

☀️ Welcome to Preschool! ☀️



2026–2027 School Year

Dear Early Childhood Families,

Welcome to the 2026–2027 school year! We are so excited to welcome your child and family to our Inclusive Preschool Program. We look forward to a year filled with learning, growth, friendships, and fun.

Our team is honored to be part of your child's early learning journey, and we are committed to creating a safe, nurturing, and engaging environment where every child can thrive.

Your Child's Classroom

We are pleased to share that your child will be enrolled in:

PM Preschool Session

Teacher: Ms. Hillary Johnson

Preschool Schedule

School Days

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday

Wednesdays are non-student days and are reserved for screenings, assessments, conferences, and staff training.

Session Times

AM Session: 9:10 AM – 11:40 AM

PM Session: 1:10 PM – 3:40 PM



Meet Our Early Childhood Team

- **Randi Fielding** – ECSE Principal
 - **Hillary Johnson** – Itinerant Early Childhood Teacher & PM Classroom Teacher
 - **Denise Knopp** – Speech Language Pathologist
 - **Laurie Elgren** – Paraprofessional
 - **Karen May** – Paraprofessional
 - **Clair Cullen** – Paraprofessional
 - **Kara Ashpole** – Occupational Therapist
 - **Nicole Nelson** – Physical Therapist
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Transportation Information

If your child receives transportation services, the Transportation Department can help with questions about bus routes or schedules.

Transportation Services: 206-236-3335

Additional information can be found on the Mercer Island School District website.



Drop-Off & Pick-Up Information

Drop-off and pick-up take place in the **bus loop located behind Northwood Elementary School.**

If your child is not riding the bus:

- Please arrive on time for both arrival and dismissal.
- Pull forward as far as possible in the bus loop.

- Be mindful not to block buses entering or exiting.

Thank you for helping us keep arrival and dismissal safe and efficient for all students.

Northwood Elementary Information

Visitor Sign-In

For the safety of all students, any parent or visitor entering the building must:

1. Check in at the front office.
2. Obtain a visitor badge before entering school areas.

Health & Attendance

Please follow Mercer Island School District guidelines regarding illness and school attendance. Keeping sick children home helps maintain a healthy learning environment for everyone.

We encourage families to continue practicing healthy habits such as:

- Frequent handwashing
 - Covering coughs and sneezes
 - Monitoring symptoms when illness occurs
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Please Send With Your Child

✓ Backpack

✓ Water bottle

✓ Daily snack

(Please send snacks that do not require refrigeration or heating unless arrangements have been made with the teacher.)

✓ One or two extra snacks to keep in your child's cubby

✓ A complete change of clothes

(Extra coat, socks, and shoes are optional but appreciated.)

✓ Diapers and wipes, if needed

✓ A family photo

(Email or printed copy for our classroom Family Wall.)

Reporting Absences

If your child will be absent, please:

Call the Absence Hotline: 206-275-5879

AND

Email your child's teacher so we know they will be out.



2026–2027 Preschool Calendar

Date	Event
August 31	First Day of Preschool
September 7	Labor Day – No School
October 8–9	Staff Professional Development – No School
November 11	Veterans Day – No School
November 20	Half Day (ECSE Class in Session; No PM Community Preschool)
November 23–25	Preschool Conferences – No School
November 26	Thanksgiving – No School
November 27	Native American Heritage Day – No School
December 21 – January 1	Winter Break – No School
January 4	School Resumes
January 18	Martin Luther King Jr. Day – No School

January 25	Staff Professional Development – No School
February 15–19	Mid-Winter Break – No School
March 19	Staff Professional Development – No School
March 26	Scheduled Weather Makeup Day
April 12–16	Spring Break – No School
May 28	Scheduled Weather Makeup Day
May 31	Memorial Day – No School
June 15	Last Day of Preschool

We Can't Wait to Meet You!

Thank you for allowing us to be part of your child's educational journey. We are excited to partner with your family and create a wonderful year filled with learning, laughter, growth, and memorable experiences.

If you have any questions before the school year begins, please don't hesitate to reach out.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Warmly,

Ms. Hillary Johnson
and the MISD Early Childhood Team