

Preschool Press



Dear Preschool Families,


Happy February!

In these unprecedented times it's complicated to plan and execute the events that normally take place during the year. Kindergarten Round Up is one of those events. The eagerly awaited round up usually begins in early February and continues throughout the month. Unfortunately, at this time, I do not have specific information to share with you, but I do want you to know that the District Administration has not forgotten about this important event and is working on a way to present the information to interested families.

We will be working alongside all AAPS administration during these weeks of February to ensure continued virtual instruction and to create an equally effective return to school plan. As Superintendent Swift has stated: "We will continue to hold the health and safety of our staff and students as our top priority."

I would like to encourage you to take advantage of the Community Fair being held virtually on February 10th. See our Upcoming Events and flyer below for more details.

Jo Ann Telfer, Assistant Director AAPS Early Childhood Programs,
Westerman Assistant Principal

Let the UofM Tobacco Consultation Service help you!
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What's got Ms. Stephanie's class covering their eyes?



Our class loves to play the game, What Changed?
You can play at home, click here to [Learn to Play!](#)

February

Upcoming Events –

Feb – 8 – NAAPID Day

Feb - 10 – We're All In This Together!

Community Fair – Virtual Family

Resource Event – 10am – 12:20pm

information with links can be found below and on our website [Preschool Webpage](#)

Feb 12 & 15 – No School



Robin's Resources:

Free Tax Preparation Services (virtual)

<https://www.uwashtenaw.org/freetaxhelp>

or (734) 971-8200

For Specialized Free Tax Services or IRS

Assistance University of Michigan Law School – Low Income Taxpayer Clinic

<https://www.law.umich.edu/clinical/litc>

or (734) 936-3535



We would like to express our Thanks to Busch's for their donation of bags to help us distribute supplies to our families!

February Is:



Play and Communicate!

Pretend play is good for language development (it's good for social, emotional and cognitive development too!) During winter in Michigan children are indoors a lot. Here are some things to pull out when your child needs something different to spark their imagination. Talk with your child about different ideas to help them plan their play. They can play with you, alone or with another child.

Cardboard box – A large box could be a house, school, store, car, bus, train, spaceship or anything else your child can imagine. Painting or coloring on the box adds to the fun.

Dress Up clothes – Your old clothes, costumes, hats, glasses, necklaces, flashlight, old keys, suitcase or purse can inspire many pretend play scenarios. Add a magic wand (wand, ruler, straw, stick) and your child can come up with a magical way to transport to their pretend scenes. Get your own magic wand and play along!

Blanket fort – Give your child a sheet or blanket and some chairs and they can make a fort. Add a pillow and some stuffed animals and kids could be in a house, tent, castle, igloo, cave or any other place you can dream up together.

Extend the play and language by taking pictures of your child playing and then share the pictures and talk together after they have cleaned it up. You could even say let's clean this up so we can talk about these cool pictures!



Marie Stroud, Speech Therapist



Robin Dye, FCRS

2021/22 Enrollment

Enrollment for the 2021-22 school year is quickly approaching. Current three year-old Head Start families will receive specific direction on the enrollment process via email during the first week of March. Current three-year-old students are eligible for a second year of schooling, but will be asked to provide your family's 2020 annual income and proof of your current residency.

New Families who wish to apply for either the 2021-22 Head Start or Great Start to Readiness Program (GRSP) will be required to begin the application process after March 1st, by completing an Interest Form at www.washtenawpreschool.org. Families who meet program requirements will be contacted directly by Robin or Aaron to schedule an appointment. In preparation, families will be required to verify 2020 income, residency and date of birth. More information about county wide programs and requirements can be found at www.washtenawpreschool.org

Face to Face!

Children enjoy imitating what they see you doing at home. When playing with your children remember the importance of being down at their level. Try to position yourself in front of your child so they can reference your face during play. Great activities that you can do while playing face to face includes:

- Blowing bubbles – this is a great activity to encourage fine motor and language skills. You can try popping the bubbles with your pointer finger, your pointer finger and thumb or clapping them between your hands. If you use the word “POP” every time you pop one your child may begin to imitate that!
- Building with blocks – blocks are a great way to work on imitation and turn taking. You and your child can each build a tower or take turns to build the same tower. You can also include simple language like “UP, UP, UP” while you build or “Oh No” when the tower falls.



Erin Stahl,
Occupational Therapist



Shelly Weber,
Physical Therapist

♥ February is Heart Month ♥

According to the American Heart Association website, www.heart.org, childhood obesity rates have tripled since 1963. Sixty percent of overweight children ages 5-17 have at least one risk factor for cardiovascular disease, and kids with weight issues are very likely to stay that way into adulthood.

Preschool is the perfect time to start healthy habits to enable your child down the right path with a healthy diet and lots of activity! Here are some examples:

--Preschoolers don't always choose a wide variety of foods, so making sure their bread and cereal products are whole-grain and high in fiber, canned vegetables are low-sodium or “no salt added”, and canned fruits are in water or their own juice are all steps in the right direction. Don't give up on offering a variety of healthy choices since tastes can change quickly!

--Daily physical activity of at least 60 minutes per day is the recommended amount for children, and since leading by example is the best way to motivate kids, getting the whole family moving is a great idea! Taking walks, playing outside, and dancing to music are all fun ideas. The internet is full of dance and exercise ideas for kids, such as www.gonoodle.com.



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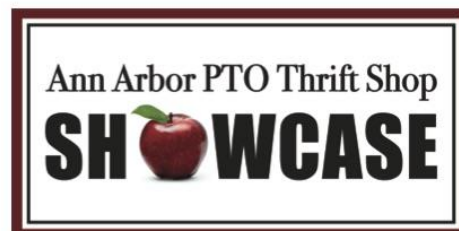
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Rest assured that CDC Guidelines are being followed to assure all staff and customers stay safe while shopping!

***Don't forget to visit our Showcase,
where you'll find unique and
collectible treasures every day!***



***Call 734-996-9155 or visit
FaceBook page for Current Hours***