

WELCOME

TO PRE-K COUNTS



Introduction

Welcome family and friends!

Aphrodite Galitsis: Economy Elementary Principal

Shelly Traupman: Lead Teacher

Marsha Geweth: Para Professional

Today's Agenda:

- Welcome
- Safety Procedures
- Power point/ Slideshow (what to expect in Pre-K)

all about PRE-K COUNTS

- Pennsylvania Pre K Counts is a state funded grant program designed to provide free, quality early childhood education to students.
- Attendance is mandatory. We report attendance to the state and if your child misses more than 10 days they are at risk for being removed from the program.
- We follow the Ambridge School District calendar for days off.
- We are not allowed to take half days. Most days that are half days for the rest of the district will be full days for us. The exceptions to this rule are usually the day before Winter Break and the last day of school.
- Every student will be offered free breakfast and lunch daily. A lunch calendar will be sent home monthly and every child is offered the main choice. If your child does not prefer the main choice you may pack them a lunch.

YOUR TEACHER

Mrs. Traupman



- I grew up in West Virginia.
- I live in Economy Borough today.
- I graduated from Slippery Rock University.
- My teaching degree is Elementary Ed. / Early Childhood.
- I have 3 kids, 2 cats, and 1 dog.
- I enjoy reading and visiting the beach.
- My favorite color is purple.

Allie, Mrs. Traupman, Jake,
Mr. Traupman, and Lizzy
(left to right)



YOUR TEACHER

Para: Mrs. Geweth



- I grew up in Economy Borough.
- I live in Baden today.
- I graduated from Ambridge High School.
- I graduated from Slippery Rock University.
- My bachelors degree is in Parks and Recreation.
- I have a 2 kids, 1 cats, and 7 chickens.
- I enjoy camping and being in nature.
- My favorite colors are light blue and yellow.

Clayton, Mrs. Geweth,
Lily, and Mr. Geweth,
(left to right)



SCHEDULE

- *Schedule subject to change this year!*
 - Our students get 2 free meals every day, breakfast and lunch.
 - We have 1.5 hours of center time each day. Learning Centers include: Library, Dramatic Play, Sensory Table, Computer, Writing, Math, Science, Music and Movement, Art and Blocks.
 - Our students get 45 minutes of gross motor play a day outside or inside depending on the weather. **We stay inside if there is precipitation or the temperature is below 50 degrees with wind chill factored in.** Please take this into consideration when dressing your child.
 - We have several large group circle times throughout the day including reading, math and story time.
 - Our day ends at 2:30

Art Center



Daily Center Time

Learning through play

Math Center



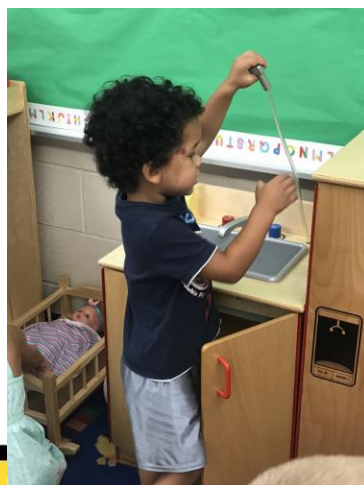
Writing Center



Science Center



Dramatic Play
Center



Construction
Center



8:30-9:00	Students arrive at school and begin our good morning circle; calendar, weather, nursery rhymes. If you are driving your child to school please respect these times!
9:00-9:30	Students eat breakfast.
9:30-10:00	Reading Circle. During this time we work on our letter for the week, and other reading concepts. We also dance a little bit!
10:00-11:20	Free Play Time. The students get to learn through play in the centers throughout the classroom. Individual and small group learning will also take place at this time.
11:20-11:30	Clean up
11:30-11:50	Story Time
11:50-12:00	Get ready for lunch
12:00-12:30	Students receive a free lunch but are also welcome to pack if they desire.
12:30-1:05	Gross Motor Time. We will go outside (weather permitting). If the weather is bad the students will go to the gym.
1:05-1:20	Name Writing (individual name practice)
1:20-1:50	Math Circle. During this time we will work on math concepts.
1:50-2:20	Quiet Time. Students are encouraged to take a break and refresh.
2:20-2:30	Pack up and time to go home!

Sample Schedule – subject to change

IMPORTANT info.

Garnet and Gray Days

- You will be receiving a schedule. On the days your child is not attending in person they will be receiving virtual instruction. As we get closer to the school year you will receive details of how and when to log into virtual learning.
- Your child will be receiving a bag of school supplies for virtual learning. Please keep these items for school use only. These supplies will mirror items we are using in the classroom.

COMMUNICATION

- A newsletter called the “Pre K Post” will go home to inform parents about what is happening in the classroom. (What we are learning, important dates, things to remember)
- We send home a lot of information in your child’s “Take Home Folder”. We ask that you check your child’s folder each night, removing any papers that should stay at home. This folder is also used to send forms or notes back to school for the teacher. **This will be extremely important this year with the rapidly changing COVID information!**
- We will also communicate with parents through phone and emails.
Phone: (724) 266-2833 ext.6257
Email: straupman@ambridge.k12.pa.us

COMMUNICATION

- Please send an email telling me about your child. It will alleviate anxiety if we are able to talk to your child about things that interest him/her.
- Please let me know if they are permitted to be featured on the school Facebook and Ambridge homepage.
- Please include a picture of you Pre-K child. We will print copies and post in the classroom. Pictures will be used in the classroom to help each student identify their individual items while they learn to recognize their name.

Email: straupman@ambridge.k12.pa.us

In the link below is a letter from Mrs. Galitsis, your principal. Please note page 5 of the document needs completed.

[AugSept Newsletter-729100336-0001.pdf](#)

CURRICULUM

This Year we will be using the Pearson-Open the World to Learning (OWL) curriculum. We supplement with teacher created activities. All lessons are designed to meet Pre-Kindergarten Pennsylvania Standards for Early Childhood. Examples of basic topics covered in Pre-K:

- Colors and shapes
- Writing (Letters/Numbers)
- Letter names/sounds
- Number recognition/ counting
- Rhyming words
- Syllables
- Weekly Themes
- Poems/finger plays

ASSESSMENTS

- We use GOLD assessment system to assess students.
- We create a summary report to send home to parents three times a year that outlines students' strengths and sets goals for students.
- We also keep portfolios on each student so we can monitor student progress throughout the year. I will share these portfolios with parents during parent-teacher conferences.

BIRTHDAYS

Due to COVID restrictions we will be unable to have birthday treats from home this year. However, we will still be celebrating your child's birthday! The class will sing Happy Birthday to him/her and they will receive a birthday crown and a small gift from their teacher!

HOMEWORK

Homework is optional but encouraged. Activities will be sent home every Monday/Tuesday and can be returned the following Monday/Tuesday. All materials sent home are concepts we are covering in class and will assist your child in better grasping of pre-k content.

FIELD TRIPS

Due to COVID guidelines we will not be taking field trips at this time. We will let you know if this changes!

Throughout the year the Pre-K class takes roughly 4-5 field trips. Taking 20 children to a public place is a task in itself, so we ask for parent/family volunteers to help assist in chaperoning. When asked to chaperone you typically are in charge of 3-4 kids to keep safe and have a fun time. If you are interested in this you must obtain your Child Abuse Clearance, Criminal History Clearance, Finger Prints, and TB test no exceptions. I would suggest applying for them ASAP! There often is a wait time for the clearances.

Examples of field trips:

Pumpkin Patch
Disney on Ice
Sesame Street Live
Pittsburgh Zoo
Children's Museum

VOLUNTeERING

Due to COVID guidelines we will not be having any volunteers at this time. However, you might want to consider starting to get your clearances in case we are able to change this later in the year! School District Policy requires that parents who volunteer in the classroom or attend class field trips have an up to date Criminal History Clearance, Child Abuse Clearance, Fingerprints, and a valid TB test on file with the school.

You can get the criminal history clearance by visiting:

<https://www.education.pa.gov/Educators/Clearances/CHRI/Pages/default.aspx>

You can get the child abuse clearance form by visiting:

<https://www.education.pa.gov/Educators/Clearances/DHS/Pages/default.aspx>

You can get the FBI Report clearance by visiting:

<https://www.education.pa.gov/Educators/Clearances/PATCH/Pages/default.aspx>

You can get a TB test at the district assigned location for free contact the district.

SPOTLIGHT

Transportation

Students who are taking the bus will arrive at school around 8:30 AM every day and leave school at 2:30 PM every day.

If your child is going to be dropped off or picked up it will be at the side entrance. It is a drive through you must stay in the car. If you want to walk your child to the door please park in the parking lot and walk to the side door.

If your child will be a pick-up, please let me know. Unless I hear from you I will be putting your child on the bus at 2:30!

Questions or concerns about transportation can be directed to Rhodes Transit:

- <http://www.rhodestransit.com/>

- 724- 266-4322

- Did you receive your bus times?



IMPORTANT info.

What should my child bring?

- Please make sure your child is wearing a mask!
- Please make sure your child has a book bag.
- A box of tissues and hand sanitizer for their personal use (will be kept in cubby).
- Labeled change of clothes in a sealed Ziploc bag (including underwear, socks, shoes, and extra mask)
- Make sure the teacher has an accurate telephone number and address at all times!
- Donations are always welcome paper towels and baby wipes.

QUESTIONS?