

WVCS TK & KINDER INFORMATION

BASIC INFO:

TEACHERS

Mrs. Christi Roberts, TK Teacher
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Ms. Meagan Downs, Kindergarten Teacher
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Mrs. Savannah Lopez, TK-2 Director
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CUTOFF DATES

- TK: Turning 5 September 2 - March 1
- K: Turning 5 on or before September 1

A NOTE ON PLACEMENT

Age is not always the best indicator of "readiness". As educators who are passionate about Early Childhood, we take the assessment process very seriously. It is extremely important to us to place each child in an environment that is most appropriate for where they are developmentally. It is our goal that each child will learn to love school and be set up for academic success for years to come.

UPCOMING ASSESSMENT DATES

Saturday, February 24, 2024

Saturday, March 2, 2024

Saturday, March 16, 2024

*Decisions made final by Thursday, March 28, 2024

**SCAN THE CODE
TO SIGN YOUR
CHILD UP FOR AN
ASSESSMENT!**



ASSESSMENT PROCESS

CLASSROOM VISITS

Before assessments, students are observed in the environment they are most comfortable - their preschool classroom.

PRESCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

Discussions with the preschool team about each child's readiness happen often. Additionally, Pre-K teachers observe TK/K classrooms.

STRUCTURE OF ASSESSMENT

The assessment is a 40 minute process. We take three students at a time and rotate them between three teachers, each working on different skills.

SKILLS ASSESSED

- Literacy Skills - name recognition, letter recognition, letter-sound correspondence, color recognition, verbal skills, etc.
- Number Sense Skills - shape recognition, counting, number sequencing, one-to-one correspondence, patterning, etc.
- Fine Motor Skills - pencil grip, cutting, drawing, name writing, etc.
- Social Emotional Skills - comfortability in a group setting, direction following, focus on teacher-directed tasks, etc.

AFTER THE ASSESSMENT

Our assessment committee will discuss each child individually before final decisions are made. You will be notified of your child's acceptance and classroom placement by email.

WHAT IS TK?

Transitional Kindergarten (TK) is the first year of a two year Kindergarten program. TK provides an early childhood educational experience that builds a bridge between the preschool years and Kindergarten and promotes elementary school readiness. With the increasing demands and structure in elementary school, TK's day is set up the way a traditional Kindergarten day is set up, but with more opportunities for play-based learning. TK participates in the same enrichment classes as Kindergarten, such as Music, Theater Arts, P.E. Art, STEM, and Library, and includes a modified Kindergarten curriculum. TK is truly the definition of giving the gift of time to allow young children to further develop socially and emotionally. Students not only learn essential literacy, math, writing, journaling, and other cognitive skills, but they develop social, emotional and self regulation skills needed to succeed in Kindergarten and beyond.

TK READINESS

LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

- Identify all uppercase letters
- Exposure to lowercase letters, understanding that letters have both upper and lower cases
- Exposure to writing uppercase letters
- Recognizes name in print
- Beginning or able to write first name
- Begins to draw pictures to express ideas or stories rather than scribbling
- Recognizes and names basic colors
- Handles books appropriately

SPEAKING AND LISTENING

- Shares/talks about experiences in ways that can be easily understood by most listeners
- Follows directions with at least two steps. For example, "Please pick up the blocks and put them on the shelf."
- Says or sings familiar songs
- Answers simple questions: who, what, where, when

MATHEMATICAL THINKING

- Counts out loud from 1-10 in correct order
- Identifies written numbers from 1-10
- Counts at least 5 objects such as 5 cookies, 5 blocks
- Recognizes and names basic shapes
- Understands the concept of more and less
- Draws a line, circle, and x
- Can demonstrate 1:1 correspondence for numbers 1-10
- Matches two pictures that are alike
- Repeats a simple AB pattern that is started for them

SELF HELP AND SOCIAL SKILLS

- Can use the bathroom independently
- Can relax and rest during "Quiet Time"
- Can dress self (button, zipper, put on jacket)
- Can stay on a teacher directed task for up to 10 minutes
- Transitions from home to school with little parental support
- Willing to take risks and attempt to complete tasks even when unfamiliar
- Ability to use words to express feelings
- Can follow classroom rules
- Can share and play cooperatively with others
- Expresses emotions appropriately

FINE MOTOR SKILLS

- Ability to zip and unzip backpack and lunch box independently
- Hold a pencil (grip does not need to be correct upon entering TK)
- Hold and use scissors safely
- Can trace letters and basic shapes



KINDERGARTEN READINESS

*Includes all TK Readiness Skills in addition to the following:

LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

- Listens, retells, and engages in stories being read
- Participates in singing songs and saying rhymes
- Retells stories from favorite books and personal experiences
- Decides if two words rhyme
- Recognizes and names upper and lowercase letters, even when seen out of order
- Recognizes and writes own name using upper and lowercase letters
- Produces the correct sounds for many of the letters of the alphabet
- Writes capital letters correctly as well as some lowercase, especially those in own name

SPEAKING AND LISTENING

- Understands an increasing number and variety of words for actions, for objects, and to describe things
- Comprehends who, what, why, where and when questions
- Uses four-to-six word sentences
- Tells increasingly detailed stories or ideas
- Communicates clearly enough to be understood by people outside of family
- Follows multi-step directions. For example, "Please pick up your paper, put it in the basket, and bring your pencil box to your desk."
- Knows first and last name, age, and names of all family members

MATHEMATICAL THINKING

- Counts in sequence at least to 20
- Recognizes numbers 1-20, even when seen out of order
- Understands and uses terms such as first, second, last
- Counts objects using one number for each object
- Sorts objects by color, shape, and size
- Understands concepts of more and less
- Recognizes and extends patterns
- Arranges objects from shortest to longest
- Recognizes and names all shapes and colors
- Understands and uses positional words
- Understands and discusses yesterday, today, tomorrow, morning, afternoon, and night

SELF HELP AND SOCIAL SKILLS

- Takes responsibility for personal self-care routines such as hand washing, brushing teeth, dressing, and bathroom use
- Can easily express personal needs such as, "I'm hungry." or "My head hurts."
- Can stay on a teacher directed task for up to 15 minutes
- Separates willingly from caregiver to another trusted adult
- Shares, takes turns, and plays cooperatively with other children
- Expresses emotions appropriately and can verbalize feelings such as happiness, sadness, anger, etc.
- Responds empathetically to others' distress with words and actions
- Recognizes similarities and differences in self and others
- Is curious, interested, and willing to try new things
- Completes tasks such as a puzzle independently
- Adapts to new situations with ease
- Uses drawings to express feelings
- Is aware of safe behavior and follows safety rules and routines

FINE MOTOR SKILLS

- Uses a 3-point finger grip on a pencil, crayon, or paintbrush
- Draws a detailed self-portrait
- Draws a variety of lines and shapes
- Uses scissors correctly to cut simple shapes and pictures
- Buttons, zips, laces, and buckles

GROSS MOTOR SKILLS

- Gallops, slides, hops, leaps, skips, and balances
- Catches a ball with both hands
- Tosses or throws a ball
- Kicks moving ball while running
- Pours liquids without spilling
- Builds with legos or blocks