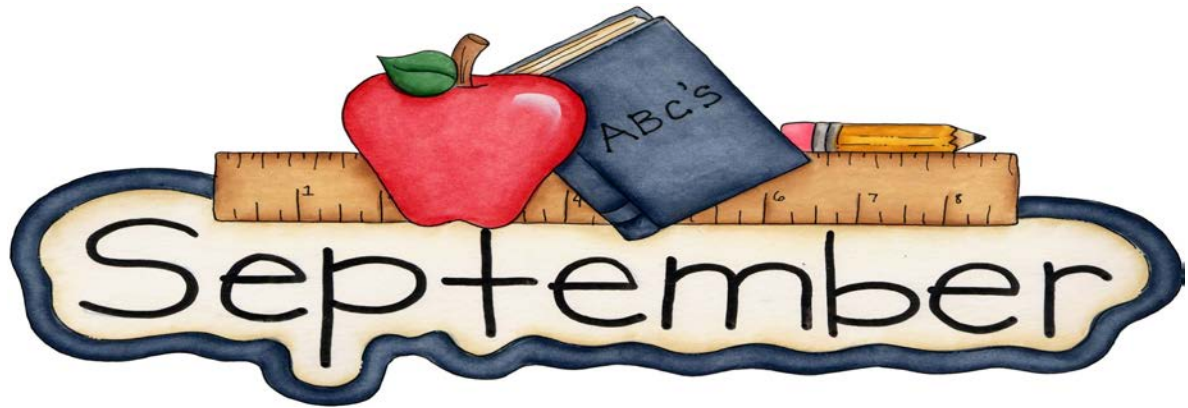




## Stepping Stones 2026

Dear Families,

We would like to welcome you to our Stepping Stones 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, 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 Ms Cindy to make sure she has an accurate email address for your family.**

**Paperwork:** Please fill out and return **ALL** 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 11th.**

**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, especially those who may be bringing your child to school. Sign up with this [Stepping Stones 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 have your child bring a backpack each day they attend school. 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/pull-ups. At the end of the school day check their backpack. They often have papers or crafts they completed and would love to share with you what they learned in school.



**Letter of the Week:** Each week, starting in September we will be introducing a new letter of the alphabet at circle time, starting with "Aa". Activities throughout the week will reinforce the upper and lowercase letter. 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 review and repetition of letters previously introduced.

**Gym Activities:** Your child will participate in gym activities daily. Motor development is the foundation to 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 daily are necessary for gym and outside 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 a story and 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.

**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, a healthy snack for 21 children for three days, and a roll of paper towels. **Keep in mind that due**



**to allergies, no nuts, please.** 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. **At this time we have an ABUNDANCE OF GOLDFISH!**

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 for snack](#)

**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.



**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-n-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 dates of Show-n-Tell. This month Show-n-Tell will be on **Tuesday,**

**September 8th.** Children are asked to bring in their **"Favorite Summer Treasure"**. This may be a souvenir from a vacation or picture from a favorite summer activity.



**Mystery Reader:** We are excited to invite "Mystery Readers" into the classroom. Our Mystery Reader (parent/grandparent/graduate of MEEC) will prepare a short story of your choosing to read to the class on their assigned day at 10:50am. 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](#)



**MEEC Spirit Sale:** We are excited about our spirit wear sale! The spirit store will accept orders online until **September 13th.** Throughout the school year, we will have spirit days, so grab your MEEC gear today. This will be the only sale of the year!

**Fall Picture Day** Lifetouch Photography will be coming to our school on **Wednesday, October 1st.** Pictures will be taken during your child's class time! A flier with more information will be sent home soon with more information.



## Celebrating Birthdays This Month: Jesse - September 29th



# OUR SCHEDULE!

- **Entry-** Children will enter the classroom for a fine motor activity, craft, and skills
- **Circle Time-** All the children will 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.
- **Craft:** The children will transition to their teachers table for a theme related art activity.
- **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 out and engage their peers.
- **Snack/Dismissal-** Snack time children work on table manners, opening containers, and verbalizing requests. This is a great time to engage in conversations with teachers and peers as well.

### September Songs:

"I Am Me"

"Shake a Friend's Hand"

"Way Up High in the Apple Tree"

I'm An Excavator

I Have Five Senses

### September Gym:

Friends in the Dell

Parachute

Ball Skills with partners

Outside Play

Sensory Course

## Classroom Weekly Activities:

**Week of August 31st**

First Day Handprint

All About Me Book Page

Letter A - Animals

Theme: All About Me/Letter A

**ALL  
ABOUT  
ME!**



**Week of September 7th**

\*\*\* No School Monday

Name Crown

Friendship Tree

Theme: Friends



**Show-N-Tell: Favorite Summer Treasure (Tuesday, September 8th)**

**Week of September 14th**

Buildings

Construction Vehicles

Construction People

Letter B - Buttons

Theme: Construction/Letter B



**Week of September 21st**

Apple Craft

Eaten Apple Magnet

Letter C - Caramel Apples

Theme: Apples/Letter C



**Week of September 28th**

Mr. Potato Head

Hands Touch

Letter D - Dots

Ear Hear

**Friday - FIELD TRIP - No School**

Theme: Five Senses



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

### **Stepping Stones Teachers**

Ms. DeAnna- [deanna.meec@gmail.com](mailto:deanna.meec@gmail.com)

Ms. Chelsea- [chelsea.meec@gmail.com](mailto:chelsea.meec@gmail.com)

Ms. Sidney - [Sidney.meec@gmail.com](mailto:Sidney.meec@gmail.com)

Assistants: Ms. Brittany, Ms. Nikki, Ms. Tallia



**Like us on Facebook (Middleburg Early Education Center). We love to post pictures of the children's day!**

*We are ready to have a great year!*

