WELCOME TO PRE-K

Please fill out the paperwork in the "Bring Back" side of your child's folder in their cubby!

TEACHERS

Teacher: Mrs. Garofolo

Assistant: Mrs. Bender

PRE K SCHEDULE

Pre-K	
9:15-9:30	Morning Meeting
9:30-11:00	ELA/ S.S. & Rotations
11:00-11:30	Lunch
11:30-12:00	Recess
12:00-1:05	Math
1:05-1:35	Rest
1:35-2:15	Science
2:15-2:45	Special Areas
2:50-3:25	Stations
3:25-3:30	Pack Up
3:30-3:45	Closure

MORNING ROUTINE

- Arrival: During this time, students will unpack their backpacks and take out their lunch boxes and water bottles. After unpacking, certain students may go to the cafeteria for breakfast. Students not eating breakfast will play in the classroom until the bell rings.
- Students begin **arriving** in class between 8:45 and 9:00. Instruction begins promptly at 9:15. If you are transporting your child, be sure your child has enough time to complete their morning tasks. Bus riding is encouraged. Students who are not in their homeroom by 9:15 will be marked "tardy".
- Each day students will choose their lunch which is either a hot lunch or cold lunch. This will be in addition to their lunch from home.

ELA

- Alphabetic Knowledge
- Concepts about Print
- Phonemic Awareness
- Letter Formation
- Reading
- Rhyming
- Comprehension



MATH

- Unit 1: Shape Attributes, Sorting and Patterns
- Unit 2: Numbers to 5
- Unit 3: Geometry
- Unit 4: Decomposing within 5
- Unit 5: Measurement
- Unit 6: Numbers to 10



SCIENCE AND SOCIAL STUDIES

Science

- Colors
- Shadows
- Sounds
- Ramps
- Plants
- Water

Social Studies

- Rules
- Conflict and Compromise
- Freedom
- Place
- Movement
- Choice

LEARNING STATIONS

Self-directed, interactive, small groups

- Imagination Station
- Construction Station
- Exploration Station
- Problem-Solving Station
- Communication Station
- Creation Station
- Science Station



DRESSING FOR PRE-K

- During Pre-K we will explore a lot of different supplies like paint, markers and playdoh. Students will get messy.
- Please make sure your child is dressed to participate in all activities. This means we recommend not sending them to school in clothes you want to keep clean.
- Please send an extra pair of clothes on the first day of school (shirt, pants or shorts, socks, underwear) in case of accidents. Make sure they are labeled.
- We will be outside for recess as long as it is not raining and the temperature is above freezing. Make sure your child has appropriate clothing to be outside in the weather (jackets, mittens, hats, etc).

FROM THE HEALTH ROOM

- If your child has a fever, vomiting or diarrhea they must stay home for 24 hours after symptoms subside.
- Your child cannot have any medicine in their backpack. Please contact Mrs. Yetman if your child requires medication.
- Any notes from the nurse will be sent home in your child's Dalmatian folder, please check it regularly and return any necessary paperwork promptly.

HOMEWORK CALENDAR

- Each month you will receive a homework calendar. Please complete the activities with your child daily.
- After completing the activity, color the box.
- At the end of each month, turn in the homework calendar. I will return it with a sticker.
- The purpose of the calendar is to give your child extra practice at home and a chance for you to see how much they are learning.

LUNCH AND SNACK



- Lunch is 30 minutes in the Cafeteria. Link for menus is here: https://carrollk12.nutrislice.com/menu/piney-ridge-elementary
- Our class has their own table.
- Nut-Free Table is available upon coordination with the school nurse as nut products are allowed for lunch.
- Packers: Containers should be easy for your child to open. Pack food that can be eaten within the time slot. There are no refrigerators or microwaves for student use.
- Snack: Snack should be small, nonperishable and able to be eaten in 10 minutes or less. No messy snacks (ex: Cheetos). Snacks need to be nut free and free of candy.
- Lunches are free for students in Pre-K so we send all students through the line. Let us know if you do not want them to go through the line.
- If your child has any dietary restrictions, please make us aware.
- If possible, please wait a month or two into the school year before you have lunch with your child. This will give them time to acclimate to their routine here and reduce distress when you leave. If you plan to have lunch with your child, you will need to sign into the office with a government issued form of ID.

REST TIME

- During this 30 minute period, your child will be required to stay on their assigned cot and lay quietly.
- A small blanket can be sent on Mondays the students backpack.
- We will send the blankets home on every other Friday for you to wash and return the following Monday.

BATHROOM

- We strive to ensure all students are fully independent in the bathroom by the time they enter kindergarten.
- If your child has an accident, we can help with changing clothes but will work with them to be independent in dressing themselves as well.
- If your child does have an accident, you will receive an email, and the clothes will come home in their backpack.

SPECIALS

Students will participate in one 30-minute special outside of the classroom everyday.

Week Day	Special
Monday	Music
Tuesday	Art
Wednesday	P.E. (Sneakers on P.E. days)
Thursday	P.E. (Sneakers on P.E. days)
Friday	Health

DISMISSAL

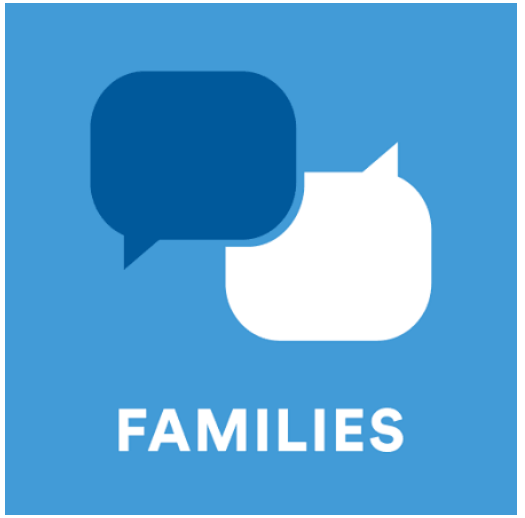
- Students and teachers will work together to pack up students belongings.
- Please make sure students have their bus tags for the entire school year on their backpack This is a CCPS direction and will help other staff members in the building identify your child as a PreK student.
- Students should wear their red luggage tag on their backpack for the entire year.
- Dismissal begins at 3:45.
- Minimal changes to students' dismissal is strongly recommended.
- Changes are required in writing. All changes can be sent to Mrs. Garofolo by talking points and email PREAttendance@carrollk12.org no later than 2:30pm.

DROP OFF AND PICK UP

- Walkers:
  - Walkers will be dismissed from the back of the school behind our Pre-K classroom. Please bring ID to pick up your child.
- Car Riders:
  - Expect the car rider lines to be long. The drop-off line begins at 8:40, to ensure that staff are able to park. The office sends an email to parents about the car rider line, please reach out to them if you did not receive this.
  - Keep goodbyes brief when you are unloading your child. This will help keep the line flowing and reduce distress for your child.
  - Expect the pickup line to be time-consuming in the beginning of the year. This is often because staff members are checking ID's and verifying children's transportation with the office.
- Bus Riders:
  - Children begin boarding the bus at the start of dismissal. It is very important that you are at your child's bus stop, because the bus driver cannot let a PreK student off the bus without an adult present. If you are going to be late to your bus stop, please call the office so they can be aware. If an adult is not present to pick up at the bus stop, the bus will return to school and you will pick up from the office.
  - In the beginning of the year, it is typical for the bus to arrive several minutes after the scheduled time. It takes time for everyone to settle into the new routine, and you can expect that it will improve as the year continues. It's still best to arrive early and wait!

CONTACT

- This year we will be using an app called Talking Points to communicate. Announcements and messages regarding your child will be sent through this app and you can communicate with me through it as well.
- In order to receive these messages throughout the year, you must download the app. Please download the app that says, "Talking Points Families".
- I can also respond through email but using the app will allow for clearer and quicker responses.
- I also HIGHLY recommend turning on notifications.



OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARENT INVOLVEMENT

- Join the PTA! You do not have to attend meetings or volunteer to be a member.
  - website: Piney Ridge Elementary PTA
  - facebook page: PTA facebook page
- Dalmatian Dash is a "fun run" event that you will be able to attend and watch your child run. More information will come out about this later.
- American Education Week is in November; it is an opportunity for parents to come and observe the classroom and see what their children are learning. More information will come from both me and the office at a later date.
- Field Day is in the spring. It is held outdoors, and parents can watch their children participate in fun physical activities. You will hear more about this in the spring.

BEFORE THE FIRST DAY

- Please be sure to fill out the **emergency card** that you received today, and return it to the teacher. Remember to sign it.
- **Backpacks** and **Dalmatian folders** should be checked and emptied daily.
- Please **label** backpacks, lunch boxes, jackets, etc.
- **Extra clothing** should be sent in a labeled baggie on the first day of school (seasonal/growth appropriate).

WHAT TO BRING FOR THE FIRST DAY

- Set of backup clothes.
- Their Dalmatian Folder. Please check this folder daily and keep it in their backpack. This is our way to send things home to you.
- Completed paperwork inside the folder. We will get the forms to the office.
- A water bottle. We recommend a reusable one that you wash frequently. We can help them refill it. This bottle will be for water only, please no juice, gatorade, kool-aid, lemonade, etc.
- A lunch (OPTIONAL). We plan to have all students go through the school lunch line, even if they have a lunchbox from home. Please see the slide about lunch for more info.
- A small blanket for rest time.

NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFICATION

- I am currently working toward earning my national board certification. This is an opportunity for me to grow professionally and become a better teacher.
- There is a letter in your child dalmatian folder along with a permission slip. Part of this process requires video recording of lessons along with samples of student work. These videos are used for professional development of other teachers but are not shared anywhere else.
- Please take time before you leave or at home to fill out and sign the permission slip under the "Parent/legal guardian" section. If you need help, I am available for questions.

WHAT NOW?

- We will be here to answer any questions you may have about Pre-K
- Take this time to finish filling out the forms in your child's dalmatian folder on the "bring back" side