Welcome to

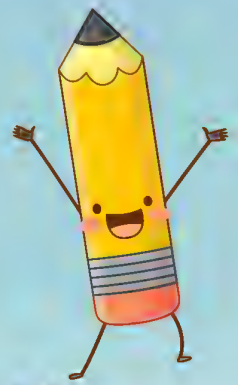
Newport News Public Schools

PRESCHOOL

Denbigh Early Childhood Center

Travis Humble, Principal

Heather Crenshaw, Assistant Principal



NEWPORT NEWS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Scan to sign in for this session!

A little about our program...

4

school sites

47

classrooms

940

preschoolers

Our School Information

- We are located at 15638 Warwick Blvd
- Contact our front office at (757) 886-7789
- Our school office hours are 8:45-5:00
- Our student school hours are 9:30-3:55
- Follow Denbigh Early Childhood Center on Facebook

DENBIGH ECC
Dinosaurs

Our Preschool Staff

- ★ You will get to meet your child's teacher during Open House on August 20 between 4:00-7:00pm

- ★ Some of our **amazing** staff members that you may interact with:
  - Nancy Garcia, Administrative Secretary
  - Lauren Reed, Registrar
  - Jessica Woods, Nurse
  - Shaquitta Haynesworth, Nurse
  - Aaron Tatem-Askew, School Security Officer
  - Monica Hancock, School Counselor
  - Asjah Koger, FACE Specialist
  - Katie Dolak, School Psychologist
  - Stephanie Leek, School Social Worker

DENBIGH ECC Dinosaurs

Our Preschool Curriculum

The Creative Curriculum is built around 8 big units of study:

We integrate all academic areas, like reading and math, across each unit.

We prioritize building social skills through a focus on social-emotional development and play-based discovery experiences.

All instruction is based on Virginia's Early Learning and Development Standards (2021), which are set forth by the Virginia Department of Education. *For more information, visit the NNPS Preschool website.*

You will receive information in the coming weeks about the following 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 (in and out of the classroom!)

Seesaw

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

Ready Rosie

Seesaw

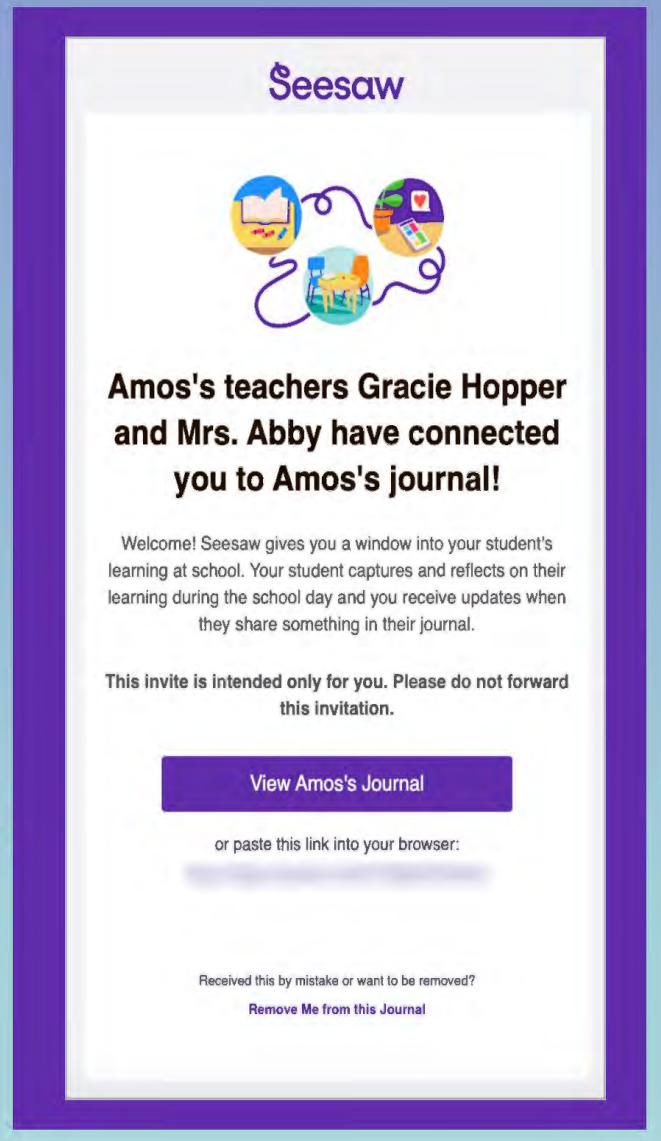
In August, family members who are NEW to Seesaw will receive an email to create an account and join their child's journal*

EMAIL SENDER:

do-not-reply@seesaw.me

SUBJECT:

You're invited to connect to *[your student's name]*'s journal on Seesaw!



If you are already connected to Seesaw, you will automatically be connected to your child's journal once classes are rostered, if your email address in ParentVue is the same.

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Your preschooler will be assigned an iPad to support their learning experiences in the classroom. Devices are NOT taken home.

We work to develop and understand the appropriate way to use devices and how to use them as a tool for learning!

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Home-School Partnership

Families are students' **FIRST** and **FOREVER** teachers. We want to be a **PARTNER** on your child's journey!

Newport News Public Schools Preschool Family Agreement

By enrolling my child in the NNPS Preschool program, I agree and commit to partnering with Newport News Public Schools and my child's zoned preschool. I understand that NNPS Preschool is an *optional* program and failure to comply with the safety, well-being, and academic goals of Newport News Public Schools will not be tolerated and could lead to the withdrawal of my student from the NNPS Preschool program.

My commitment includes:

Home-School Communication

- attending a Preschool Orientation Meeting prior to the first day of school.
- giving written notification (handwritten or email) of any transportation changes. For safety reasons, changes cannot be accepted over the telephone.
- providing, and keeping up to date, **at least two (2) local** emergency contact numbers, so that, in the event I cannot be reached, the school will have access to people of my choosing to act on my behalf.
- sharing essential and up-to-date information regarding health and behavior issues of my child.

Attendance

- making sure my child attends school each school day according to the Newport News Public Schools Attendance Policy (90% regular attendance is an expectation; 15 consecutive absences **and/or** excessive absenteeism could lead to withdrawal from the program).
- submitting an excuse note (handwritten, email, via Seesaw, via school website) each time my child is absent from school.
- ensuring my child arrives at school on time, either by bus or by dropping off my child at the scheduled drop-off time only.
- ensuring my child wears **both** their nametag and NNPS school ID every day.
- allowing my child to benefit from a full instructional day and avoiding early pick-ups, unless necessary and unavoidable.
- ensuring someone responsible is picking up my child, is on time, and has the:
  - yellow pickup card or a picture ID **and** is listed on the emergency contact list/card *for in-person pick-up.*
  - required yellow pickup card *for bus transportation.*

Student Success

- providing a full change of clothes, appropriate for the weather, to be kept at school in case of spills, my child getting sick, bathroom accidents, etc.
- supporting the learning of my child and others by encouraging my child to make appropriate behavior choices.
- working collaboratively with teachers and school staff to promote the academic and social-emotional development of my child (keeping lines of communication open, attending conferences twice a year, attending Student Success Team Meetings as needed, etc.).
- working with school staff to support the independent toileting of my child.
- attending school events as my schedule permits.
- cooperating with requests from school staff regarding health and safety protocols.

By signing my name below, I am indicating that I have read this *Preschool Family Agreement*, I fully understand the agreement, and I will fulfill all outlined commitments.

By signing my name below, I am acknowledging that failure to fulfill these commitments may result in my child being withdrawn from the Newport News Public Schools Preschool Program.

Student Name _____ **Date** _____
(please PRINT first and last name)

Parent/Guardian Name _____ **Signature** _____
(please PRINT first and last name)

updated 2025

Newport News Public Schools
PRESCHOOL

Home-School Partnership

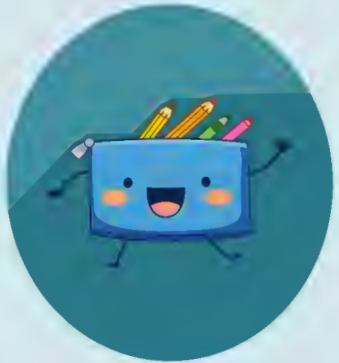
Please help provide the best school experience for your child by ensuring he or she:

- ✔ attends school on time, every day
- ✔ wears their name tag daily
- ✔ 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)

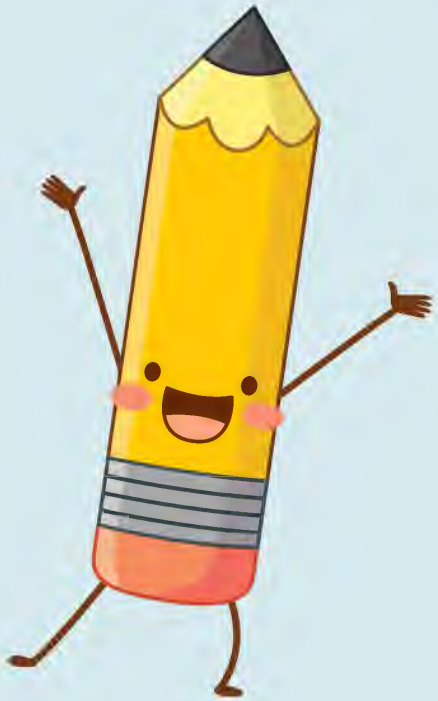
Home-School Partnership

Please partner with us further by:

- ✔ updating contact information in ParentVue (AND notifying your child's teacher of update), 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 throughout the year
- ✔ cooperating with requests from the school staff regarding instruction and safety



School Supplies List



- ❑ Clear backpack*
- ❑ 2 packs of crayons OR markers
- ❑ 2 packs of pencils
- ❑ 1 pack of black dry erase markers
- ❑ 4 large glue sticks
- ❑ Change of clothes
- ❑ **Reusable plastic water bottle (no metal)**

Optional supplies may be donated at any time:

- tissues
- disinfecting wipes
- hand sanitizer
- ziploc bags (quart or gallon size)

*NNPS division policy mandates clear backpacks are the **only** type of backpack that students will be allowed to use at school

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Attendance

The NNPS Preschool program begins your child's attendance record, which is part of their **permanent** educational record.

Please visit the school website or send a note with your child when they return to school so the absence can be documented as excused.

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

How to Submit an Absence

Attendance

Avoid late drop-offs and early pick-ups!

Missing small amounts of school on a regular basis adds up. **Please…**

- ❑ Help your child get to school or the bus stop on time
  - ○ Students are admitted to the building beginning at 9:30. Drop-off students are considered late after 9:40.
- ❑ Avoid picking up your child early, unless it is an emergency
  - ○ Early pick up ends at 3:00.
- ❑ Schedule appointments outside of school hours, when possible

Meals

- Breakfast and lunch are served daily and provided at **no cost** to families.
- Your child may bring a lunch from home if preferred.
- School lunch calendars are available on the NNPS website.
- Parents are welcome to join their child for lunch.
  - Please provide the office with 24 hours notice
- Please work with your child to begin learning how to **independently** open their food and drink containers.

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Treats and Celebrations

- We love to celebrate birthdays, but please be mindful that our students may have allergies, so outside food that is intended to be shared may not be brought to school.
- A small token is appreciated (bubbles, pop its, crayons, stickers, etc)
- School is a long day for our students, many teachers offer an afternoon snack and appreciate donations. Please speak with your child's teacher if you would like to donate snacks.

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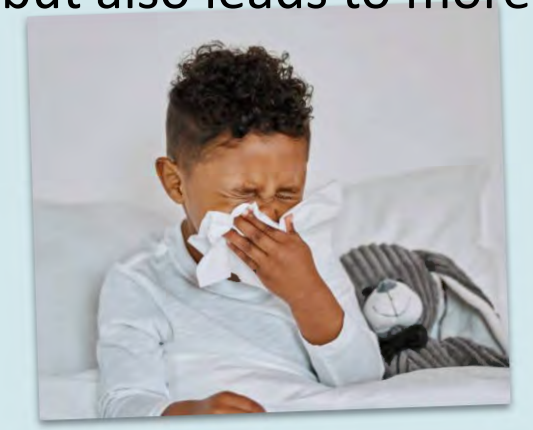
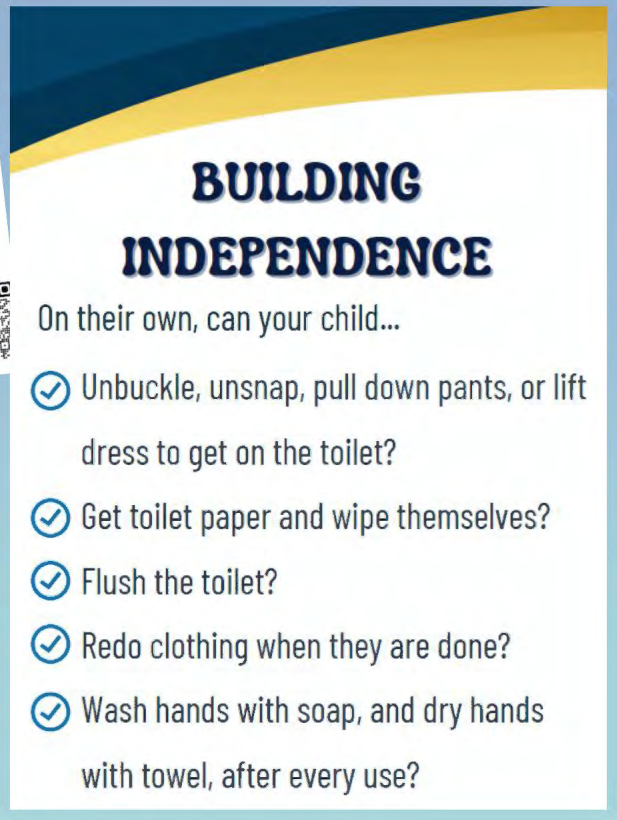
Health

- **Nap time is not part of the daily schedule in Preschool.**
- It is common for young children attending school for the first time to get sick frequently.
- Young immune systems are still developing while also being exposed to many common viruses/bacteria for the first time → this **helps** build long-term immunity but also leads to more frequent short-term illness.



- Help by encouraging good hygiene practices at home:
  - wash hands frequently
  - cough/sneeze into elbow or tissue
  - keep hands away from eyes, nose, and mouth
  - maintain a consistent and appropriate bedtime
- If your child is sick, they **must be symptom and fever free**, without medication, for 24 hours before returning to school.
- Please make sure parent and emergency contacts are up-to-date in ParentVue in the event the school nurse needs to contact you.
  - ➔ *Ensure emergency contacts have reliable transportation as your child may need to be picked up from school.*



Bathroom Independence

- School staff work to help children become 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 contact families to formulate a **joint** toileting plan if bathroom difficulties are noticed.

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Name Tags

- All students will receive two personalized name tags:
  - NNPS student ID
  - Large name tag with classroom and transportation info
- Both tags must be worn to school ***every day***
- Establish a safe-keeping spot at home for your child to easily access their own tags each morning
- Please send all written notes/information to school in your child's large name tag
- Please check the large name tag **daily** for important information, such as:
  - School flyers and announcements
  - Correspondence from teachers
  - Information from the school or school division

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First Step
Early Childhood Center
(757) 886-7789

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
  - keep hands and feet to themselves
- To keep your child safe, a yellow pick-up card must be presented in order to receive your child off the bus ***every time***. Photo IDs WILL NOT be accepted to get students off the bus.
- Bus drivers will return students to school if an authorized person is not present with the yellow pick-up card.
  - ➔ Failure to meet your child at the bus 3 times may result in the loss of bus privileges for your student.

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Drop-Off Procedures

- Drop-off procedures are for the safety and benefit of all students, families, and staff. We appreciate your cooperation and patience!
- We strongly encourage you to have your child ride the bus to and from school, beginning the very first day of school.
- If you choose to drive your child to school, please:
  - park in the parking lot to the North of the school
  - walk your child all the way to the main Denbigh ECC entrance
- Students may enter beginning at 9:30 AM.

- Families will not be permitted to walk students into the building and to class, even on the first day of school.

To keep all children, families, and staff safe, please:

- ✔ Wait with your child until they can enter the building
- ✔ Drive slowly and be mindful of small children in between and around vehicles

DECC Morning Arrival

Please park in the lot marked with the star. You will walk your student down the sidewalk indicated by the arrow. If you and your student arrive prior to our 9:30 opening, you will need to wait with your student on the sidewalk until the door is open and students are welcomed inside.

Pick-Up Procedures

- Pick-Up Procedures are for the safety and benefit of all students, families, and staff. We appreciate your cooperation and patience!
- Each family will be given a total of 3 yellow pick-up cards. This card will need to be presented to pick up your child.
- Students can be picked up from the cafeteria beginning at 3:45. Here you will show your yellow card (if the person picking up does not have a yellow card, they must have a valid photo ID and must be listed in Synergy) and your student will be brought out to you.
- If a child needs to be picked up early, please notify the office and arrive before 3:00.
- Please ensure students are able to benefit from a full day of school as much as possible.

HERE. Every Minute. Every Class. Every Day.

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DECC Dismissal Pick-Up

Please park in the lot marked with the star. You will queue on the sidewalk indicated by the arrow. Beginning at 3:45, staff members will open the cafeteria door (marked with an X) and will begin releasing students to those with yellow cards. Please be patient with this process in order to help us ensure the safety of our students..

Transportation Changes

- Please include a note in your child's name tag
- Emergency - call the office prior to dismissal to inform the classroom
- Do not directly contact the teacher
- Do not use SeeSaw to change transportation

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HERE. Every Minute. Every Class. Every Day.

Safe, Respectful, Responsible:
A Day at School as a
Denbigh Dino

For Inclement Weather Conditions

Check the NNPS website www.nnschools.org for the most up-to-date notifications

Follow NNPS on social media

Save the Dates!

Open House: Thursday, August 20 @ 4 - 7 PM

Come meet your child's teachers, see the classroom, and tour the school! ☺️

First Day of School: Monday, August 24

Back to School Night: Thursday, September 24
5-7 PM

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Thank you for attending!

Any questions?

NNPS PRESCHOOL