

PARENT CONNECTION

March 2018

Kids "R" Kids of West Houston
"The First Step to Higher Education"
Home of Oscar, our Ocelot

New Homework & Uniforms for Preschool Families, March Events

Featured Family, STEM Spotlight,
March Birthday Celebrators, Your Child's Brain Development

March Calendar of Activities

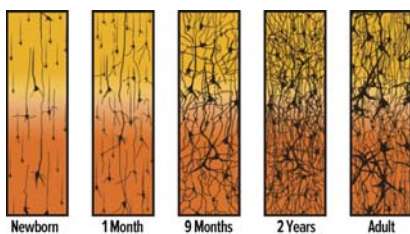


Maximize Your Preschool Investment with Us: The Next Steps

DID YOU KNOW?

In the first three years, a child's brain has up to twice as many synapses (connections for learning) as it will have in adulthood?

Here is a quick visual to inspire your part in your child's brain development.



Fact: Between conception and age three, a child's brain undergoes an impressive amount of change. At birth, it already has about all of the neurons it will ever have. It doubles its size in the first year, and by age three it has reached 80 percent of its adult volume.

Even more importantly, synapses (or connections for learning) are formed at a faster rate during these years at any other time. In fact, the brain creates many more of them than it needs: at age two or three, the brain has up to twice as many synapses as it will have in adulthood.

So this is powerful piece of evidence to drive our instruction in the way we educate our youngest learners. You have a part in this development, too. Take your next step by asking about your homework folder and your family connection information. Take part in this part of your child...the early years matter!

Uniforms to be Implemented Soon...why?

In order to create a structured learning environment and maximize the learning atmosphere through parent engagement, we are interested in an updated dress code policy to include uniforms for your child's class.

According to the experts, pros outweigh cons when deciding uniform for preschool. It is our belief that when students wear uniforms, there is an increased sense of community and pride in our school. Helping to build a sense of community within the school, uniforms create an atmosphere of belonging. This essence of **unity** can positively effect a child's attitude toward school and can lead to better learning. *A child excited about school is a child ready to learn!*

Overall, the uniform policy will contribute to the productivity of the learning environment. A few other benefits include:

Uniforms eliminate the need to argue over what to wear to school everyday. Through simplicity, uniforms promote time efficiency, organization, and neatness. Parents and students agree that getting the morning off right is the key to a productive and happy day.

School uniforms encourage individual self-expression in meaningful ways. With uniforms, students find ways to express themselves creatively, rather than through their clothes - through the arts, music, sports, personality and academic achievement. A unique individual is developed not from appearance, but rather, intellect, personality and skills.

We are excited to launch this new dress code for our school. We will be sending you surveys on how to best implement the launch date as well as ordering information.



- Dr. Seuss' Birthday Celebration
Week of February 26 through March 2
- Winter Progress Reports, Friday, March 9
- Rockin' Around the World!
Spring Break for School Ageds
- Rodeo Activities & Reading Round Up
March 19-23
- Eggs-travaganza Activities (no hunt)
Thursday, March 29
- Professional Development Day (School Closed)
Friday, March 30

New Homework that Benefit Children and Families

Look for New Blue Homework Folder each week in Preschool Classes 300- 600. For this month of March and beyond, we invite our preschool families to take part in a new structure in place for their benefit. Just like our parents go to work everyday, our students come to school to do their work.

This is important to view our preschool with this mindset in order to receive the most benefits of our program. Parents and families that take hold of this concept will engage in the learning goals at home *and* at school. When this happens, the students captures more opportunities to acquire new knowledge because of the expectation that is founded in the families commitment to homework activities, as well as participation in school events.

Homework activities are based on age and developmentally appropriate learning goals, and the homework assignments are simple. We encourage the families to participate in reading for 20 minutes each day as research has shown that this is critical to their acquisition of literacy skills.



Meet our Feature Family, The Youngs



This family, Xuan Anh and Nick Young, along with their daughter, Mikayla came to our school early last year. They brought with them an expectation of partnership and learning for their whole family. We notice their engagement on a daily basis seeking out their next stage of development to pursue alongside us. They do this through conversations with teachers and management, as well as participating in homework from the family connection letters and weekly email. Mikayla receives the benefits of this partnership and we are so excited to honor that by showcasing their family! Here is what the Youngs have to say about their experience with us.....

“We have truly been blessed to be a part of the Kids R Kids community that has nurtured, loved, and taught our baby girl, Mikayla, since she was 6 months old. All the staff and teachers are extremely friendly, loving, and personal to each student at the school that it feels like going to an extended

family’s place. It’s such a wonderful, warm feeling to see how much Mikayla has grown in the past year and how much she has enjoyed going to school. Each morning, she waves bye and runs into her classroom and doesn’t want to go home at the end of the day.

Mikayla has had many wonderful, nurturing, and loving teachers at KRK. In room 150, Mikayla was very loved and encouraged to be independent and she learned to sit, enjoyed being read stories, self-fed, crawled, and walked by the time she was 10 months old! Mikayla’s moved up to Ms. Aileen and Ms. Nancy’s classroom 200 where she enjoyed her new classroom routines and activities, especially outdoor times. So far, Mikayla has learned to feed herself with a spoon/fork, participated longer at circle times, writing with a pencil/marker, and follow simple instructions. It amazed us how many teachers know Mikayla at her school, it is the sweetest thing to see her gives hugs to the teachers she has not seen in a few days. We love that she gets to interact with many of her peers as well as adults throughout her days at school.

In addition, we love that KRK’s staff encourages and supports a strong partnership with parents in teaching and raising our baby. We enjoy reading the weekly classroom news update to see what Mikayla will be learning the next week and the sign language word of the week. In some way, us parents are still learning along with our kid.”

You can read more about this family on the display in the lobby. Thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Young!

We Take Preschool Seriously...continued from page 1

Children learn to read by what they learn with us as early as our infant and toddler rooms, and then in preschool, the print experiences and sensory activities come together for success in decoding new words. For our busy families, older siblings can be assigned to the read aloud if this helps to put it in practice.

The most important part is a learner sitting in a lap and being read to begin the love of reading. This is on the homework daily for this reason.

The other assignments are given to encourage interactions between family and child to prompt the word of the week and for families to inspire application of learning goals. For a two year old, it might be count-

ing aloud to 10 together.

For a three to four year old, it may be to say aloud the first sound in your name. “/S/ for Sarah.” Then, look around your house and find 5 objects with the same beginning sound. Take a sticky note and write a letter S and allow your student to attach the letter S note to that item.

“I think it’s totally reasonable,” shares one mother of two. “It starts the homework habit early and gets the parents involved. Also, it helps the parents to know what they are learning during the day so they can reinforce it at home.”

“My son gets little homework assignments and I think it’s fun and involves us at home in his learning projects at school,” explains another mom of two. “Usually it involves him cutting pictures out of a magazine for their color books or bringing in something, like leaves. I think it sets them up to know that someone from home can help them with their work.”

Being involved in your child’s education starts from the day they are born, and it doesn’t stop when they go



Happy Birthday

Date	Names	Class
03/02	Sebastian S.	Gym
03/02	Skylar S.	Gym
03/06	Daniel A.	350
03/07	Asher F.	250A
03/08	Sophia R.	Gym
03/10	Grace G.	Gym
03/10	Jaanav M.	550
03/11	Sofia L.	Gym
03/13	Addison M.	500
03/16	Ms. Miranda S.	150
03/17	Angelica W.	400
03/17	A.J. W.	Gym
03/18	Mikaela N.	400
03/19	Diego E.	250A
03/19	Kyle A.	500
03/21	Ryan B.	AP
03/21	Ms. Angel B.	500
03/22	Jaydon E.	Gym
03/22	Ms. Wendy A.	150
03/24	Abigail G.	Gym
03/25	Ares L.	150
03/27	Ms. Arenit J.	150
03/29	Alexander S.	Gym
03/31	Alexandra G.	500



Rain Clouds in a Jar, March 5-9
Squishy Balls, March 12-16
Bug Fossils, March 19-23
Sink & Float, March 26-30

to Kindergarten. Parent involvement is critical when it comes to your child’s success. Your precious child is learning important social skills, classroom structure and how to be a good student — in addition to beginning academic skills. Having — and continuing to have — an interest in her schooling is a good habit for parents to practice. This also helps you be prepared to support your child throughout her education.

"EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE" KIDS R KIDS WEST HOUSTON "THE FIRST STEP TO HIGHER EDUCATION"

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>5</p> <p>Technology: 150, 250A, & 450 HATCH: 550 Spanish: 200 & 250A <i>Soccer Shots Day</i></p>	<p>6</p> <p>Technology: 250B, 300, 200 Spanish : 350 HATCH Tech: 600, AP S.T.E.M Time: 450, 550, 600 <i>Dance Adventures Day</i></p>	<p>7</p> <p>Technology: 350, 500, 600 Spanish: 300, 450 & 600 HATCH Tech: 450 <i>Soccer Shots Day</i></p>	<p>8</p> <p>S.T.E.M Time: 400, 500, AP Spanish: 500 & 550 Technology: 550 & 400 HATCH: 500</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Spanish: 250B, 400 & AP Show & Tell: 400-600 HATCH Tech: 350 & 400 Technology: 400, 550</p>
<p>Classroom Themes: <i>What Flies? (100-250); Puffy, Fluffy Clouds (300-350); Wonderful Wind and Weather (400-450); Feathers for Lunch (500-600); Water: Reuse, Reduce, Recycle (AP)</i></p> <p>Literacy Features: <i>The Little Airplane by Lois Lenski, Little Cloud by Eric Carle, The Rain Came Down by David Shannon, Feathers for Lunch by Lois Ehlert, I am Water by Jean Marzollo</i></p>				
<p>12</p> <p>Technology: 150, 250A, & 450 HATCH: 550 Spanish: 200 & 250A <i>Soccer Shots Day</i></p>	<p>13</p> <p>Technology: 250B, 300, 200 Spanish : : 350 HATCH Tech: 600, AP S.T.E.M Time: 450, 550, 600 <i>Dance Adventures Day</i></p>	<p>14</p> <p>Technology: 350, 500, 600 Spanish: 300, 450 & 600 HATCH Tech: 450 <i>Soccer Shots Day</i></p>	<p>15</p> <p>S.T.E.M Time: 400, 500, AP Spanish: 500 & 550 Technology: 550 & 400 HATCH: 500</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Spanish: 250B, 400 & AP Show & Tell: 400-600 Special Snack: 500, 550, & 600 HATCH Tech: 350 & 400 Technology: 400, 550</p>
<p>Classroom Themes: <i>Raindrops and Rainbows (100-250); Starlight, Star Bright (300-350); Sky Travelers (400-450); Springtime on the Farm (500-600)</i></p> <p>Literacy Features: <i>The Rain Came Down by David Shannon, Our Stars by Anne Rockwell, The Little Airplane by Lois Lenski, Big Red Barn by Margaret Wise Brown</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Spring Break for School Agers</p>				
<p>19</p> <p>Technology: 150, 250A, & 450 HATCH: 550 Spanish: 200 & 250A <i>Soccer Shots Day</i></p>	<p>20</p> <p>Technology: 250B, 300, 200 Spanish : : 350 HATCH Tech: 600, AP S.T.E.M Time: 450, 550, 600 <i>Dance Adventures Day</i></p>	<p>21</p> <p>Technology: 350, 500, 600 Spanish: 300, 450 & 600 HATCH Tech: 450, <i>Soccer Shots Day</i> <i>Annual Chili Cook Off 3-6 pm</i></p>	<p>22</p> <p>S.T.E.M Time: 400, 500, AP Spanish: 500 & 550 Technology: 550 & 400 HATCH: 500</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Spanish: 250B, 400 & AP Show & Tell: 400-600 Special Snack: 500, 550, & 600 Technology: 400, 550 <i>Wild West Petting and Pony Rides Zoo 2-5 pm</i></p>
<p>Classroom Themes: <i>Goodnight Stars (100- 250); Great Day for Up! (300-350); Starlight, Star Bright (400-450); Pond Changes (500-600); Airport (AP)</i></p> <p>Literacy Features: <i>Our Stars by Anne Rockwell, Pete the Cat and His Magic Sunglasses by James Dean, Our Stars by Anne Rockwell, In the Small, Small Pond by Denise Fleming, Airport by Byron Barton</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Spring Rodeo Activities and Reading Round Up Book Fair</p>				
<p>26</p> <p>Technology: 150, 250A, & 450 HATCH: 550 Spanish: 200 & 250A <i>Soccer Shots Day</i></p>	<p>27</p> <p>Technology: 250B, 300, 200 Spanish : : 350 HATCH Tech: 600, AP S.T.E.M Time: 450, 550, 600 <i>Dance Adventures Day</i></p>	<p>28</p> <p>Technology: 350, 500, 600 Spanish: 300, 450 & 600 HATCH Tech: 450, <i>Soccer Shots Day</i></p>	<p>29</p> <p>S.T.E.M Time: 400, 500, AP Spanish: 500 & 550 Technology: 550 & 400 HATCH: 500 <i>Egg-Stravaganza Activities</i></p>	<p>30</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>School Closed for Good Friday & Staff Professional Development Day</i></p>
<p>Classroom Themes: <i>Jungle Friends (100-250); My Furry Friends (300-350); Put Me in the Zoo (400-450); Oscar and the Frog (500-600); Famous Pilots (AP)</i></p> <p>Literacy Features: <i>Starry Safari by Linda Ashman, The Umbrella by Jan Brett, Put Me in the Zoo by Dr. Seuss, Oscar and the Frog by Geoff Waring, I am Amelia Earhart by Brad Meltzer</i></p>				