MISS PARKER'S

# PRESCHOOL VEWSLETTER APRIL 2025



# WHY STRUCTURED PLAY MATTERS FOR YOUR CHILD'S **LEARNING**

Did you know that combining structured learning with play can have a powerful impact on your child's development?

Recent research from the Journal of Human Resources found that when preschools use a structured curriculum within a playbased environment, children show significant growth in important areas like language, early maths skills, and executive functioning (things like memory, focus, and following directions).

This approach gives your child the best of both worlds:

Guided activities that gently introduce academic concepts as well as fun and playful experiences that keep learning joyful and age appropriate.

It's all about creating a balanced space where children feel confident, curious, and supported as they get ready for big school!

# **CONSTRUCTION UPDATE**

#### PHASE TWO

We're happy to let you know that our preschool build is progressing steadily!

We've now entered Phase 2 of construction, which means work is beginning on the flooring frames and roofing. While it's still early days in this phase, it's exciting to see the groundwork take shape and start to transform into the future home of our preschool.

In addition to the construction, we're also in the process of selecting the colours for the exterior of the building.

We're putting a lot of thought into creating a vibrant and welcoming space that will make the preschool feel bright, fun, and inviting for your little ones.



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### How does Miss Parker's Preschool prepare children for kindergarten?

Miss Parker's Preschool prepares children for kindergarten by providing a balanced curriculum that focuses on early academic skills (like letter recognition, counting, and problem-solving) and social-emotional development. Our classrooms promote group learning, encourage peer interaction, and help children learn how to follow directions and participate in classroom routines. Our focus on hands-on activities and exploration also helps children develop critical thinking and creativity, setting the foundation for kindergarten success.

### SCHOOL READINESS TIP

#### NARRATE YOUR DAY OUT LOUD

An amazing and simple way to get children thinking is to turn everyday moments into mini language lessons by narrating what you're doing, especially when they're right beside you.

For example, while doing housework, you might say:

"I'm folding your blue shirt. Now I'm putting it in your drawer. Next, I'm getting your socks!"

This helps children understand sequencing and task order, important skills for following directions at school.

At the grocery store, you might say:
"We need bananas. Let's count them: 1, 2,
3! These are yellow. Do you like yellow
bananas or green ones?"

This encourages language development, colour recognition, counting, and making choices, all while building conversational skills in a real-world setting.

## **SMART START FUN ACTIVITY**

#### LUNCHBOX PRACTICE

Start helping your preschooler practice opening various containers and food packages they might find in their lunchbox. This can include items like juice boxes, peeling a banana or mandarin, pinching and tearing open snack packs, opening zip-lock bags, yogurt cups, and lunchbox

Why? To builds fine motor skills and independence



To prepare them for school routines

To reduces frustration and help them feel confident at lunch

To give you insight into what containers work best for them.



## **EXPERIMENT OF THE MONTH**

#### COLOUR MIXING

What you need:

- 3 clear cups or small containers
- Water
- Red, yellow, and blue food colouring
- A spoon or dropper
- Paper towels or a mixing tray
- Optional: white paper to see colours better

#### Method:

- 1. Fill 3 cups halfway with water.
- 2. Add red to one, yellow to another, and blue to the
- 3. Ask your preschooler, "What do you think will happen if we mix red and yellow?" and let them have a guess.
- 4. Use a spoon or dropper to mix two colours at a time into a new cup or tray:

Encourage School Ready Thinking by:

Suggesting "Let's take turns."
Asking "What do you notice?"
Stating "Let's clean up together like we do at school!"

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