

Kennett Preschool

SEPTEMBER 2026

WELCOME BACK!

Welcome to the 2026-2027 school year at KSPC! The school year got off to a fabulous start thanks to our wonderful staff, board and parents! Each year there are always a few tears (parents and children) and many hugs are given (parents and children), but the tears quickly turn into smiles and laughter. It is a BIG adjustment, but I promise that your children will learn to love school!

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- A Message from our Director
- What do you see?
- A Message from our President
- A Message from our Secretary
- A Message from our Treasurer
- Volunteer Spotlight
- Around our school

UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct. 8 - 5th Annual Fall Ball

Oct. 12 + 13 - Indian Run

Environmental Center Visit

Oct. 19 + 22 - Fire Safety Day

Oct. 29 +30 - Halloween Parade



from our director

As I mentioned in my back to school night speech, it has been many years since my kiddos came to KSPC, but I remember the feelings like it was this year! All of our staff remembers their own experiences, which is one of the many things that makes this school such a family! The staff and I can promise you that you and your child will have a wonderful experience at KSPC! You will be amazed to see just how much growth (physically, emotionally and academically) happens over these next 9 months! So, enjoy this special time in your child's life because it is gone in a blink!

We were thrilled to start our school year off with a fresh new look and NEW FLOORING! This was a big undertaking and we appreciate our new Board President, Mike Cangi, coordinating the project this summer. We are also grateful to our alumni family, (The Himes Family) for their large donation that helped make this possible!

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you to the many parent and student volunteers who came out to clean up our playground at the end of August! As always, the best part for me was seeing all the students (current and alumni) who also joined in to help! They were so proud and excited to help! It is so important for them to feel that this is "their school" and learn to help take care of it. Our students learn very early the value of volunteering through your example. This is one of the many core values we try to teach our students and families. Parent involvement is so important to our school and it is one of the things that makes our school SO SPECIAL. In addition, parent involvement helps to keep our tuition at a reasonable rate. We are a COOPERATIVE PRESCHOOL and our goal is to have EVERY PARENT involved in our school in some way that works for their family.

Parent involvement over the last three years has been AWESOME!! Our parents were so involved and I know they got as much out of it as they put into it. One of the ways we have strengthened our parent involvement is by having a Committee Coordinator oversee all the committees. We are thrilled to have Jenn Pannulla, former KSPC parent and former Board President in this role for the fourth year! Jenn has assigned each family to a committee for the year. If you have not been assigned a committee, or if you no longer can make that committee work, please contact Jenn as soon as possible and she will make sure we find a committee that can work for your family. Let's continue with this cooperative spirit this school year. I know the reward for you and your child will be great!

from our director

I have thoroughly enjoyed spending time in each classroom this month and getting to know your children! Each room has been buzzing with excitement and enthusiasm from students and teachers. A large part of September has been spent helping the children get acquainted with the teachers, their classmates, the routines and the rules. Children find comfort and security in knowing what to expect and being familiar. Taking time to do this will ensure that we have a fantastic school year. It really is amazing to see how quickly they have made friends, learned the routines and learned new skills! We believe in partnering with our parents to help our children grow and learn by sharing ways for parents to reinforce routines and skills at home. Please be sure to read everything we send home and ask if you have questions.

Doesn't our school look fabulous with all the students' work hanging? The children have enjoyed our September themes of friendship, all about me and apples. Our curriculum is theme-based, which means the monthly theme is incorporated into most everything we do. This helps it be very meaningful to students. This month we have been singing, reading and learning rhymes about apples, counting apples, patterning with apples, sorting apples, graphing our favorite color apples, painting apples, eating apples and much, much more! The exciting culminating activity was the trip to Barnard's Orchard. This continues to be a favorite of parents, children and teachers even if we could not pick apples this year! Mr. Barnard does a wonderful job at teaching our children and parents! Please continue to support his wonderful business throughout the year and tell him you are part of the KSPC Family.

Gym, Music and Library classes began the week of September 14th. I am SO EXCITED to announce that Jenn Pannulla, our Committee Coordinator and former Gym Teacher, will now be wearing the 4 year old Teacher hat! Our new Gym Teacher is Megan Pascal! Megan has been a parent here at KSPC, and, as it seems to go here at KSPC, her boys moved on and she stayed to teach at our school! We are so grateful to have her join our amazing staff! If you see Megan, please welcome her! Once again, I will get the pleasure of teaching Library and Music. I love this because I get to teach and know every child at KPSC!

from our director

Aside from all the fun and learning that goes on during specials, Gym, Library and Music classes also teach your children to transition from one teacher to another.

Each week we will be alternating music and library class. Please pay close attention to your classroom calendar so you know when to send your child in sneakers and return library books.

Thank you to all who have been able to participate in some of our fall fundraisers so far this school year. We kicked the year off with the 3rd Annual Parent Only Night, but this year we held the event at KSPC. This was a great chance for our parents to get to know each other and enjoy an evening out! If you were not able to join us, do not fret because we plan to have another in late Winter or early Spring! This one will include alumni as well as our current parents. Stay tuned for more information to come! The Kona Ice truck is always a hit at student orientation, and was again this year! We are excited that they will return in May for everyone to enjoy again at the Memorial Day Parade! We are looking forward to Family Night at The Market at Liberty Place on September 29th (5:00-8:00)! This is always a nice chance to see other KSPC families and staff and enjoy a night free of cooking. Our students absolutely LOVE this night because they get the chance to see their friends and teachers who are able to make it! Parents (and staff) love it because it is a night of no cooking! We are grateful to the Bosley Family (alumni) for allowing us to hold these nights. On October 8th we will be hosting our 5th Annual Halloween Costume Party for all KSPC Families to enjoy! This has been a family-favorite the last few school years and we expect it to be even better this year! Be sure to RSVP and get your wristbands. We know Fall is a very busy time and we appreciate you supporting KSPC any way you can. Thank you!!!

from our director

October will be filled with fun, so be sure to mark your calendars! Below is some information about the exciting events that are coming in October.

***October 8th (rain date 15th)** will be our 5th Annual Halloween Costume Party! Dress up if you would like and bring the entire family for an evening of games, dancing, crafts, festive desserts, a chance to win a raffle basket and TONS of FUN!!

*School photos will also be on **October 5th and 6th**. Please ask your teacher or myself if you have any questions!

***October 12th and 13th** we will have visits from Indian Run Environmental Education Center. They will be bringing live nocturnal animals, animal pelts, puppets and feathers to school so we can learn more about them. This event will be paid for by the fundraisers we have had so far this school year.

*October is Fire Safety Awareness Month. We are looking forward to a visit from fire fighter, Gabby, to teach us about fire safety on **October 19th and 22nd**. Please be sure to talk to your children about what they learned. This is a very important homework assignment for all parents!

*October will conclude with our annual Halloween Parade and Classroom Parties on **October 29th and 30th**. This will take place during our school day (immediately following drop off) and parents will be invited to watch our Halloween Parade on the playground. Your teacher will send you all the details you will need, so please be sure to read all information that is sent your way!

from our director

This is the first of several newsletters you will receive this year. We hope you enjoy reading all about what the students are learning and about all the fun they will be having! Our main goal is that students LOVE school and learning. I think you will see by the pictures in this newsletter and on our school Facebook and Instagram pages that our goal is being accomplished!

Happy Fall!

Jen Augustine



Mrs. Augustine. Mrs. Augustine.
What do you see?



I see so many wonderful
things going on around me!!

from our president

Hi Everyone,

I hope your little ones have had a great first few weeks at KSPC! This is my first year as Parent Board President, following Kaitlin Knauss, who left the school in great shape after three years in the role.

Our family has been part of KSPC since 2022. Mac is now in Mrs. Pannulla's class this year, and Lola will be here before we know it. I am also married to a teacher and grew up with two parents who taught, so I have a soft spot for what happens in these classrooms, and the teachers here are incredible at what they do.

The thing I keep coming back to about KSPC is the people. This is where we have made some of our closest friends and gotten to raise our kids alongside them in this town. That is not something you get everywhere, and it is a big part of why we wanted to get more involved.

As the year gets going, I hope your family jumps into the events and activities the Co-op has to offer. It is the best way to get to know people here. Please reach out to me or any of the Board Members and Committee Chairs anytime with questions, ideas, or suggestions.

Looking forward to a great year.

Mike



from our secretary

There's something special about the start of a new school year, seeing familiar faces, meeting new families, and feeling the excited energy that lives at the Co-Op.

This year is an especially fun one for our family. Callahan is in Mrs. Belton's MWF 3-year-old class, Hank is in the 5-year-old Pre-K class, and Vivienne is a proud KSPC alum who loves hearing all about what her brothers are doing at school.

Over the years, KSPC has become such an important part of our family's life. We've made great friends here, and we've loved being part of a community where both kids and parents feel connected.

As I start my third and final year as Board Secretary, I'm feeling incredibly grateful for the opportunity to serve this school. It's been such a joy to work closely with Jen and the Board to support this amazing community, and I've loved getting to know so many families along the way.

Wishing everyone a wonderful year filled with learning, laughter, new friendships, and lots of happy memories.

Melissa



from our treasurer

Hello!

My name is Erin Arnold and I am looking forward to my third year serving as treasurer on the Parent Board. All three of our daughters have attended KSPC and have the best memories and have built friendships lasting year after year! The team here at KSPC has a gift of making every student, every family, feel special. We are excited to see what Josie gets to learn and experience in the 5's class with Mrs. Munson. It is going to be a fun year!

I have been so impressed with our director, Jen Augustine, and my fellow board members and their ability to bring new, fun ideas to our school every month. The KSPC staff is always thinking of ways to keep things fresh and exciting for our kids. All while making each child feel safe and loved while they are at school. It has been an honor to have a front row seat to see how much they care. We are looking forward to a new year meeting new friends and families!

Erin



KSPC Volunteer Spotlight



What Does It Mean To Be A Part Of Kennett Square Preschool Cooperative?

Kennett Square Preschool Cooperative was founded in 1957 by a group of parents who wanted an affordable, quality preschool education for their children. After researching preschool philosophies, they decided to establish the school as a “cooperative.” More than 65 years later, the co-op spirit is still strong and one of the things that makes our school so special!

A Co-Operative Preschool Defined

A co-operative preschool is a preschool operated by a collective of parents whose children attend the school. The members are responsible for all phases of operation and are expected to be actively involved in our school. Our school has a director, certified teachers and teacher aides. Our executive board consists of a president, secretary and treasurer. Our board members represent the parents and help make decisions concerning the school. In addition, they provide policy advice and direction to the director.

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 thank our amazing KSPC parents and students who came out to help with our Preschool Clean Up Day in August! It was wonderful to see so many volunteers working on our bikes and scooters, weeding, mulching and getting it ready for our students. Thank you!!!



Back to School

