

Robert O. Hastings
Superintendent

480 Marshburn Drive
P.O. Drawer 129
Bronson, FL 32621-0129



Phone (352) 486-5231
Fax (352) 486-5237

Pre-K Newsletter
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I have been hearing wonderful things about each of the classrooms. It sounds like a lot of learning is going on.

Some of the classrooms have had students leave and new students start. If you choose to withdraw your child from the classroom, either to transfer to another school or to keep him/her at home, please give the teachers a few days notice and sign the attendance form. If the form is not signed, I will have a difficult time submitted those days attended to the state. I would also appreciate the opportunity to talk with you before withdrawing about any problems or concerns you have that relate to your child leaving the classroom.

In the first newsletter I mentioned that I will be monitoring absences. I have noticed that some students have quite a few absences, which were related to the flu. Now that the number of students with the flu has gone down, I can tell that attendance is much better. I will continue to monitor attendance each month and will contact you if I notice a pattern. Remember, it is possible your child could be withdrawn from the program if he or she has too many absences. It is very important to me that your child be in school. Also related to absences is the number of tardies. Please make sure your child is present at the start of each school day. Not only is it disruptive to the classroom in general, being tardy also tells your child school is not important enough to be on time.

Attached to this newsletter is an attendance policy. I should have giving this to all parents at

the beginning of the year when you completed the enrollment paperwork. I did not (it was a requirement I did not know about). I am sending it home now. Please review it, sign and date, and return to your child's teacher. There is no new information that we have not already discussed.

It has taken a while, but the website is finally complete. To access your teacher's newsletter go to the following: www.levy.k12.fl.us
Click on Instructional Programs
Click on Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten
Newsletters and other information are available.

I hope to have a mid-year report for each student that teachers use to let parents know how each student is doing. Teachers are looking at emergent literacy, math, and cognitive skills, as well as social development. As I said previously, I am hearing about some exciting things students are doing in the classrooms.

All classrooms use a specific curriculum for emergent literacy and language skills, and I am looking at various curriculums for math and science. These are skills that have become more important lately. With that being said, I also want to let parents know that developing social skills is also very important. We seem to focus so much on academics that sometimes we forget that children still need to play and socialize. A lot of learning takes place when students can relax and not spend all of class time learning from the teacher.

My goal is to maintain a positive relationship with parents and help make this experience in VPK a happy one. If you have any questions, comments, or problems, please contact me at (352) 486-5477 or email at cuthbes@levy.k12.fl.us

