

2018-2019: Welcome Pacific Preschool Families!

On **Wednesday, August 22**, Pacific Elementary School and Preschool will begin the new school year. This first day of Preschool is a very exciting and important time. We begin our day at 8:30am with free choice "jobs" and finish our day at 12:30pm. In an effort to create a smooth end-of-day transition, we strongly suggest you be here at 12:15pm to pick up your child since parking is a challenge and we have stringent Sign-Out rules required by the state.

You will find our daily schedule on the back of this welcome letter. Your co-teachers, Stacey Reynolds and Martha Gagnier, and our bilingual aide, Julia Valle, look forward to meeting and interacting with your children. This is the beginning of their educational journey and we will have lots of fun playing, learning, and getting to know each other.

For those families who are having their very first day of Preschool, we have found that quick, short goodbyes are best for young children. If you feel your child needs a bit more time, pick a transitional activity, like a puzzle or book, and before you start, let your child know you will be leaving when you are finished with this specific activity. Let them know you will be back shortly, after story-time at the end of the day. We are all surprised by how fast the time goes.

Volunteering is an important part of our program. The first month of school, we ask that all parents be patient and let your children get to know their teachers. We want them to be comfortable in their new environment and turn to us for help. Then in October, we will put out a volunteer sign-up sheet. We hope to see lots of parents signing up to help at that time. Volunteering is a valuable educational tool for everyone in the family.

On **Tuesday, August 21, from 9-10am**, we will have a **classroom preview**, specifically for children who have not been to the classroom or met their teachers, or for children needing a quick check-in to get ready for their first day. *Please make sure to turn in all your paperwork by that day (found on our website: <https://www.pacificesd.org/preschool-forms.html>) and especially your ONLINE Emergency Form.* You will receive reminders and links in the digital school memo in August—are you subscribed? Check with Molly in the office to be sure!

Pacific Preschool has a family potluck on Back-to-School night, Wednesday, September 12. We do this from **5-6pm**, and everyone in the family is welcome; it's a great time to meet your children's peers and their families. That evening, we will pass out an age-specific *ASQ, Ages and Stages Questionnaire*. Part of Pacific Preschool's funding comes from our compliance in having each family fill this out. We will also have a *Raising a Reader* consent form to be signed. This is a favorite library program where the children get a book bag to take home every other week.

There will be a **Principal Coffee on the first day of school, Wednesday, August 22, from 9-10am**. This will be an opportunity to meet other families and learn more about Pacific Elementary School. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Sincerely,

Teachers Stacey Reynolds, Martha Gagnier, and Julia Valle

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PACIFIC PRESCHOOL Daily Schedule

- 8:30 a.m.** Classroom opens for arrival
Greet children
Table jobs
Free Choice
- 9:15 a.m.** Inside/Outside time (Free Choice)
Continue table jobs and activities
Sandbox/water play
- 9:20 a.m.** Small group activities
Read aloud/ Literacy skills
Fine motor skill practice
- 10:15 a.m.** Clean up
- 10:20 a.m.** Circle time
- 10:40 a.m.** Wash hands
Transition to lunchroom for prepared snack
- 11:00 a.m.** Clean up snack
- 11:05 a.m.** Outside time in the big yard
- 11:45 a.m.** Inside for drink of water
Puzzle Time
- 12:10 p.m.** Large Group story time
- 12:15 p.m.** Sign-Out by parents, with full name
Good-bye handshake