

Cub Corner News

Norma Elementary School
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SEPT/OCT
ISSUE



FUTURE EVENTS

September

School pictures
Sept. 30

OCTOBER

Wear Pink for Breast Cancer
Awareness
Oct. 1

School Spirit Day
Oct. 4

**Week of Respect/Fire
Prevention Week**
Oct. 7-10

Wear Blue Oct. 7
Dress as a Superhero/wear a
super hero shirt Oct. 8
Wear Wacky Socks-Oct. 9
Wear Sports Team
Gear-Oct. 10
No School-Oct. 11 & 14

**School Violence Awareness
Week**
Oct. 15-18

Pumpkin Patch Trip
Oct. 18
Rain date-Oct. 21

Red Ribbon Week
Oct. 21-25

Lifetouch Class Pictures
Oct. 23

Fire Truck
Oct. 25

Lifetouch Make-up Pictures
Oct. 28

Halloween Parade and Parties
Oct. 31

Preschool 3 Corner

The children of Preschool 3 have been learning how to stick to a schedule. Their schedule consists of large group, read aloud, small group, choice time, lunchtime, outside time and rest time: Just as your child has consistency in the classroom, it is important for them to have consistency at home as well. Making a schedule and sticking to it helps your child to succeed not only at home but also within the classroom. Here are some things to consider when creating a home schedule for your child:

1. Wake up time: Make sure to wake your child up at the same time each day during the school week. If they do need to wake up earlier than normal, make sure they go to bed earlier.
2. Dinnertime: Make sure to have dinner around the same time each night. Take the opportunity during dinner to talk to your child about their day. Try asking them what their favorite thing was about school that day.
3. Winding down: Turn the television off an hour or two before bedtime. Play a game with your child and end the night by reading a bedtime story.
4. Bedtime: A consistent bedtime and your child getting enough sleep is vital for a successful school day. Make sure your child is getting enough sleep for their age.

The following is the recommendation for preschoolers from the National Sleep Foundation: Sleep and Preschoolers (3-5 years)-Preschoolers typically sleep 11-13 hours each night and most do not nap after five years of age. Maintain a regular and consistent sleep schedule, have a relaxing bedtime routine that ends in the room where the child sleeps, and your child should sleep in the same sleeping environment every night, in a room that is cool, quiet and dark, and without a TV. By giving your child a routine at home, you will be setting them up for a successful school year! Here are some helpful articles on sleep and routine:

<https://www.parents.com/health/healthy-happy-kids/the-7-reasons-your-kid-needs-sleep/>

<https://sleepfoundation.org/sleep-topics/children-and-sleep>

<https://www.health.harvard.edu/blog/four-ways-to-help-your-child-get-enough-sleep-2017092612472>

<http://www.ahaparenting.com/parenting-tools/family-life/structure-routines>

Mrs. Cole
Ext. 4721



Preschool 4 Corner

Welcome back to another great year. This September we have been very busy learning our new routines, getting to know new classmates, and learning the classroom rules. We have had fun playing outside and seeing our old friends! Our day includes: morning meeting, choice time, read aloud, snack, small group, lunch, out door play and nap time.

We are looking forward to October! This fall we will be taking a class trip to Mood's Farm. Each child we have the opportunity to pick a pumpkin and go on a hayride. We will also be hosting a costume parade and Halloween party! Each classroom will soon be starting a new unit of study based on the interest of the students in the classroom. We are looking forward to a great year!

Mrs. Glasser
Ext. 4702

Mrs. Thomas' Corner

We are so excited for a brand new school year! Our 3 and 4 year olds spent the first three weeks learning all about our school. We are reviewing all of our classroom and school rules. We are learning about all of the people that work in our school. Our next Unit of Study will be Trees! We have been very curious about the acorns falling from trees on the playground. We can't wait to investigate and learn more about trees. Soon our class will be buzzing with new songs and activities each day! Miss Kiki (the Occupational Therapist), Miss Kelly (the Physical Therapist), and Mrs. Jones (the Speech Therapist) have been coming in to visit. We are looking forward to having a great year together!

Mrs. Thomas
Ext. 4723

Nurse Corner

Welcome to the new school year! I have just a few friendly reminders for a healthy school year.

Remember, all preschool students are required by the State of NJ to have an annual flu vaccine. The flu vaccine must be given between September 1st and December 31st of this school year. I would recommend getting your child his/her flu vaccine as soon as possible, as sometimes doctors run out of them the closer it gets to the deadline.

Also, this is a reminder to keep children home from school when they are sick or running a fever. A fever is considered to be 100.0 degrees or higher. If your child has a fever, they must stay home until they are fever free for 24 hours without medication.

Please send in a change of clothing to keep in your child's cubby in case of an accident, and please make sure the clothing is updated for the changes in weather.

And lastly, only medications that are ordered by a doctor can be given to your child during school. Medications are not allowed to be sent in to the school or home in your child's book bag. If your child needs to take a medication during the school day, please contact me as soon as possible. Have a great school year!

Mrs. Lori Patch, R.N.
School Nurse
Ext. 4707

CPIS Corner

I hope you all had a very restful and fun summer. I am excited to be back to school doing what I love, which is working with the preschool families. I am the Community Parent Involvement Specialist (CPIS) and my position affords me the opportunity to help families become involved by providing community resources, family workshops, and family fun nights. I also chair the Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC), which will meet 3 times this year. This council was designed to encourage participation, communication, and discussion by all stakeholders to make recommendations regarding student and community needs. We will use this information and feedback to guide our efforts to better serve the students and families of Pittsgrove Township. We invite all families and community members to the advisory council and look forward to hear your voices, experiences, and suggestions for our preschool program. I am a firm believer that family involvement in a child's education correlates with a child's present and future success in school.

I look forward to getting to know each and every family this year. Please feel free to contact me should you ever need anything.

Kathleen McCarron, M. Ed.
Ext. 4724

Principal

Dr. Priscilla Ocasio-Jiménez
Ext. 4732

School Secretary

Becky Hall
Ext. 4731

School Nurse

Lori Patch
Ext. 4707

Master Teacher

Michele Gibbens
Ext. 4724

Community Parent Involvement Specialist

Kathleen McCarron
Ext. 4724

Kris Alexandre
Kelly Bayzick
Jessica Benedetto
Dawn Brzycki
Natalie Caputo
Katrina Carvalho
Jamie Cole
Linda Cook
Melissa Davis
Angela Ernest
Mariah Evans
Phil Fischetti
Danielle Glasser
Connie Green
Alyssa Hars
Keyanah Jones
Michelle Lamkin
Tiffany Lutes
Kristin McCaffrey
Jessica Mellot
Stephanie Munafa
Lori Patch
Brian Pooley
Star Reese
Noel Rodriguez
Danielle Saponaro
Sherry Stanton
Kailee Sweeney
Beth Tackas
Meghan Thomas
Candance Wardell



Master Teacher Corner

Hello Norma Families,
My name is Michele Gibbens and I am the master teacher for Norma Elementary School. I work with teachers on our preschool curriculum, which is the Creative Curriculum. This curriculum is based on “hands-on” meaningful studies that children can relate to in their everyday lives. The beginning of the year is a great time to help children develop their social-emotional skills, such as self-regulation, managing feelings, and establishing positive relationships among teachers and peers. Some ways you can help reinforce these skills at home are the following:

- Discussing different types of feelings (happy, sad, frustrated, surprised, excited, etc.)
- Practicing self-help skills throughout the day (cleaning toys up, zippering jacket, putting on shoes, washing hands, etc.)
- Reading different books and/or songs about emotions (If you’re happy and you know it)
- Encourage children to use their words, instead of actions (ex-Instead of hitting, asking child to use their words and modeling those words if they do not know how)
- Role playing with puppets, dolls, or materials to help practice conflict resolution

If you have any questions about the curriculum or strategies for areas of development (Social, Physical, Cognitive, and Language) please feel free to reach out. I look forward to a having a great year!

Michele Gibbens
Ext. 4724



Speech Pathologist Corner

Speech-Language therapy is a related service provide to students who are found eligible to receive Special Education and Related Services through the Child Study Team. Students who qualify as a Preschool Child with a Disability may receive speech therapy in an individual, small group, and/or classroom integrative setting. Prior to receiving speech therapy as a related service, measurable goals/objectives are developed based on the child’s performance on an array of standardized testing and an educational setting observation. Some of the goals targeted in speech therapy include articulation therapy, which focuses on improving a child’s ability to produce non-developmental speech sounds. Additionally, language goals are also developed and targeted focusing on a child’s use of pronouns, prepositions, basic concepts (e.g. hot/cold, wet/dry, big/small, etc.), object identification based on item function, categorization, and association, answering simple “WH” questions (Who, What, Where, When, Why), and pragmatics which focuses on improving the child’s understanding and use of appropriate social interaction skills.

At the preschool level, speech therapy is mostly play-based and utilizes age-appropriate toys and visuals that allow the therapist to better engage with the child while targeting their speech-language goals! Although not every preschooler will qualify for Related Services, I visit each classroom over the course of the school year to provide support to each classroom teachers/instructional aides as needed. For parents of a student who does not qualify for related services but would still like support/suggestions on how to better support their child’s articulation and/or language skills, please do not hesitate to contact me and I will be happy to provide some additional resources. Wishing you all a happy and healthy school year!

Keyanah Jones, M.S. CCC-SLP
Ext. 4710

P.R.I.D.E.
Begins Here!

P - Patience

R - Respect

I - Integrity

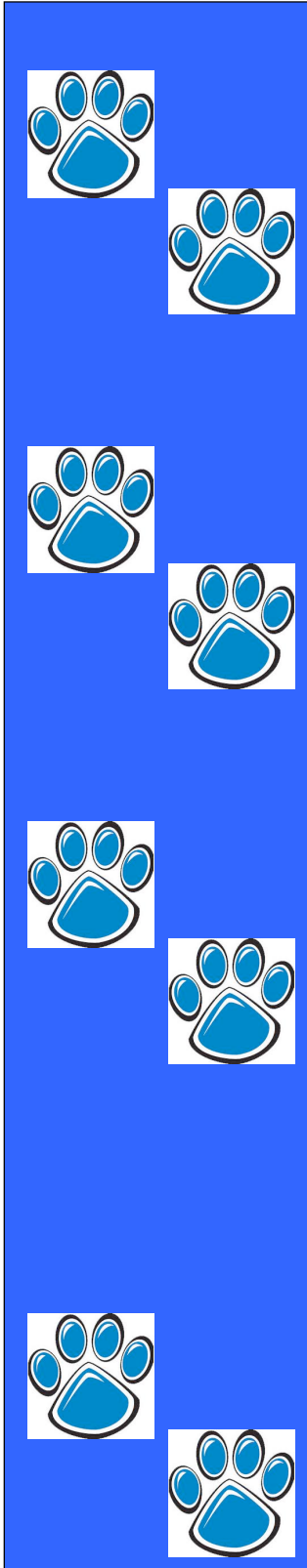
D - Diligence

E - Empathy

WE ARE.....

NORMA
CUBS!!!





Principal's Note

We had such a great start of the school year! We have lots of activities and events already scheduled for the months of September and October. Our monthly school calendar is sent in the students' folders and available on our website at www.norma.pittsgrove.net.

Be on the lookout, as we will be creating a series of video recordings of individuals reading children's books! This should become available in November. Details on how to access will be included in the November "Message from the Principal" email.

Communication:

We are looking to launch our new website sometime in November! There will be a PowerPoint (PPT) tutorial on how to navigate through our website. The link to the PPT will be located on the main page in the "star" link titled the "Principal's Message."

We are also pleased to inform you that Norma Elementary School will have a new Facebook page! We are thrilled to be able to disseminate information via Facebook to parents, staff and members of the community. Our goal is to provide you with weekly, monthly and sometimes daily information/pictures on the various activities and events taking place at Norma Elementary School. In order for us to post your child's picture on Facebook, however, we must have obtained parent/guardian written consent; please note that we upload photos but will not list any student's names. You will be able to access our Facebook page by clicking on a Facebook icon that will be located on our new website.

Please remember to check your child's folder for reminders but mainly for time changing information. Because we strive to always ensure the safety of our students, the section "Message from the Principal" on our school's website is limited. Therefore, please be on the lookout for the monthly "Message from the Principal" that is being sent via email. If you are not receiving my messages, then it is because your email address is not listed in PowerSchool; please contact the main office so that we can make this change.

Fun quote:

"You're off to great places! Today is your day! Your mountain is waiting, so get on your way!" ~ Dr. Seuss

Dr. Ocasio-Jiménez
Principal
Ext. 4732

NORMA SCHOOL - 2019-2020 DISMISSAL TIMES

Preschool **REGULAR SCHOOL DAY**
8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Preschool **EARLY DISMISSAL TIMES**
8:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Preschool **1 - HOUR DELAY SCHEDULE**
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Preschool **2 - HOUR DELAY SCHEDULE**
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM