

News from the Directors

Welcome Back! We are excited for a new school year! First of all, we would like to welcome all the new families to our school. We hope you enjoy having your children at our school as much as we enjoy teaching them.

We are also welcoming new staff members this year - lead teacher Mrs. Carla Finelli in the 2's classroom and assistant teacher Ms. Katie Verbiar in the Maple classroom!

Our first fundraiser is Dinner and Date Night. You can drop off your children for playtime and dinner while you enjoy an evening out or a quiet night at home. You can also show your Play and Prep pride by ordering a t-shirt, long-sleeve shirt, or sweatshirt with our new logo for you and your child! Finally, never hesitate to contact us with your questions or concerns. It is going to be a great year!

Jody Halley & Emily Johnson

Important Dates

Sept. 3 - first day for 2's, Maple, Oak, Pine & Outdoor
Sept. 4 - first day for Willow
Sept. 9 - first day for Messy Monday
Sept. 11 - T-shirt orders due
Sept. 20 - Dinner and Date Night registration due
Sept. 27- Dinner and Date Night 5:30-8:00 PM
Sept. 30 - No Messy Monday.

Check out our fundraising page at **Mabel's labels** at www.mabelslabels.com and click on Support a Fundraiser then find Play and Prep Preschool in the school listing. Play and Prep will receive a percentage from your order. **Giant Eagle Apples for Students** Register your Giant Eagle Advantage Card at GiantEagle.com/AFTS Enter Play and Prep's School ID # 5977. **Heinen's Tasteful Rewards School Program** Register Play and Prep with your Tasteful Reward Card at heinens.com/schools, In-store at the Customer Service Desk, or call Customer Relations Department at 1-855-475-2300 ext. 2337. Past participants must **RE-SELECT** Play and Prep by logging in to their Tasteful Rewards profile.

Pre K Class- Oak



Welcome to Pre K! We are going to have so much fun learning through play. This month we will learn about one another and what makes us all unique. We will explore back to school activities, what makes a good friend and finish our month with all things transportation. Half way through the month, we will start our letter journals and number studies. I am looking forward to a great year!

Margie Balog

Pre K Class - Pine



Welcome back to school! We are looking forward to getting to know each other this month as we cover the topics of our emotions, homes, and families. We will learn classroom routines and schedules, and we will start practicing writing and cutting skills. We will also explore our outdoor spaces as we play in the garden, on bikes, and on the playground. Looking forward to a great start of the new school year!

Laurel Cline

Pre K Class - Maple



Welcome to the Maple Class!!! Our class of 3 and 4 year old children will get to know each other, discuss friends and family, and explore & experiment with fruits and vegetables during this first month. Their "must do" jobs each week will have them exploring the variety of centers in our classroom - Language & Literacy, Library, Math, Science, Fine Motor, Gross Motor, Dramatic Play and Creative Art. We will be reading, singing and moving/dancing every day, as well. Show & Tell, each Friday, will allow the children to share items of importance to themselves. We are so excited to start the year!!!

Teresa Schofalvi

3's Class - Willow



Welcome to Preschool! We are so excited to start our year off exploring the school setting, learning about ourselves, and discovering what it means to be a good friend. We will spend time getting to know our classmates through play and sharing as well as begin learning our letters, numbers, colors, and shapes. Art, literature, music, and movement will all be incorporated into our daily routines both in the classroom and during our outside exploration time! We look forward to a fantastic year of learning through play!

Kaitlyn Pecherkiewicz

2's Class



Welcome to the 2s class...where Preschool is Apple-solutely the best! I hope everyone had an amazing summer and is excited to be starting preschool. Through free play and planned activities, we will explore how much fun learning can be...prepare to get messy! Our focus for the year will build off classroom expectations and adjusting to a preschool routine. During the month of September, we will talk about our new school and friends, we will discover more about each other and our families, we will learn that manners, good habits and sharing are important while at school, and we will end the month with a unit discovering apples. Looking forward to a great year. Please feel free to contact me at anytime, we are in this together.

Carla Finelli

Messy Monday and Outdoor Class



Welcome to Messy Monday and/or Outdoor Preschool! We will begin building our connection to each other and our Learning Garden space. We will use our senses to discover and explore our local plants, insects, birds and animals. Seasonal changes, environmental stewardship and the children's interests will be our guide as we integrate language & literacy, math, science, art and music into our days. There will be lots of practical life skills from getting on our gear to creating rules and routines so that we can play safely and cooperatively. Let's get messy and play! Messy Monday and Outdoor Class are looking for bud vases if you would like to donate for our students.

Carol Juergemeier



Lunch Bunch/Extended Day

During Lunch Bunch we will talk about healthy food choices using “My Plate”, the nutrition guide published by the USDA Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion. We are starting off the new school year in Extended Day with All About Me and the community around me! This will include getting to know each other, our friends and families, our community and the people and transportation around us. Please make sure your children have weather appropriate clothing everyday as we will be outside for part of our afternoon for Extended Day.

Lesley Perlberg and Laurel Cline



Science

Spiny, our school pet bearded dragon, is excited to start a new school year! I am looking forward to learning about trees and doing some fun nature science crafts with the students in this first month. Hope the students are up for some messy fun this year!

Sally Chapek



Woodshop

Welcome to Tinker Town, I mean Woodshop! We are going to start our year by practicing with some tools so we can get into some very fun projects as the year progresses. The students might not have a project to take home every Woodshop session as some may need extra time to complete or are a ‘tinker time’ project. I am looking forward to seeing what they create!

Sally Chapek



Music

We will be starting off the new year exploring the instruments that live in the music room! We will be making beautiful music together as we enjoy the drums, bells, cymbals, maracas and more!

Lesley
Perlberg



Creative Movement

I am looking forward to getting your child moving this year in Creative Movement in both the Big Room and outside! We will be using fun games to practice balance, coordination, and gross motor skills. Be sure to check your classroom calendar for Creative Movement day so that your child has athletic shoes and is ready to move!

Emily Johnson

Healthy Habits



According to the Centers for Disease Control up to 80% of all infections are transmitted by hands. With our preschoolers being in close proximity to each other at school and sharing toys and games, teaching proper hand washing techniques is important to prevent the spread of germs and keep our students healthy. What's the proper technique? It is recommended that you thoroughly wash your hands with warm running water and soap for at least 20 seconds. If clean water is not available, an alcohol-based hand sanitizer can be substituted. Some quick tips to help your preschooler become a better hand

washer:

- Talk about when: Explain when your child should wash their hands including before you eat, after the bathroom, and after playing outside.
- Talk about why and how long: You can explain how hand washing removes germs that make us sick. Show your child the difference between hot and cold water and how much soap to use. To help understand the concept of time, you can sing Happy Birthday or the alphabet song twice while washing hands.
- Make it fun: You can buy brightly colored or fruity scented soap that may entice your child to wash their hands more thoroughly.

At Play and Prep Preschool, we wash our hands as a class at the beginning of the day before entering the classroom as well as before snack, after playing outside or using the bathroom. We will work with your children to be better hand washers so that we can have a healthy school year!