


Hi Kindergarten Families,

We are so excited to welcome you to our school community! Tonight is all about helping you and your incoming kindergartener feel comfortable and excited about the transition to kindergarten.

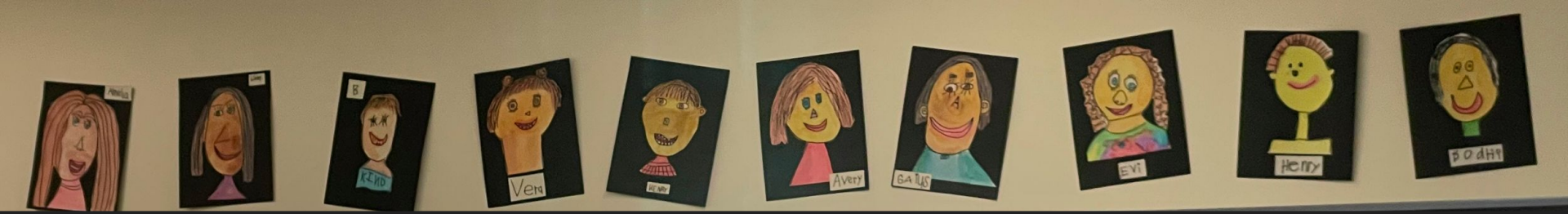
Please know that we are here to support you — today, tomorrow, and throughout your child's elementary years. Education is a partnership, and we look forward to working together to help your child grow and thrive.

At Wickliffe, we believe school is a family experience, and our goal is to build strong, caring relationships that create an inclusive community for every child.

We're so glad you're here!



# Welcome Class of 2039!




# Wickliffe Progressive Kindergarten Information Night

**Welcome Class of 2039!**

# Parent Morning Meeting

- ***We create a community for teaching and learning for all ages.***
- ***We collaborate with colleagues and parents as co-educators to meet children's needs.***

<u>Purpose</u>

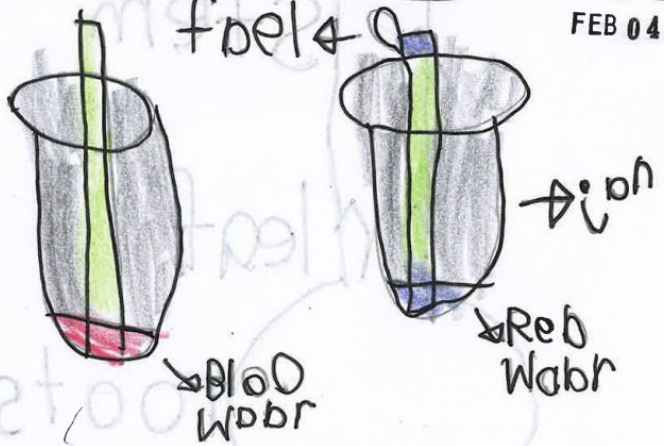
- *Valued*
- *Seen*
- *Heard*
- *Connect*

While are with your group, you will share your name and a hope for your Kindergartner next year.

JAN 30 2026




FEB 04 2026



## Humpty Dumpty

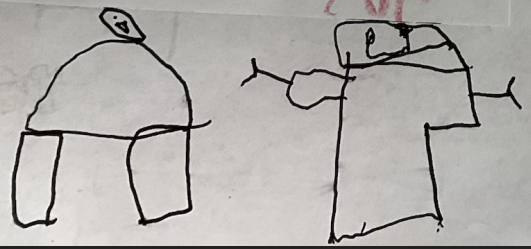
Humplty Dumpty sat on a wall,

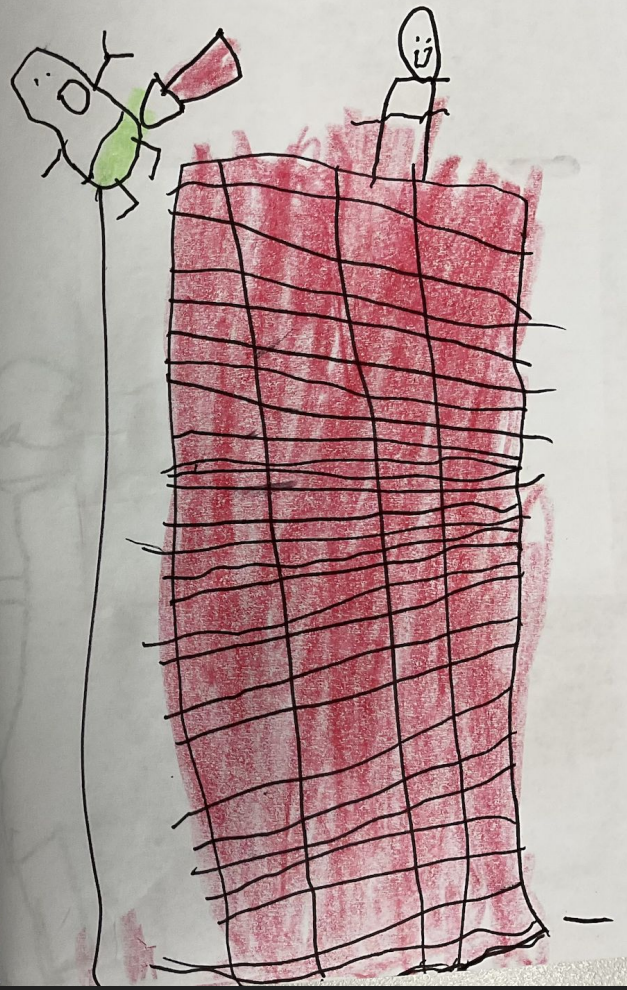
Humpty Dumpty had a great fall.

All the king's horses,

And all the king's men,

Couldn't put Humpty together again.





# Did You Know?

- We are rooted in the District Informal Program-Est. in 1972 in partnership with families and the Ohio State University who felt that our primary responsibilities were to teach children how to learn and become responsible citizens in a democratic society.

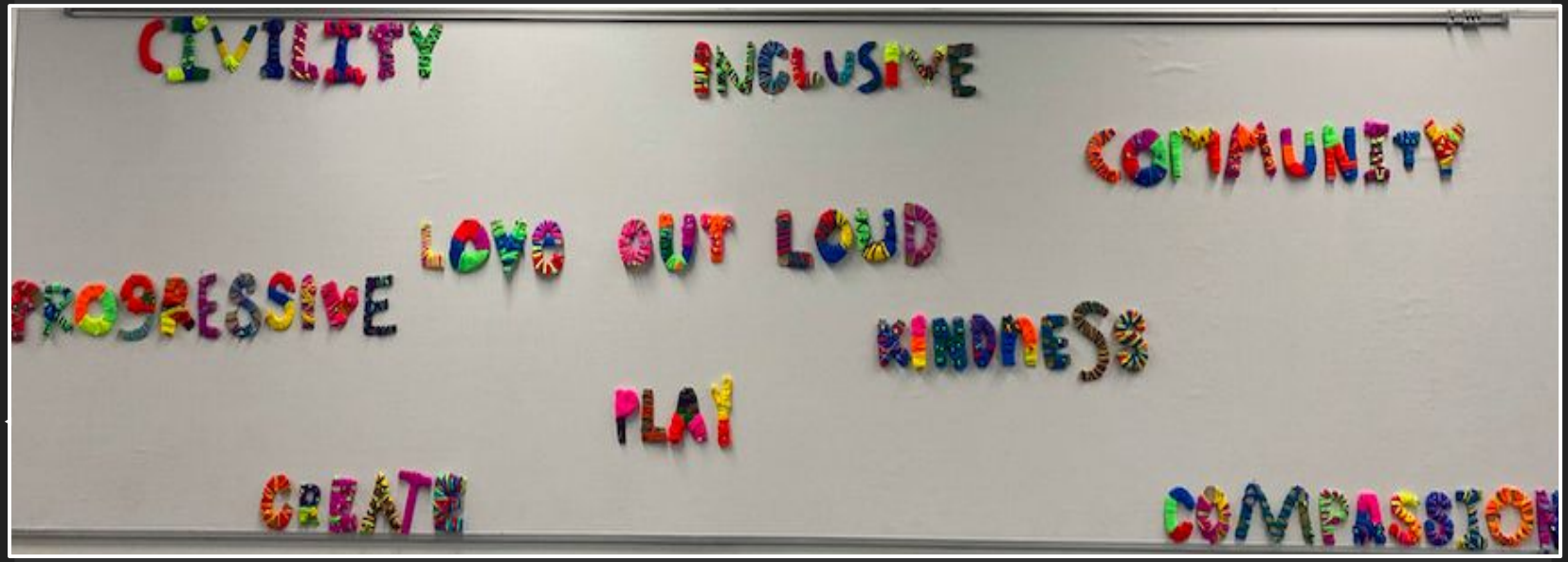
- We are committed to our 10 Foundational Principles that guide our daily teaching practices and interactions with children, parents and each other.

- We are relationship based: our relationships are family-like, with teachers and families working together to coach, guide, and support children through their learning.




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# What is Progressive Education?




Principle #1: *We create a community for teaching and learning for all ages.*

# What does a Kindergarten day look like?

- The school day is structured to support our younger learners as they adjust to a full-day learning program.
- It is built around the learning blocks for the core content areas — math, reading, writing, science/social studies — with time for play and “brain breaks” woven in throughout the day.
- Students have time to work with teachers individually or in small groups to support their learning and reinforce or extend where needed.
- Each week, students will also have a related arts block that rotates between music, art and PE.
- **School hours: 8:10 a.m. - 2:50 p.m.**
- Elementary Explorations is a special program that our kindergarten students engage in every 2 weeks to explore cross-curricular content while increasing student voice, improving well-being and creating engaged learners through whole child, project-based learning.





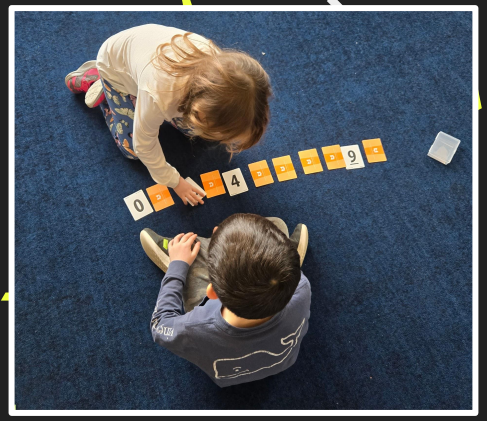




# Classroom Meetings

- Rooted in child voice, connection, sharing & engagement
- The heart of co-constructing community
- Intentional time and space for sharing, discussing, resolving conflict, planning & dreaming
- Used by teachers to facilitate group learning
- The pathway for building rituals and routines

# Math






- Foundational understanding that focuses on number sense, place and value, patterns, counting, etc.
- Number formation
- Exploration of math concepts such as more than/less than and beginning addition and subtraction through play & games





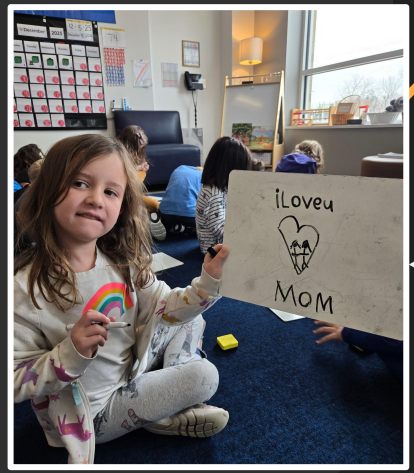
# Early Literacy






- Phonological Awareness/Phonemic Awareness (Nursery rhymes; Word Play; Sound Gymnastics)
- Letter Identification, Letter-Sounds
- Fine Motor Development-pencil grip, cutting, manipulation of objects (beading, coloring, painting, turning pages in a book)
- Letter Formation
- Word Work (Phonics)
- Targeted Small Group Instruction
- Read Alouds (Comprehension, Background Knowledge, Vocabulary, Fluency )
- Literature is used to integrate and connect themes and content.
- The curricular resources we use include 95% Core Phonics and CKLA.





# Project Time

- Principle #5: *We engage in thematic studies and foster authentic and emergent learning experiences.*
- Integration of all content areas (multi-disciplinary)
- Service learning & real-world community connections
- Weaves in the arts







# Play!

*Principle # 6: We structure experiences that actively engage children in the process of learning and guide child choice and decision making.*

- ❖ We value and honor play.
- ❖ We have multiple recesses daily
- ❖ We have a daily play workshop time.

**Benefits of play:**

- Boosts creativity
- Encourages independence and cooperation
- Builds resilience and problem solving
- Increases flexible thinking and self-regulation
- Builds relationships and social skills
- Promotes language development










# The Arts are an Integral Part of Wickliffe!

Principle #7:
*We design opportunities to integrate the arts in curriculum as an essential way to acquire and express knowledge*

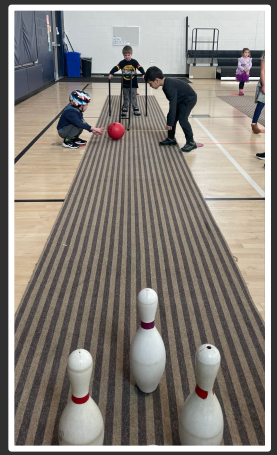
Related Arts Rotations

- Art 2x weekly
- PE 2x weekly
- Music 2x weekly
- Library/Integrated Media 1x weekly
- Elementary Explorations 2x monthly









# Town Meeting

*Principle # 1: We create a community for teaching and learning for all ages.*









# Elementary Explorations

- Elementary Explorations is a districtwide program that provides all elementary students with opportunities to engage and explore cross-curricular content, creating engaged learners through whole child, project-based learning.
- Each grade level engages in Elementary Explorations once every two weeks for about 60 to 75 minutes, following the rotating A-E schedule.
- For more information about Elementary Explorations, please visit our website.

# Student Support

Principle #3: *We respect diversity among children and variation in their development*

Principle # 4: *We collaborate with colleagues & families as co-educators to meet children's needs.* We have a strong support system & team including our school counselor, reading specialists, intervention specialists, related service staff and YOU!

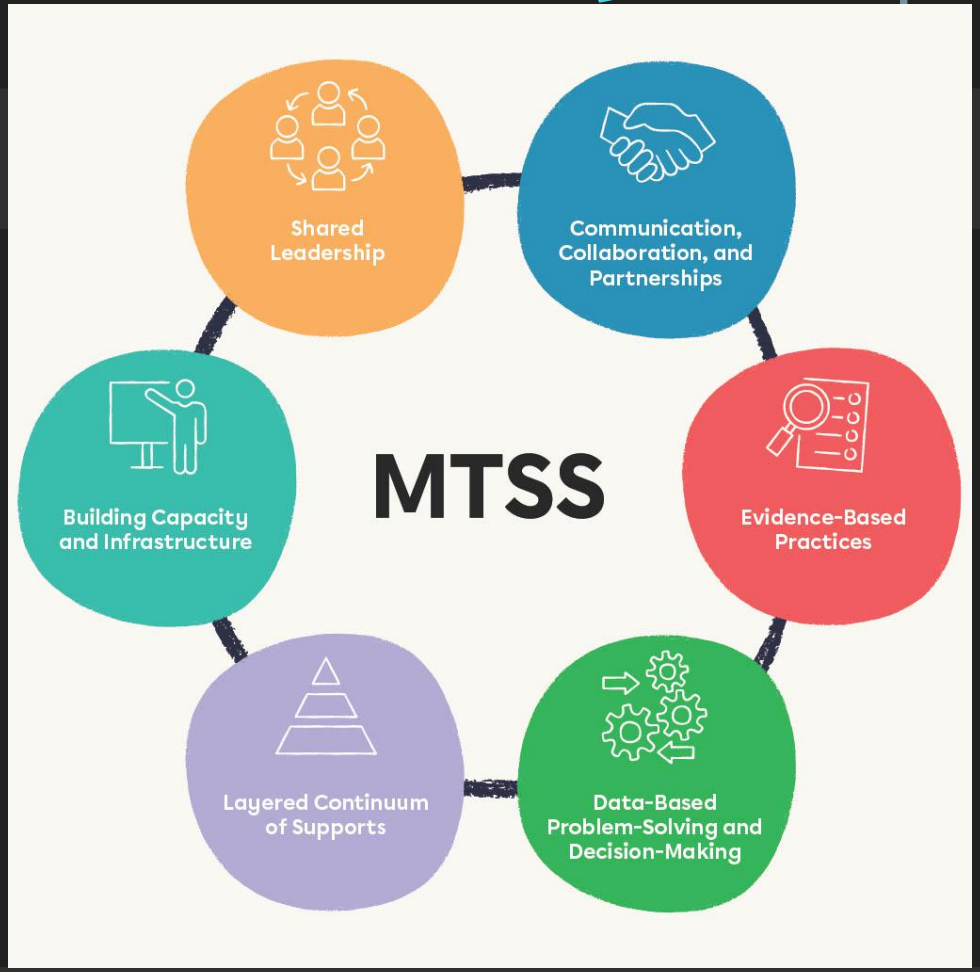
- We have a variety of ways to get to know our students: observation, parent surveys, assessments, work samples & documentation.

- We meet each child where they are at academically, behaviorally and socially-emotionally while we provide personalized support to help them grow through our Multi-tiered System of Support (MTSS) Process.










*For more information about what MTSS looks like in practice please visit our website.

# Counseling Services at Wickliffe

**Tier 1** supports include classroom counseling lessons provided once or twice a month. Possible topics include:

- emotions
- conflict resolution
- friendship skills

**Tier 2** supports include small group lessons lasting for 6-8 weeks based on needs.

**Tier 3** supports included 1:1 counseling sessions

The Wickliffe Progressive Elementary counselors are Beth Uhlenhake (Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grades) and Renee Shaffer (3rd, 4th and 5th grades)



# TYPICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF 5-Year-Olds

## PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Five-year-olds need lots of physical activity and may prefer to work standing up. They usually pace themselves well, and will generally rest before they're exhausted. They are gaining better control of running, jumping, and other large movements, but may fall or slip out of chairs. Their eyes tend to focus on nearby objects, so copying from the board can be difficult. Tasks requiring small movements, such as writing, are still awkward.

## SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Young fives like to help, cooperate, and follow rules. Early on, they express themselves in few words, but older fives like to explain things and have things explained to them, and will often give elaborate answers to questions. Fives may also begin to challenge adults as they move toward six.

Fives often see only one way to do things, struggle to see others' viewpoints, and may fear making mistakes when trying something new. They have vivid imaginations but are not ready to understand figures of speech or abstract concepts such as fairness. For these reasons, fives need consistent routines, rules, and discipline, and will respond well to clear and simple expectations.



## ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT

Fives do their best learning through active play, repetition, and hands-on exploration. They like to copy and to repeat stories, poems, songs, and games. Within a predictable daily schedule, they appreciate guided choices that allow them to make decisions for themselves.

Fives can sit and work at quiet activities for fifteen to twenty minutes at a time, particularly tasks with concrete objects such as counting cubes or building blocks. They enjoy reading aloud, alone or with a partner, and having books read to them. Practice in writing letters and numbers is helpful to them, as are opportunities to try new things with support from an adult.

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# TYPICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF 6-Year-Olds

## PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Six-year-olds are full of energy, enthusiasm, and excitement about the world. They work in spurts and tire easily, and are prone to frequent illnesses and absences. They are more aware of their fingers as tools—for example, to count on—but are still sometimes clumsy and need to slow down and practice to achieve desired results. Children at this age are teething, so they often chew on pencils, fingernails, or other objects.



## SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Sixes are ambitious and anxious to do well. They thrive on encouragement and are extremely sensitive to criticism. Highly competitive, sixes can be poor sports or dishonest, and competition over friendships can lead them to be bossy or critical of peers. Other forms of acting out, such as tantrums and complaining, can be a way to test adult authority.

Nevertheless, sixes have a tremendous capacity for enjoyment. They care a great deal about their friends and enjoy working and playing in groups. They delight in surprises and enjoy explaining things and sharing about things they like, often using boisterous and enthusiastic language. They also like doing things for themselves and are ready for more individual responsibility.

## ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT

Curious and excited to learn, sixes produce a great quantity of work but are less concerned with quality. Sixes love discovery, new ideas, and asking questions, and are best supported by adults who value their efforts and encourage risk-taking. They are generally comfortable with a busy level of noise and activity while they work.

Artistic sixes love to color, draw, and paint, and may choose these techniques to express their thoughts. They will thrive on opportunities to take field trips, experiment with different media, use new tools, and practice newly learned techniques. Their pencil grasp is improving, though their handwriting may be rushed and sloppy. They do well learning math through measuring objects, working with manipulatives, and completing simple worksheets.

# Is my child eligible for kindergarten?

Due to a new state law, children will now need to be **5 years of age as of the first day of school, August 12, 2026**, for the upcoming school year to be eligible for kindergarten. This is a change from previous years.

Please contact our Enrollment Center at enrollment@uaschools.org by email or 614-487-7676 Ext. 1105 for eligibility requirements, documentation, and any next steps related to enrollment.

# Kindergarten Registration

- Kindergarten registration opens on **Tuesday, February 17th @ 9am**
    - Begin the registration process at www.uaschools.org/kindergarten.aspx.
    - Students must be 5 yrs. old on the first day of school (AUG. 12th)
    - We encourage families to complete the process in the February 17th-March 19th window for staffing & planning purposes
- After completing the online registration forms, you will be prompted to upload:
    - birth certificate, Proof of residency, custody papers (if applicable) & immunization records

# Kindergarten Screening & Placement

- Our kindergarten screenings will be held in August, prior to school starting.
  - Your child's principal will contact you with more information.
  - Screenings we will be conducted by a team of educators.
  - Kindergarten teacher placement will be sent to families after screening
- Our nurses may complete vision and hearing screenings.
- Our SLPs will complete a speech screening.
- The goal of kindergarten screening is to provide academic, physical, social and emotional information about each student to the school team to create balanced classes.  This information will also be used as baseline data to help support our instruction.

# SACC (School-Age Child Care)

- The SACC program is designed to be a link between school and home for elementary students in Upper Arlington School District.
- Hours of operation are from 2:50-6:00 p.m. on school days.
- Tuition is available on our website at www.uaschools.org under students & Family, click on School–Age Child Care.



**REGISTRATION FOR NEW FAMILIES BEGINS ON**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 31ST THROUGH FRIDAY, APRIL 10TH.**

# Nurse's Notes

- Janice Walsh, Licensed School Nurse
- UA clinics are staffed with all RNs
- Complete Immunization record required by Ohio Revised Code - Ohio Immunization Summary for School Attendance
- Special health concerns (e.g. asthma, severe food allergy, etc.) - please share during registration process!
- Prescription medication administration needs? Health Office and Forms
- Please reach out with questions! jlwalsh@uaschools.org or wickliffehealthclinic@uaschools.org


WICKLIFFE PTO
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# Wickliffe PTO

- Ways we support students, families & teachers:
  - K- Family Meet Up
  - Teacher grants
  - After school discovery (ASD)
  - Grade-level experiences/field trips
  - Organization of family events
- Wickliffe PTO Website
- Jesse Juett and Andrea Porter
- wickliffepto@gmail.com

# Other Important Information

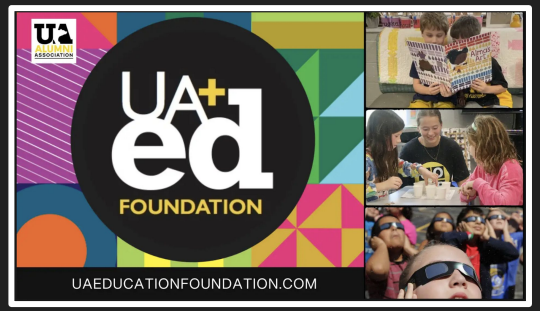
- **First day of school:** August 12th & 13th are “Getting To Know You Days” your child will have the opportunity to come with a smaller group of students to get to know their teacher and the building. First day for all K students to be together will be August 14th. (Your child’s first day will be emailed to you with teacher placement in early August)

- Full school year calendar is available on our website at www.uaschools.org/calendars.aspx.

- **District Frequently Asked Questions (Lunch, SACC, Busing, etc)**

**Important Websites**

- Wickliffe Website & Resources
- UA Registration Page
- About Kindergarten Readiness
- 2024-2025 District Calendar



# What our students LOVE about Wickliffe!




- Please fill out the above survey

# Want To Know More About Progressive Education?

Scan the QR code to watch these testimonials from parents, students, and staff.