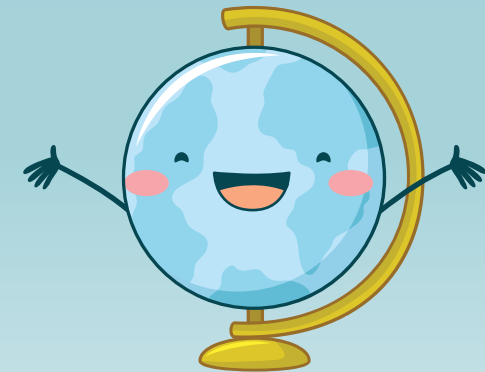
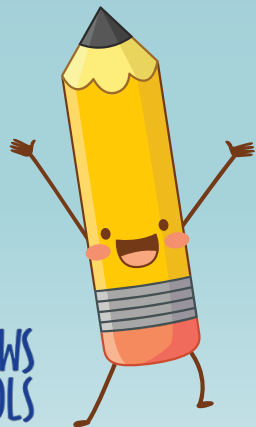


Welcome to PRESCHOOL

Watkins Early Childhood Center

Amy Gulick - Principal

Lyndon Hott – Assistant Principal



A little about our program...

- ❖ Watkins is one of four preschool sites in the Newport News Public School system. The program is known as NNPS Preschool
- ❖ We are a full-day program for 4-year-olds who reside in Newport News, VA
- ❖ Each of our classrooms is taught by a fully licensed teacher and an instructional assistant



School Information

- 8:45 AM – 5:00 PM – Office Hours
- 757-591-4815
- I am Kind, I am Smart, I am Important, I am a Watkins Star!



Our Preschool Staff

Watkins Early Childhood Center has 17 classrooms. Each classroom is taught by 1 fully licensed and highly qualified teacher and 1 highly qualified instructional assistant.

Watkins Early Childhood has 2 Dual Language Classes where students are taught in both English and Spanish daily.



Administrative Secretary: Fran Bell

Registrar: Dinora Rivera

Registered Nurse: Nyanda Koroma

Treatment Nurse: Nicole Brightman

Instructional Coach: Sue Henton

School Counselor: Whitney Hickman

Our Preschool Curriculum



- We use The Creative Curriculum, which is built around 8 big units of study:
 - Beginning the Year
 - Trees
 - Buildings
 - Signs
 - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
 - Clothes
 - Balls
 - Insects
- Each unit incorporates elements of:
 - Reading and Writing
 - Math
 - Social-Emotional Development
 - Play and Discovery Experiences
 - Social Studies
 - Science
 - Music and Visual Arts
 - Health and P.E.
- The Creative Curriculum is aligned with Virginia’s Early Learning and Development Standards (2021), set forth by the Virginia Department of Education

You will receive information in the coming weeks about programs to support you and your child:

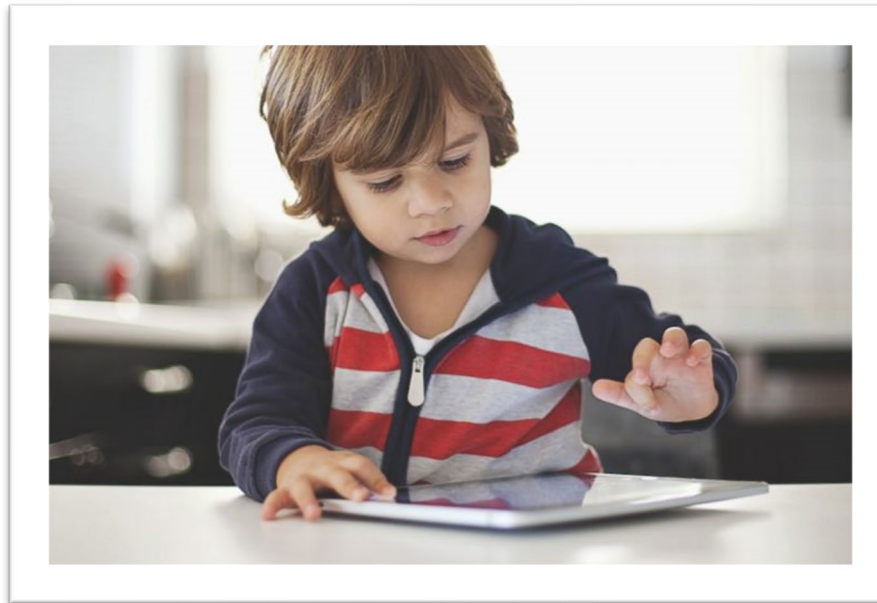
★ **Seesaw** is the online learning system NNPS Preschool uses to communicate with families and provide additional learning opportunities for students (both in and out of the classroom!)



★ **Ready Rosie** is a family engagement tool that provides families social-emotional and academic resources and activities



Your preschooler will be assigned an iPad, with built-in Wi-Fi, to support learning experiences in the classroom.



We work with students to develop and understand the appropriate way to use devices and how to use them as an educational tool

Home-School Partnership

Families are students' **FIRST** and **FOREVER** teachers. Please help provide the best school experience for your child by ensuring he or she:

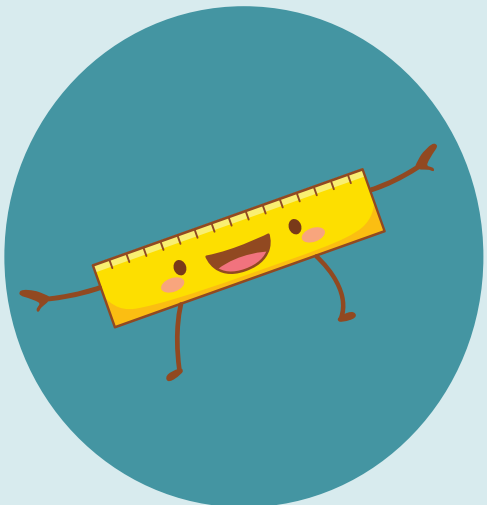
- ✓ attends school on time, every day
- ✓ wears the supplied name tag to school every day
- ✓ benefits from the full instructional day
- ✓ has a responsible person meeting them at school or the bus with the yellow pick-up card
- ✓ has several local emergency numbers on file in ParentVue
- ✓ has a change of clothes, updated throughout the year for appropriate weather, because accidents happen 😊
- ✓ wears appropriate school shoes for indoor and outdoor play (please no flip flops, sandals, or heels)



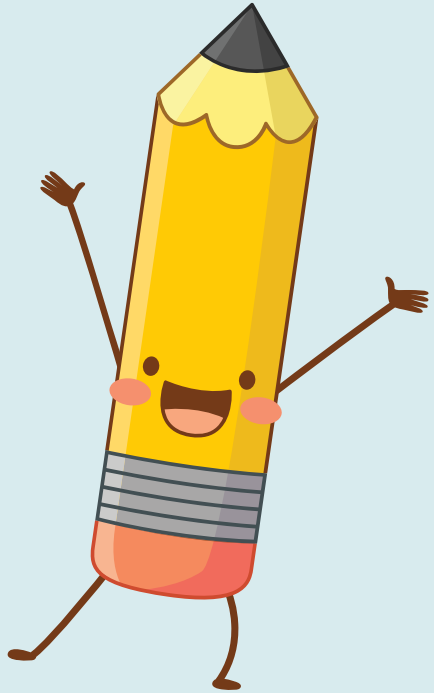
Home-School Partnership

Please partner with us further by:

- ✓ updating contact information in ParentVue as needed
- ✓ sharing essential information regarding health and behavior concerns with your child's teacher
- ✓ supporting your child's learning by asking your child questions and encouraging a positive attitude
- ✓ discussing and encouraging appropriate school behavior
- ✓ attending a conference with your child's teacher 2 times a year
- ✓ attending family nights/workshops throughout the year
- ✓ cooperating with requests from the school staff regarding instruction and safety



School Supplies



- Backpack without wheels
- Change of clothes (seasonally)
- Tissues

Attendance

Absence

- The NNPS Preschool program begins your child's attendance record, which is part of their permanent educational record.
- If your child is absent, you will receive an automated phone message.
- If your child is sick, your child must be symptom-free for at least 24 hours before returning to school.
- Please send a note with your child when he/she returns to school explaining the reason for the absence so the absence can be documented as excused.

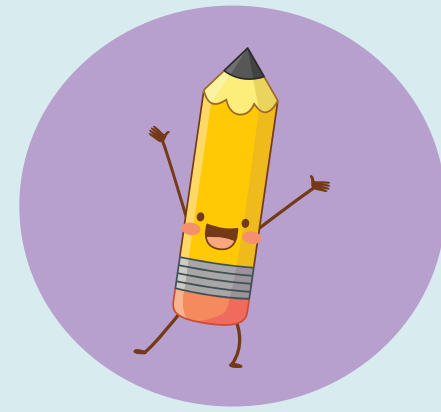
Tardy

- The preschool morning is specifically designed to allow your child a calm, healthy start to his or her day.
- Please help your child succeed by arriving on time daily; instilling this daily practice teaches students accountability and respect.

Excessive and unexcused absenteeism can lead to your child being withdrawn from the NNPS Preschool program



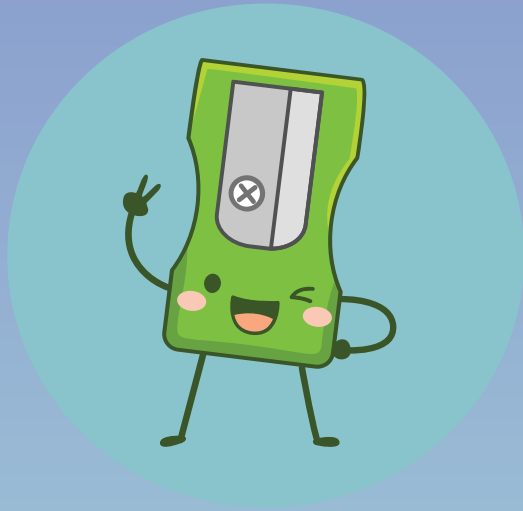
Meals



Breakfast & Lunch

- Breakfast and lunch are served daily and provided at no cost to students
- Your child may bring a lunch from home if you prefer
- School lunch calendars are available on the NNPS website
- Parents are always welcome to have lunch with their child. However, please let know the teachers in advance via SeeSaw or email. Please, no more than two members of a family at lunch.
- Please work with your child to begin learning how to independently open their food and drink containers

Bathroom



- School staff members work on helping children be successful and independent with clean, healthy toileting procedures
- Children are expected and encouraged to go to the bathroom and clean themselves independently
- Please practice and prepare your child as the school environment may be a new experience
- Teachers may reach out to families to talk to and work with their child if bathroom difficulties are noticed



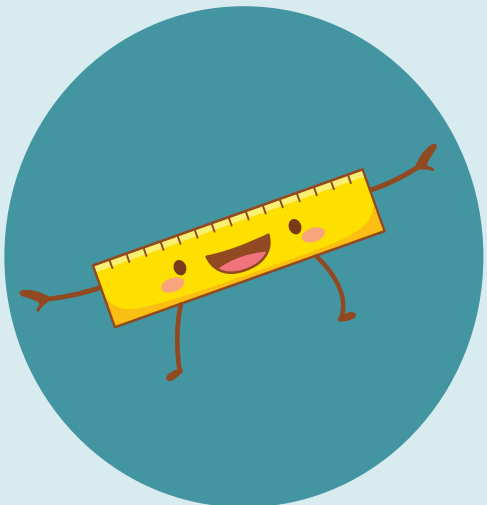
Name Tags

- All preschool students will receive a personalized name tag and required to ***wear to and from school every day***
- Establish a safe-keeping spot at home for your student to easily access his or her own tag each morning
- Please send all notes and information to school in your child's name tag
- Remember to **check tags daily** for important information, such as:
 - School flyers and announcements
 - Correspondence from classroom teachers
 - Memos and information from the school office



Drop-Off Procedures

- All Drop-Off Procedures are for the safety and benefit of all students, families, and staff.
- We strongly encourage you to have your child ride the bus to and from school, beginning the first day.
- If you choose to drive your child to school, a staff member will receive your child (at the drop-off loop) in front of the school starting at 9:30 AM. You may also walk your child to the door. Parents and staff entering the building follow sign-in procedures and proceed through the Weapon Detection System.
 - To keep all children and staff safe, please:
 - ✓ Have your child ready to get out of the car when car door is opened
 - ✓ Have your child exit on the right side of the vehicle
 - ✓ Move quickly to allow other children a turn
 - ✓ Look before pulling away



Pick-Up Procedures

- All Pick-Up Procedures are for the safety and benefit of all students, families, and staff.
- Each family will be given a total of a **3 yellow** pick-up cards. This card will need to be presented to pick up your child.
- Students can be picked up at the cafeteria exit at 3:40 PM. Here you will show your yellow card.
- If a child needs to be picked up early, please call the office so they can notify the teacher.
- 3:15 PM is the cutoff time for early dismissal. After this point, students will be dismissed in the manner established by the parent. This is to ensure the safety of your child and to maximize instructional time.
- Please ensure students are able to benefit from a full day of school as much as possible.



Bus Information

- Bus assignments and bus stop information will be available at Open House.
- Please review bus rules with your child daily - students are expected to be able to sit throughout the entire bus ride and keep hands and feet to themselves.
- To keep your child safe, a **yellow** NNPS Identification Card **must be presented daily** in order to receive your child off the bus.
- **Bus drivers will return students to school if an authorized person is not present with the NNPS Identification Card.** Failure to meet your child at the bus 3 times may result in the loss of bus privileges for your student.



For Inclement Weather Conditions

Watch NNPS cable channel 47 or listen for NNPS on a local radio or television station

Check the NNPS website at www.nnschools.org

Call the NNPS Information Line at (757) 283-7810

Follow NNPS on social media



Save the Date!

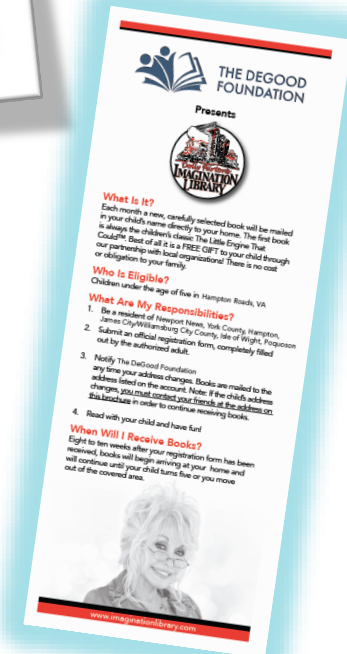
👋 **Open House:** Thursday, August 24th from 4:00-7:00PM - come meet your child's teachers, see the classroom, and tour the school! 😊

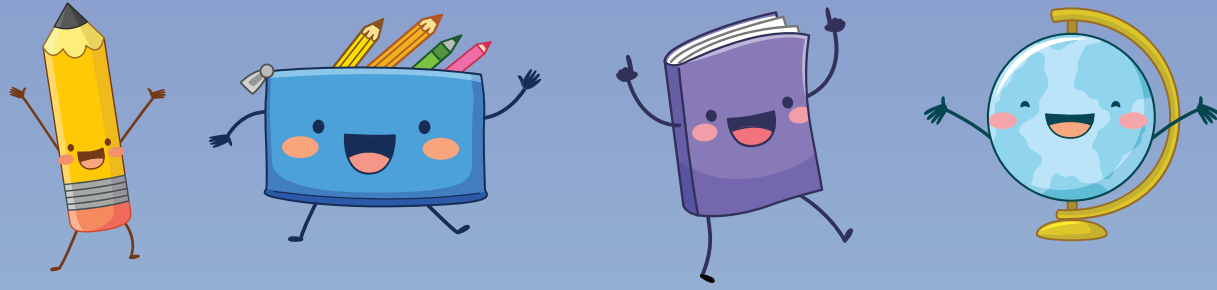
👋 **First Day of School:** Monday, August 28

👋 **"Back to School Night:"** date TBA



Remember to turn in your completed **Dolly Parton's Imagination Library** form for your preschooler to begin receiving FREE books every month!





Thank you for attending!

Any questions?

NNPS PRESCHOOL