

Dear Families,

Welcome to Kindergarten! We are looking forward to welcoming you into our classroom in just a few short months! Until then, we hope you have a relaxing and safe summer. In Kindergarten, one of our goals is providing a literacy rich environment, which promotes a love of reading. Please find time to read for enjoyment this summer. We have attached a reading list of books your kindergartener might enjoy. Additionally, if you would like to prepare for the upcoming school year, we are recommending students become familiar with the following academic and social skills prior to the start of school. At Westerly, we remain dedicated to meeting each student where they are both academically and socially, and believe an introduction to some of these skills will help students feel successful as they begin their kindergarten journey. Thank you in advance for your involvement. I am looking forward to our partnership!

Sincerely,
Perri Wolfe

Kindergarten Summer Read-Aloud List

The following recommended read aloud books will help to instill language, expression, comprehension of text, and a love of literature. Please feel free to enjoy these suggestions with your children over the summer.

- *A Family is a Family is a Family* (Sarah O'Leary)
- *All Are Welcome* (Alexandra Penfold)
- *Chrysanthemum* (Kevin Henkes)
- *Elephant and Piggie Series* (Mo Willems)
- *I Am Enough* (Grace Byers)
- *Our Class is Family* (Shannon Olsen)
- *Nothing Rhymes With Orange* (Adam Rex)
- *Spaghetti in a Hotdog Bun* (Maria Dismondy)
- *The Girl Who Never Makes Mistakes* (Gary Rubinstein and Mark Pett)
- *The Proudest Blue* (S.K. Ali)
- *Your Name is a Song* (Jamilah Thompkins-Bigelow)

Social Skills

- Bathroom independence
- Hand Washing
- Taking Turns
- Tying Shoes

Academic Skills

- Phonemic Awareness
 - This is the ability to identify and manipulate individual sounds in spoken words and having the ability to segment and blend.
- Phonological Awareness
 - This is the ability to identify rhymes, syllables, onsets and rimes.
- Letter Names
 - This is being able to identify both capital and lower case letters and name them.
- Print Awareness
 - Understanding that written language is related to oral language. Have an understanding that English words are read from left to right. Have the ability to track print across multiple lines. And have one to one word tracking correspondence.
- Letter Sounds
 - This is having the ability to provide the sounds made by each letter in the alphabet.
- Writing first names with appropriate capitalization
 - Having the ability to write their first name starting with a capital and writing subsequent letters in lowercase.
- One-to-one correspondence
 - This is the act of counting each object in a set once, and only once with one touch per object.
- Counting and Cardinality
 - Having the ability to count to 20 and identify and count sets of objects up to 10.
- Subitizing
 - Having the ability to recognize the number of objects in a small group without the need to count them.