Greetings, Thompson families!

We’ve almost completed our first month of the 2017-2018 school year! By this time, you should see your child starting to settle into a “routine” where they learn through play and social interactions inside and outside of the classroom. Kindergarten readiness is our goal and we are beginning the journey with you as our partners!

Children and Families Empowered for a Lifetime of Learning. Our vision statement for the Early Childhood Program reflects what we believe in. We see every year as a new opportunity to partner with you to help your child succeed and grow through the home and school partnership. We invite you to be an active participant in your child’s classroom by getting to know the teaching staff.

You can also be involved participating in our Families Partnering in Education, Colorado Preschool Advisory Council, and/or attending the different events we will be offering this 2017-2018 school year. I also invite you to get involved in your child’s classroom. Volunteer help is always appreciated!

I feel honored to work with our highly qualified and dedicated staff, who are committed to helping your child grow, academically and socially. The Early Childhood years are critical times of development for students and we look forward to working with all of you to make this 2017-2018 year successful.

Lamb Caro
Early Childhood Administrator

“Children are the world’s most valuable resource and its best hope for the future.”

John F. Kennedy

September 18, 2017
Family Pie Meeting
Monroe Early Childhood
5pm
(Dinner and Childcare Provided)

September 28, 2017
HUGS Family Night
Conrad Ball Middle School
4:30-6:30pm
Family Engagement:

Attendance Matters in Preschool

Preschool education is important for school readiness. We focus on social-emotional skills, math, language, literacy, physical development, and of course we have fun!!

There is a misperception that preschool attendance doesn’t matter. Unless your child is ill, it is very important that your child attend school every day. Research shows that students with lower preschool attendance have lower scores in all subtests when they reach kindergarten. Children who do not attend preschool regularly, are less likely to read proficiently by the end of third grade.

We know that children get sick, and we certainly want you to keep your child home if he or she isn’t feeling well. Be sure to call your child’s teacher by 9:00 am if your child will not be in school.

Source:

Julie Lindsay
Family & Community Engagement Coordinator
(970) 613-5053

Tomato Basil Pizza

Prep time: 15 minutes
What you need:
- 1 whole-wheat English muffin
- 2 tablespoons tomato sauce
- 2 slices of a tomato
- 2 tablespoons shredded part-skim mozzarella cheese
- 1 tablespoon fresh basil, chopped

What to do:
1. Preheat broiler.
2. Slice the English muffin in half.
3. Place two English muffin halves on a small baking sheet.
4. Top the muffins with tomato sauce.
5. Add the tomato slice.
6. Add cheese.
7. Add basil.
8. Add the tomato slice.
9. Broil until cheese is brown and sauce is bubbly.
10. Serve immediately.

Reviewed by: Rupal Christine Gupta, MD
Date reviewed: November 2015

Note: All information on KidsHealth® is for educational purposes only. For specific medical advice, diagnoses, and treatment, consult your doctor.
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Welcome Back to School from the EC Health Office!

As a reminder, school busses and cars are back in full force on the neighborhood streets and around Schools at this time of year. This greatly increases the chances of accidents with small children running into the school building or running through the parking lot to meet their families. It is very important to teach your children how to be safe when crossing the street, or walking through the parking lot at school.

- Please stay off of cell phones when driving through school zones.
- Do not allow children to cross streets alone. Teach your child to ask an adult for help before crossing the street or parking area.
- Do not allow them to run or dart across the street or parking area.
- Use sidewalks as much as possible.
- Teach children to be careful at cross walks. Even if the flashing sign says “walk”, look both ways for cars turning or not obeying before crossing the street.
- Teach children to treat driveways like intersections. Stop at the edge, and then look right and left for cars pulling out. Teach them to look for back-up lights on a car which means they are moving.
- Children getting off the bus must always cross in front of the bus, look left and right for oncoming cars and make sure the bus driver sees you before you cross. The bus driver will signal that it is safe to cross.
- Parents crossing the street with children must use the cross walk. It teaches children to do the same and it is much safer. There is often a crossing guard or flashing light that will signal the driver to stop and look for pedestrians. Running across the middle of a street is never safe.

Here’s to a safe school year!

Christiana Shorten
Early Childhood Health Coordinator
Welcome and thank you for allowing our staff to visit your homes. This is a big transition for many of our little ones and these home visits help students to see a familiar face when leaving parents, often for the first time. Many children will cry at first, but within a few days will become comfortable with school. This is totally normal and is different for each child. It is important that you prepare them for a fun day at preschool, kiss them goodbye and reassure them that you will return to pick them up soon. You are welcome to check in with staff to make sure that your child is doing well. Rest assured that our skilled staff will comfort your child and keep them safe!

When you pick up your child, talk about what you did while they were in school and then ask them about their day. Emphasize your feelings in your conversation. For instance your conversation may go something like this...

“While you were at school, Daddy had a meeting, but my computer wouldn’t work. I was embarrassed and frustrated, but I asked my boss and he let me use his. How was your day? Did you feel frustrated at all today?”

Or...

“While you were at school, Mommy had to go to Walmart to buy some spaghetti noodles for dinner. I know that spaghetti is your favorite and I wanted to make you a special dinner after your long day at school. What did you have for lunch today? I want to hear all about the fun you had today!”

Conversations with your child are an important part of their language development, as well as the development of a positive self-esteem.

Thanks for partnering with us in the education of your precious little ones!

Amy Gerhard

Education Coordinator
Welcome to school!

I’m sure you and your child are excited and possibly a little bit nervous. I hope that you have had a smooth transition into the school year. If you run into any bumps along the way, please feel comfortable talking to our fabulous teaching staff about your concerns.

My name is Mary Bowman, the Early Childhood Mental Health and Autism Coordinator. Susan Bartlett is our School Social Worker and Therapist. Susan and I will be working together to bring ideas, resources and information to you about the social and emotional needs of young children. As we move through the year, you will receive information about:

- Hugs (our mascot) and “PBIS”- Positive Behavioral and Intervention Supports
- Home strategies
- Parenting support
- Community resources
- Web-based resources
- And more

Feel free to contact either one of us at any time at 613-5000

Have a great year!
Mary