

Pre-K Newsletter 2025

Dear Families,

We would like to welcome you to our Pre-K class at MEEC! We are excited to start this school year with you and your child. Each month, you will have access to a monthly newsletter that will introduce the themes and activities that your child will be participating in while at school. The newsletter will also contain important information about upcoming events such as show & tell, question of the month, parades, parties, etc. Monthly newsletters will be sent via e-mail and will also be available on the school's website. It is our hope that the information will help to prepare your child for class and foster conversation about their day.

Email Check: An electronic copy of this newsletter will be sent to you, and all future newsletters will be sent home via email. Please check your email to be sure you have received a copy of this newsletter. If you have not, notify Miss Cindy to make sure she has an accurate email address for your family.

Paperwork: Please fill out and return <u>ALL</u> your paperwork that you received in your child's initial folder. Especially your child's Medical Statement, filled out and signed by a physician. This important form must be on file in the office and is good for one calendar year. You may place all paperwork in the tray located in the hall, on the shelf, outside the big room. We would appreciate this paperwork by Friday, September 12th.

Class Dojo: We will be utilizing this important texting app to communicate reminders about things at school, like Show-n-Tell, Field Trips, school cancellations, etc. All families should have at least one family member join. Parents, you will be able to text directly back to the teachers. This is an easy and quick way to communicate with our staff! Please feel free to share this with other family members. Sign up with this Class Dojo Link and download the Class Dojo app. Please note that you do not need to pay for this app. We will only be using this for communication and not for behavior.



Backpack - Please make sure to have a complete change of clothes in your child's backpack because we can get messy at preschool! If your child is not potty-trained, please also pack a few diapers.

Letter of the Week: Each week, starting in September, we will be introducing a new letter of the alphabet at circle time and during our centers, starting with "Aa". Activities throughout the week will reinforce the upper and lower letters. Visual recognition of these letters is our goal, although we will be presenting the phonetic sound for those children who are developmentally ready. As the year progresses, we will have a review and repetition of letters previously introduced. We will also complete an ABC Workbook every Friday that your child will complete and be able to take home towards the end of the school year.

Gym Activities: Your child will participate in gym activities daily. Motor development is the foundation for all development in young children. If not in the gym, they will be engaging in various gross motor activities (playground time, walks, etc.) to continue to promote these skills. Tennis shoes are necessary every day for the gym and outdoor play. It provides your child with a safe shoe that allows for full participation.

Journal Reading: During circle time, the children will be exposed to journal reading. After participation in activities, the teacher will record responses and print words on a chart. These responses will be read together, and children who are beginning to read will be called upon to read aloud, as the teacher points to the words. This whole language approach to reading will help to build the symbol-to-word connection and reinforce the concept of left-to-right progression, as well as sight word vocabulary.

Journal Writing: Every Thursday, students will be given a writing prompt in their writing journals. Journaling is a great emergent writing activity that teaches children to express their thoughts on paper and helps them develop linguistic, motor, and social-emotional skills. As the year progresses, the students will also develop invented spelling. Invented spelling is a window into a student's thinking about print and letter/sound knowledge. Through the use of writing activities, students can demonstrate letter/sound knowledge, phonemic awareness skills, print awareness, language skills, and creativity.

Birthdays: Please let your child's teacher know if it is their birthday, so we may celebrate their special day. You are welcome to send in a special snack or treat for the class on that day, if you choose.

Snack: We ask families to sign up for snacks two times a year. Please give these supplies to a teacher when you arrive at the classroom door. We request that you send in water (no juice) to drink, 100 - 5-ounce cups, a large package of napkins, and a healthy snack for 21 children for five days. Keep in mind that due to allergies, no dairy or nuts. If your child is on a special diet and brings his/her own snack, please make sure to tell a teacher and put the snack in their backpack. Click here to sign up

Show-n-Tell: We will have Show-n-Tell about once every month. Generally, children will be asked to bring in a theme-related item. Show-and-Tell encourages social interaction and language expression. Please prepare your child in advance by having them practice saying a few words about what they have chosen to bring in. Please mark your calendar for the date of Show-n-Tell. This month's Show-n-Tell will be on Tuesday, September 9th. Children are asked to bring in their "Favorite Summer Treasure". This may be a souvenir from a vacation or a picture from a favorite summer activity.

Lake Erie Nature & Science Center - Pre-K: Lake Erie Nature Center: We are excited for our families to travel to the Nature Center on October 17th. Our class will meet at noon and start with an up-close encounter with some forest friends! This event is limited to our Pre-K class and teachers so as not to scare the animals. Next, we will reconvene with the parents to explore with a scavenger hunt. Everyone will be able to attend the Stars and Storis Planetarium visit and then conclude with a craft.

S.T.E.A.M. Lessons: Once a week, we will be engaging in S.T.E.A.M. activities (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math). During these activities, students will have the opportunity to problem solve, be creative, ask questions, etc. Through fun projects/experiments such as cooking lessons, math activities, sensory activities, etc. These group activities also help and encourage self-help skills and fine motor development as children cut, stir, mix, roll, measure, etc. Children will gain experience with cause and effect, as well as practice sequencing and recalling information. Finally, STEAM fosters a sense of accomplishment as children perform a life skill and enjoy the product they have created.

Mystery Reader: We are excited to bring back and invite "Mystery Readers" into the classroom. Our Mystery Reader (parent/grandparent/graduate of MEEC) will prepare a short story to read to the class on their assigned day at 2:20 pm. We ask that you wait in the hall until we are ready for your surprise visit. The children get very excited to see who the mystery reader is - so it's a secret! Mystery Reader Sign Up

<u>MEEC Spirit Sale:</u> We are excited about our spirit wear sale! The spirit store will accept orders online until September 19th. Throughout the school year, we will have spirit days, so grab your MEEC gear today. This will be the only sale of the year!



- Circle Time- Children will enter the classroom, hang up their belongings, and gather on the carpet for a language-based lesson and music and movement activities. Here, we sing a "Hello" song that greets each child individually. We sing about monthly themes, holidays, etc. All the teachers sit with the children. We review the calendar, weather, the Pledge of Allegiance, Letter of the Week, concepts, etc.
- Movement Break The students will work inside and outside the classroom on various movement activities. This movement break will allow their bodies to increase their blood and oxygen flow, which will then positively affect their cognitive development
- Centers The students will be divided into small groups to participate in 3 different centers. They will complete crafts (that are coordinated with our weekly themes), fine motor activities (cutting, pre-writing strokes, writing their name, etc.), and learn various concepts (matching, sorting, rhyming, listening skills, etc.).
- Gym/Free Play- The children will then go to the gym for gross motor work and then return to the classroom for free play. Children are allowed to make a plan for their free play by choosing their activity from 2-3 choices. This is a great opportunity to make a plan, carry it out, and engage with their peers.
- Snack/Dismissal Snack time, children work on table manners, opening containers, pouring their drink, and verbalizing requests. This is a great time to engage in conversations with teachers and peers as well.

The entire staff at MEEC looks forward to a fun and productive school year. Please remember that if you have a question or comment, feel free to talk to your teacher.



Thank you, and have a great school year!

Ms. Deanna, Ms. Sarah, Ms. Tonya,

Ms. Chelsea, Ms. Dawn, Ms. Nichole, &





September Songs:

"I Am Me"

"Shake a Friend's Hand"

"Way Up High in the Apple Tree"

"The Cowboy Dance"

September Gym:

Chalk Bodies Friends in the Dell Ball Skills with partners

Outside Play

Classroom Activities:

Week of September 2nd

Handprint Pencil All About Me Book Page Name Crown Grandparent Day Craft

Decorate All About Me Bag

Theme: All About Me STEAM: All About Me



Theme: Friends/Letter A

STEAM: Game Day



Week of September 8th

Friendship Tree Friendship Bracelet

Show-N-Tell: Favorite Summer Treasure (Tuesday, September 9th)

Letter A - Acorn

Week/Letter B

Letter B - Boots

Horse

Cowboys & Cowgirls

ABC Book - Letter B

Easel Painting of Me & Friend

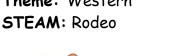
Week of September 15th

ABC Book - Letter A



Theme: Western







Theme: Apples/Letter C

STEAM: Johnny Appleseed Day



Week of September 22nd

Cactus, Horseshoes, & Banjos

Apple Candy Apple Letter C - Caterpillar Apple Stamping ABC Book - Letter C







All About

Me