, Families Partnering in Education, and the Thompson School District’s Board of Education. These words are at the heart of our work. We revisit this every year to renew our promise in what we believe in. We take seriously that we are preparing our students for a lifetime of learning and as the parents, we recognize the importance of building a partnership with you. Our hope is that you aspire to be an active participant in your child’s learning throughout her/his educational career.

We’ve completed our first month of the 2018-2019 school year and there are many things going on in the classroom. By this time, your child is starting to settle into a “routine” for their classroom. Right now, our staff are focused on building the necessary social-emotional skills to engage in play and to collaborate with others in the class and building the skills necessary to learn. This
includes learning about expectations and engaging in play that also includes learning skills in literacy and mathematics.

Communication is an important part of our program. One of the changes you'll see this year should be a newsletter coming home every 2 weeks to update you about what's happening in the classroom. I encourage you to reach out to your child’s teacher if you have any questions regarding what you read or anything else you have questions about.

Happy October!

Lamb Caro
Early Childhood Administrator

Social Emotional Resources...

Hello Parents,

I hope you and your family are settling into and enjoying the new preschool year. One of the first things that teachers are teaching children is our safety rules. These rules are:

- We keep ourselves safe
- We keep each other safe
- We keep our things safe

You can teach these same rules at home. Some examples would be...

- “You keep yourself safe when you wear your helmet on your bike.” or “You keep yourself safe when you brush your teeth.”
- “You keep your friends safe when you take turns with your toys.” or “You keep others safe when you use words to say that you are angry.”
- “You keep your things safe when you put your toys away.” or “You keep your toys safe when you play with them gently.”

Mary Bowman
970-613-6179

Education Corner...

Happy October!

Fall in Colorado has to be one of my favorite times of year. We are able to enjoy beautiful weather, changing trees and the smell of autumn. Now that you have settled into the routine of the new school year, take some time this month to go on a walk with your little one. Talk about what you see, hear and smell. Share with them your thoughts and
wonderings. There is so much to see and learn about right in our own back yard. This develops language, curiosity and a love and respect for our environment, not to mention what a little fresh air can do for our outlook!

This month there will be many opportunities for festive activities in our community, and often these are free. Please watch your child’s backpack for a list of these family friendly events.

"Haven’t you found that one of the best ways children learn is from the example of the grownups they love? When children see that you wonder about the world around you...that you ask questions...that you notice things and look carefully, then they’ll want to be curious about the world around them, too.”

- Mr. Fred Rogers

Amy Gerhard
Education Coordinator
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**English Language Development...**

**Story time**

Children developing English as their second language can greatly benefit from simply listening to stories in English. In fact, a recent study suggests that regular "story listening" can have a greater impact on a child’s language development than directly teaching vocabulary. Using your native language with your child at home for regular communication combined with regularly reading engaging picture books together in English can help make English increasingly understandable for your child.

“In cases where parents are unable to read stories in the second language to their children... it may help to take advantage of story time at the local public library” (Shi & Krashen, 2018). Continue to provide frequent opportunities for your child to listen to stories in English and support gradual vocabulary mastery leading to more English language gains.


Erin Ridge
English Language Development
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Health/Wellness...

A good source of articles and recipes for your health and wellness can be found at:

www.kidshealth.org

Check out the articles entitled MyPlate Food Guide and Go Slow and Whoa? A Kid’s Guide to Eating Right. Both articles give good information on portion control and healthy food choices.

Christiana Shorten
Health Coordinator (970)613-5063

As a resident of Colorado, you and your family have access to a statewide Prescription Assistance Program (PAP). Create and print your FREE discount prescription drug card coupon below. This pharmacy coupon card will provide you with Rx medication savings of up to 75% at more than 68,000 pharmacies across the country including Safeway, Albertsons Sav-on, Kroger, Walgreens, CVS/pharmacy, Walmart, Kmart, and many more. You can create as many coupons as you need. We encourage you to create and send to friends and family members via one of the many available options. This Coupon/Card is pre-activated and can be used immediately!

NOTE: All prescriptions processed through this program are confidential.

Scrambled Egg Muffins

12 Servings
Prep/Total Time: 30 min.

Ingredients
- 1/2 pound bulk pork sausage
- 12 eggs
- 1/2 cup chopped onion
- 1/4 cup chopped green pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 1/2 cup shredded cheddar cheese

Directions
- Preheat oven to 350°. In a large skillet, cook sausage over medium heat until no longer pink; drain.
- In a large bowl, beat eggs. Add onion, green pepper, salt, garlic powder and pepper. Stir in sausage and cheese.
- Spoon by 1/3 cupfuls into muffin cups coated with cooking spray. Bake 20-25 minutes or until a knife inserted near the center comes out clean. Yield: 1 dozen.

Nutritional Facts: 1 serving (1 each) equals 133 calories, 10 g fat (4 g saturated fat), 224 mg cholesterol, 268 mg sodium, 2 g carbohydrate, trace fiber, 9 g protein.

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For more information please visit:
www.info@coloradodrugcard.com
Family Engagement...

For the past seven years, Governor Hickenlooper has proclaimed October to be Family and School Partnership in Education Month. A goal of our program is to have positive partnerships with each of you. We strive to create a welcoming environment for children and families. Regular 2-way communication between staff and families is a key component of successful partnerships. Our teachers aim to share information through email, phone calls, newsletters, notes home, text messages, apps and school websites.

Research shows that children do better in school when families are engaged in their child’s education. There are many ways you can support your child’s learning. Attending parent-teacher conferences, volunteering in the classroom, home visits with staff, and participating in program events are a few examples.

If you are interested in volunteering in your child’s classroom, go to the school district website, www.thompsonschools.org and click on the Community button to register to volunteer. Once you are registered, a name badge will be sent to your school office. Scan your name badge to record your volunteer hours and wear your badge in the classroom. Training videos are available on the website as well, which explain the process. Once you have registered, ask your teacher how you can help.

Julie Lindsay
Family & Community Partnership Coordinator
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