

KENNETT PRESCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



FEBRUARY
2026

Love is all around at KSPC!

Hello 2026!! It is hard to believe we are through our first month of the new year! A new year always brings about a sense of new beginnings and hopefulness. We hope you consider adding “being involved at KSPC” to your list of New Year’s Resolutions! KSPC is a cooperative preschool where our family participation is a big part of what makes our school so special. We are so appreciative of all the time, energy and support our families give and we would not have the wonderful school we have without your involvement. Our upcoming outreach projects are the perfect places to begin! Even if you are not on these committees, please consider helping out!

Thank you to all who have been able to participate in some of our fundraisers so far this school year. We are excited to have our 2nd Family Night at The Market at Liberty Place on Tuesday, March 3rd! This is a great chance to come spend time with our KSPC families and enjoy some great food! If you can’t stay, come in and grab take out. 15% of all proceeds go to our school. Please share this with neighbors, family and friends!

We are also VERY EXCITED for our 2nd Annual KSPC Alumni Night! This year we will be having it here at KSPC in the big room! We hope you can join us on Friday, March 7th 6:00-8:00. Tickets can be purchased at the door. Please spread the word to friends and family who are KSPC alumni! We love seeing faces from the past and there are LOTS since we have been around since 1958!!

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Dates To Remember

2.16 + 2.17 NO SCHOOL - PRESIDENT’S DAY

2.26 SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION DUE

3.2 + 3.3 DR. SUESS DAYS

3.3 FAMILY NIGHT @ THE MARKET PLACE

3.6 KSPC ALUMNI NIGHT

3.16 + 3.17
ST. PATRICK’S DAY CELEBRATION

3.23 - 3.27 TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

3.26 + 3.27 CONFERENCES

3.30 - 4.3 SPRING BREAK

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

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As a teacher and parent I always enjoy January and February because things seem to calm down after the holidays and we are able to get back into our routines, which are so important to all of us. It is a great time to accomplish many things at school and see SO MUCH growth in our students. Let's hope the weather will begin to cooperate with us!

Just a reminder, when the weather gets too severe, please be sure to check NBC 10 for updates on delays and closings. You can sign up to get text alerts from NBC 10. As you know, I also send a school email blast to inform you of important information. If school is delayed, the morning session will be from 10:00-12:00. The afternoon session will remain the same, 12:00-3:00. Please note that we usually follow Kennett Consolidated School District's snow closing/delay schedule, but sometimes we do make different decisions since we do not have school buses. It is always best to check your emails before coming to school.

January was busy because it is enrollment time for our current and alumni families. By now you should have received your placement for next year. If you have not, please see me as soon as possible. Several of our classes did go to lottery due to the large numbers of students who enrolled. This is always difficult and I wish it were possible to give everyone their first choice, but our school is small. Unfortunately, we do not have the space to open more classrooms. Please remember that September's tuition is due by March 16th. This will secure your child's placement for next school year. We are now accepting applications from new families, so if you know of anyone interested, please send them our way. Recommendations from our KSPC families seems to be the best form of advertisement!

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

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Teddy Bear Picnic Day was “BEARY” fun! The students (and teachers) were thrilled to bring their favorite bears to school. Some bears were bigger than me! We enjoyed reading bear stories, singing bear songs/fingerplays, playing Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear (a fun following directions activity), measuring our bears using cubes, weighing our bears, sorting bears (based on color, shape, size, type), making “bear dens” to hibernate in and more! I LOVE the way our teachers create such amazing dramatic play stations for our bears! We have bear salons, bear pizza parlors and SO MUCH MORE! The best part was having our bears join us at our teddy bear picnic. The students loved having the opportunity to make their own special snack for the picnic! Be sure to check out the pictures included on our Facebook page.

While February is a shorter month, it is filled with fun themes like Dental Health Month, Valentine’s Day and Healthy Heart Month! Our teachers always plan wonderful lessons and activities to help our children learn about these themes. We always enjoy having a special visit from Pediatric Dentistry to learn about taking care of our teeth. Of course the highlight is always our Valentine’s Day parties! It is so much fun for our students to bring in Valentine’s to exchange with their classmates. I think they LOVE Valentine’s Day as much as Halloween and Christmas!

Thank you to all who joined us for our Family Valentine’s Dance! It was SUCH a FUN night for our families! Our wonderful committee, led once again, by Courtney Smith, (chair) planned a special evening for our families filled with dancing, games , craft activities, refreshments, a photo booth and a FOOD TRUCK! Also, thank you to all who signed up to contribute to this fun evening! We could not do these events without the help of our cooperative families!

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

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Each year during the months of January, February and March we spend time assessing students on the important preschool skills we have been working on throughout the year. Our curriculum is based on the PA State Standards and what the surrounding school districts tell us is needed to prepare our students for kindergarten. This information will be shared with you during our conference time scheduled for March 26 and March 27. On your child's scheduled conference day there will NOT be school for students. Stay tuned for more information to come.

Attention parents of rising kindergarteners! Kindergarten registration will be starting later this winter for other school districts. You do not want to miss the information. Be sure to check out your school district's website for specific information pertaining to kindergarten. Of course we will share information we receive as well.

As always, please DO NOT hesitate to reach out to myself or your teachers if you have any questions or thoughts to share. We want you to know that we are ALWAYS here to help and support our families. The success we have experienced for over 65 years is because we have worked together as a school community. Please stay warm and most of all, stay healthy!

Warm regards,

Jen Augustine

KENNETT PRESCHOOL

AROUND OUR SCHOOL



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Did you know that oral language, phonological awareness, print awareness, and letter knowledge are highly correlated with reading success? Our curriculum is designed to be sure children are gaining in these areas each day. Below are ways we support oral language:

- Model appropriate grammar and the use of rich vocabulary through reading aloud and dramatic play.
- Maintain positive, nurturing relationships with children and engage them individually in responsive, conversations throughout the day.
- Use instructional dialogue that fosters thinking about words and concepts.
 - Answer children's questions and provide explanations.
- Provide real experiences that expand children's vocabulary, such as field trips in the community and exposure to various tools, objects, and materials.
- Read daily a variety of high-quality fiction and nonfiction books.
- While reading to children, we give them opportunities to actively participate, relate to their everyday lives and answer analytical questions about stories.
- Provide opportunities for children to discuss stories, hear repeated readings of stories, retell familiar stories, act out stories, and create their own stories.
- Encourage communication among children by helping them learn to take turns listening and talking to one another and use language to solve problems.
- Respect the culture and language of children who are learning English as a second language by ensuring that children are able to maintain their home language while also learning to speak English.



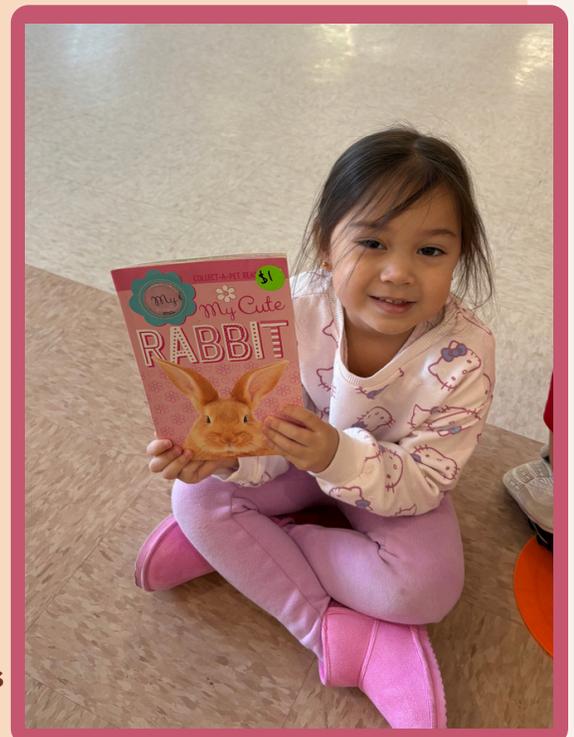
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Ways we develop phonological awareness:

- Share stories, poems, nursery rhymes, chants, finger plays, and songs in which phonemic patterns such as rhyme and alliteration are present.
 - Read frequently books with patterned, predictable texts.
 - Engage children in choral readings of rhymes and rhythms in order to help them associate the symbols with the sounds they hear in these words.
 - Engage the children in games that encourage word play and rhyming such as making a list of words that rhyme with a child's name .
- Call attention to words that begin with the same sound by using activities such as saying tongue twisters like, "The Pretty Pink Pig Picked Purple Plums."
- Give experiences with sentence segmenting such as asking the child to move a penny when each word in a sentence is said.
- Help children understand that words have syllables by using activities such as clapping the syllables in their names.
- Offer exposure to onset rime blending and segmenting with games such as "Guess the Word," For example, "Guess the birthday child's name-ob. Yes, it's Bob's birthday."



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AROUND OUR SCHOOL

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Ways we develop print awareness:

- Talk about how a book works by pointing out the cover, back, title, authors, illustrators, and familiar words or names during read aloud sessions.

Teach page arrangement, story grammar, and directionality of print by modeling with read aloud books and big books.

- Use teacher modeling to demonstrate the form and function of writing and print such as the concepts that words can be spoken or written. Print corresponds to speech and print carries a message. Writing a thank you note with the children to a classroom visitor is an example of how these concepts can be taught.

- Take dictation from children. Write their words exactly as they say them while they watch you form the letters.

- Model reading and writing as a way to investigate theories. Provide a classroom full of print that is varied and demonstrates the practical uses of written language. Direct their attention to the print in their environment.

- Promote literacy based play activities such as setting up a restaurant in the dramatic play area where children can take orders for food and "record" them on a pad.



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AROUND OUR SCHOOL



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Ways we teach alphabet recognition:

- Develop visual memory and visual discrimination by playing games such as "I Spy," "Concentration," and matching games.
 - Model reading and writing behavior as a way to promote children's interest in and enjoyment of reading and writing.
 - Play games with children's names.
- Post children's names in a variety of meaningful places in the classrooms.
- Describe actions as letters are written, say names of letters, and talk about specific letter-sound associations during shared reading and writing.
- Familiarize children with the alphabet by teaching them alphabet songs, reading alphabet books, and playing alphabet matching games.
 - Provide kinesthetic manipulatives such as magnetic letters, sandpaper letters, alphabet puzzles and alphabet stamps.
- Assist children in learning about the differences in the shapes of letters through activities such as playing alphabet matching games, sorting letters with curved lines from letters with only straight lines, and forming letters with playdough.
 - Give children opportunities to practice writing letters of the alphabet using motor skills such as writing in sand, finger-paint, shaving cream and rice, or writing with chalk.
- Help children learn to print their names and encourage them to label their work.



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AROUND OUR SCHOOL



Mrs. Augustine, Mrs. Augustine, what do you see?



I see SO MANY WONDERFUL THINGS GOING ON AROUND ME!!

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KIDS CORNER- WHAT DOES MRS. BELTON'S CLASS LIKE TO DO IN THE SNOW?

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Dominic -- Build a snowman with
Mama

Flynn -- Go sledding with Mommy

George -- Throw snowballs

Hawa -- Build a snowman

Jude -- Throw snowballs

Maddox -- Throw snowballs

Shay -- Throw snowballs at Mommy
and Daddy

Tahliya -- Build a snowman with
Daddy



Brody -- Go sledding

Callan -- Go sledding with Daddy

James -- Go sledding and make a
snowman with Mom

Luke -- Make a funny snowman

Madelyn -- Ski with Mommy

Patrick -- Throw snowballs at
Mickey

Willow -- Throw snowballs at my
family

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KIDS CORNER- WHAT DOES MRS. HARTEN'S CLASS LIKE TO DO IN THE SNOW?

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Mac - Build an igloo

Ellie - Build a snowman and make
snow angels

Henry - Build a snowman

Tripp - Build a snowman

Millie - Throw snowballs at Dad

Mila - Go on sled with Joey and have
a family snowball fight

Sam - Throw snowballs at Dad

Brian - I like to throw snow at
neighbor Jack



Aristide - Sled down the hill

Max - Put Hoho on roof

Heidi - I like to play in the snow

Noli - I like to go sledding

Bodhi - Put on snow clothes and
make a snowman

Cade - I like to make snowman
and snowballs

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VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Our cooperative spirit is one of the things that makes our school so special! We could not run our school without participation from our fabulous parent volunteers! This month we would like to say thank you to *Jillian Bonacquisti* for all of her help and organization with the Outreach Committee! We have had quite a few projects since school started and Jillian has been instrumental in all of them. One of the many important values we try to instill in our students is the importance of giving back to their communities. We do this by getting our students involved in projects to help community members who are in need. Our students have enjoyed outreach projects like coin collecting to donate a bike, making cards for Pocopson Home, collecting food for our food drives and donating candy to our troops.



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WE HAVE "SNOW" MUCH FUN AT KSPC!

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