



March Newsletter 2022



Upcoming events:

March 7th 2022 6pm Parent Advisory Committee Meeting via Zoom link

March 7th 2022-23 Kindergarten Online Registration begins. Your child must be 5 years old by October 1st, 2022 to enroll in the upcoming school year. Online registration can be completed anytime between March 7th and April 15th.

March 10th VVH will be offering Our School kiddos aged 2-7 a free speech screening. Parents will be notified after the screening if suggestions are made for further assistance. Permission slips must be signed and are attached to this email, please return them no later than **March 9th**.

School Closure: Our School is **closed March 17th and 18th** for deep cleaning and rearranging of the school.

Our School is closed on April 11th for a staff development day.

Our School is looking for volunteers to help in April with Yard Cleaning days, please let Megan know if you would like to help and thank you so much.

Myprocare.com Did you know that myprocare.com is a site where you can access your tuition payment transactions and school information? We hope you are still utilizing the app and making sure you are clocking your child in and out daily. If you are having issues, please contact Megan or the Pocare tech support. <https://www.myprocare.com/> just enter your email address and you should be all set!

OUR School is working towards changing our email address, please add ourschoolgws@gmail.com to your address books and expect to see a shift as we utilize that address as opposed to the ourschool@sopris.net and my personal ourschoolmegp@gmail.com. Have no fear as the change will take time, we just wanted you to be aware of the changes.





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THE IMPORTANCE OF THE EARLY YEARS

Did you know that the early years from birth to age eight are critically important for all areas of learning and development?

In the first few years of life, more than 1 million new neural connections are formed every second. These are the connections that build brain architecture – the foundation upon which all later learning, behavior, and health depend.¹

That is why it is important for everyone – parents, grandparents, friends and neighbors – to help kids develop and start on a path to success.

Early experiences are important in shaping how successful children are later in life. Studies show that kids who have quality early childhood experiences, including attending quality early childhood programs, are more likely to graduate from high school, own a home, have a job and earn a higher income.²

Learning in the early years lays the foundation for a successful and happy future for Colorado's kids.

Transition to Kindergarten

Going to kindergarten is a major milestone of early childhood. As with other transitions, going to kindergarten can bring about feelings of excitement as well as fear for children and families. For example, a child's readiness for kindergarten may be a question on the mind of many families.

Children who are ready for kindergarten are able to do things independently such as going to the bathroom, getting dressed on their own, and other personal hygiene tasks. Ready children also have acquired more complex motor skills like skipping and balancing as well as developed the fine motor skills needed to use a writing utensil. Kindergarteners may still be working on self-regulation skills but they can engage in some strategies to manage their behavior and emotions so that they can learn academic skills in the kindergarten classroom. Whether coming to kindergarten from a preschool setting or the home, parents can support children's readiness with a few simple activities:

- Read together every day.
- Provide opportunities to draw, write, and use scissors.
- Engage in counting and comparison activities during play and routines such as meals.
- Play with blocks and other small manipulatives to support fine motor coordination.
- Support children in making positive choices on their own.
- Make sure children get enough sleep and healthy meals.

In the first weeks of school, children may be evaluated using a kindergarten readiness assessment to help teachers understand their developmental progress and how best to support their learning. Children who receive special education services in preschool will receive transition support to continue services in kindergarten.