

Cornerstone Preschool

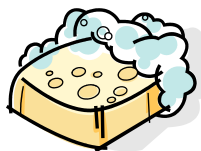
APPLE Accredited/Florida Gold Seal Preschool ~ License #C860613

Wishing you all a happy and healthy New Year!

We hope everyone had a safe and restful holiday with family and friends. School resumes on Thursday, January 2nd and we are looking forward to having everyone back.

Our teachers are excited to begin our winter themes: Weather & Seasons, Circus, and Outer Space. During Outer Space week, we will be closed on Monday, January 20th for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Outer Space and Earth weeks come next. The children always amaze us with their questions and ability to memorize the names of the planets. Finally, during our Florida theme, we hope to give the children an understanding of what is unique about our state and their place in the world.

Anytime you can discuss what your child has learned at school, you are reinforcing learning, increasing vocabulary and enhancing their listening and communication skills. If you are not sure what your child did during the day, please take a moment to read the daily teacher comments on their notebooks and check the monthly class calendar for themes, skills, and the letter-of-the-week.



Health Policies



This time of year we try to take extra precautions to avoid spreading germs and illness. We wash hands frequently throughout the day and regularly disinfect toys and other surfaces to keep the environment clean. Please remember to have your child wash his/her hands with soap and water upon arrival at school each day - before entering the classroom - to help keep other children and our teachers healthy. Also, if your child ever has a fever or rash, PLEASE inform the office staff so that we can be on the lookout for symptoms of illness that could spread to others.

January 2020
Newsletter

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Cornerstone will be closed on
Monday, January 20th
(Martin Luther King, Jr. Day).

Mark Your Calendars

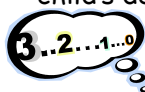
- ◆ January 20 - CLOSED (MLK)
- ◆ February TBD - Firefighter visit
- ◆ March TBD - Police officer visit
- ◆ March 14-22 - Optional Spring Vacation Week (No VPK)
- ◆ May 8 - Mother's Day Tea and Muffins
- ◆ May 25 - CLOSED for Memorial Day
- ◆ May 29 - Last day of VPK (school remains open all summer; students may change their program)
- ◆ June 19 - Father's Day Coffee and Donuts

VPK Updates/Reminders

- The next VPK "vacation" week will be March 14-22 (school will remain open all week; attendance is optional).
- **Reminder - tuition is due each week, regardless of whether or not your child attends school**

Evaluations & Conferences

Evaluations should be completed and handed out to parents by the first or second week of February. If you wish to schedule a formal conference, please call or e-mail so that we can schedule a day and time to meet. Please don't hesitate to speak with us if you have questions about our curriculum or concerns about your child's development.



Early Math Development

We adults tend to judge a child's progress in math by his/her ability to count out loud and recognize written numbers. While these are important skills, research shows that early math development is really much more complex. According to the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), problem solving and reasoning are the "heart" of mathematics. Preschoolers should learn math through playful activities such as pouring, measuring, creating patterns with small manipulatives, constructing with blocks, playing simple strategy games (like Candyland, Memory, Matching, etc.), and even participating in dress-up and dramatic play, music, and art. Superficial teaching, such as memorizing and rote learning with flashcards at the expense of a deeper understanding, may really just develop a shaky foundation in math. So, when you see your child lining up several objects in a row, sorting objects by color, categorizing, building a block tower, counting (even out of order), making comparisons about quantities or sizes, putting together a puzzle, and dumping and pouring water or sand into cups, be proud that you have a budding mathematician on your hands!

Kindergarten Registration

Registration for Kindergarten for the 2020-21 school year begins January 13, 2020. However, the application period for special programs (themed, magnet & fundamental schools) is January 8-17, 2020. For more information about Kindergarten, visit <http://www.pcsb.org/>.

Parking Lot Safety

For the safety of our children, please drive carefully in the parking lot! Also, do not allow your child to play in the parking lot or on the grass in front of the school. (People driving by may think we allow children to play near the road and could call in a complaint.) Thank you!

Birthdays

We recognize that birthdays are very special for young children and some parents may want to send in a treat for their child to share at school. However, the Health Department does not allow home-made food and some children have food allergies. We also ask that you limit the number of treats you bring in to one specific treat, such as mini cupcakes or cookies.



Christmas songs being performed by the children of Cornerstone during our Christmas Festival.