



PITSCH

EARLY LEARNING CENTER

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2023

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- ★ Oct 9-13: Safety Week
- ★ Oct 9 - Car Seat Clinic
- ★ Oct 13 - Fire Department Visit
- ★ Oct 27 - NO SCHOOL
Fall Break
- ★ Oct 30 & Nov 6
Parent/Teacher
Conferences 3:45-7:30
- ★ Nov 8 : Picture Day

SESSION TIMES

Morning

8:50-9:00 Drop Off/Bus Arrival

11:35 Pick Up/Bus Dismissal

Afternoon

12:40 – 12:50 Drop Off/Bus Arrival

3:25 Pick Up/Bus Dismissal

CONTACT US

501 17TH Street South
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

715.424.6779

Press 0 - Secretary Tracy Weiss

Press 1 - Teri Thomas

Press 2 - Report absence

Attendance Line

715.424.6765

Press 2 for elementary schools

Option 8 for Pitsch Early Learning
Center

Bus Companies

Safeway 715.423.1117

(Typically east of Wisconsin River)

Lamers 715.421.2400 opt. 2

(Typically west of Wisconsin River)

Hello Pitsch Families,

Our school year has started off successfully! The students are learning the **routines of the school day**, and are making friendships within their classrooms. The cool, crisp autumn air has brought an excitement and liveliness to the kids while playing at recess.

Now that routines are established, the teachers will introduce pieces of our math program, which is specifically designed for Pre-K students. The program, called *Bridges in Mathematics*, is a **play-based approach to foundational math concepts**. For example, the students will use Play-Doh to shape numerals and create visual representations of the value of the number. The teachers read books that incorporate math skills and teach games to students to reinforce skills. The teachers are excited to use this curriculum with our young learners!

Another piece of the *Bridges in Mathematics* program is a **daily calendar and numeracy practice**, known as Number Corner. The students will learn the concept of *today*, and will use patterning and counting to complete a series of daily activities using the calendar. Look for more information coming from your child's teacher.

What a joy it's been to see the children's smiling faces each day at Pitsch Early Learning Center. Our staff is dedicated to fostering a love of learning with our students. We look forward to another great month together.

We thank you for your partnership!

Kelly Schaeffer, Principal and 4K Director
Teri Thomas, 4K Coordinator and Student Engagement
Facilitator
Tracy Weiss, Secretary
715-424-6779



CREATIVE CORNER

Activities to do at home to support your child's learning.



MOVEMENT

This one is perfect for little learners. After learning what it means to be nocturnal. Tell kids they are going to pretend to be bats. When the lights are on they'll curl up and pretend to be sleeping, and when the lights are off they'll pretend to swoop and soar through the room and "fly" around. Take turns letting kids be in charge of the lights for even more fun.

SING

Spend some time learning and practicing the Itsy Bitsy Spider. Act it out with movements. Then weave in some phonemic awareness by discussing the rhyming words in the song.



"Itsy Bitsy Spider" Lyrics

**The itsy bitsy spider crawled up the water spout.
Down came the rain, and washed the spider out.
Out came the sun, and dried up all the rain,
and the itsy bitsy spider went up the spout again"**

FINE MOTOR

Cut a pumpkin shape from paper. Write child's name on it. Cut it and put together like a puzzle. Name the letters.



SNACK

Have some snack time fun by building spiders for snack. Together brainstorm what would work best for the body and the legs. Then test out a few options.



NOTES FROM THE NURSE



Hi everyone! Hoping your first days back to school have been wonderful and you're all settling in for another fantastic year! :)

A few reminders.....

Care plans for Health Conditions

Emails have been sent with paperwork if your student has been identified as having a health condition (food allergies, lactose intolerance, asthma, allergies to bee stings, seizure disorders, etc.)

Please make sure to fill these out and send them back as soon as possible, this is important to help keep your student safe while at school. If you haven't received an email (make sure to check your junk folder, if this is your first conversation with the nurse), please reach out.

Medications

Students requiring administration of prescription medication at school must have a **PHYSICIAN/ DENTIST ORDERS FOR ADMINISTERING PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION IN SCHOOL** form on file in the nurse's office. This form and additional health forms (seizure, migraine, food allergies, bee allergies) may be found on the WRPS Webpage [here](#). Prescription medications need to be brought in before the first day of school to insure everything is in order. Any medication identified as a controlled substance, such as medication for treatment of ADD/ADHD, anxiety, or pain, must be delivered to the school office by a parent, guardian, or other responsible adult. These medications must be in a pharmacy-labeled container, placed in a sealed envelope, labeled with your child's name, and if in pill form, the number of pills sent.

Medications classified as non-controlled substances, such as antibiotics, eye drops, and inhalers for treatment of asthma, may be sent to school with a student, although we prefer to have them before the first day of school. These medications must be in a pharmacy-labeled container, placed in a sealed envelope, labeled with your child's name, and if in pill form, the number of pills sent.

Elementary school students may not self-administer medications; this includes those purchased over-the-counter. All medications brought to school must be given to the nurse/office staff in the original labeled bottle.

If your student has a known food/bee allergy or history of seizures or migraines, please fill out the health forms that can be found on the WRPS Webpage [here](#) and return to the nurse before the first day of school so our staff can adequately treat your child as needed.

Vaccinations

Students preparing to start school or those going into 6th grade will need to be up to date on their immunizations (see list below). **Instead of waiting until your child's yearly wellness check, you can schedule a "nurse only" visit for needed vaccinations. Children who do not have the required vaccines or waiver on file will be excluded from school after 2 legal notices have been sent.** If you don't plan to immunize your student there is a waiver available that must be filled out and returned before the start of the next school year (You can open the link [here](#)).

Age/Grade Required Immunizations (Number of Doses)

2 years through 4 years

4 DTP/DTaP/DT, 3 Polio, 1 MMR,
1 Var, 3 Hep B, 3 Hib4, 3 PCV5

Kindergarten through grade 6

4 DTP /DTaP/DT/Td1, 4 Polio,
2 MMR, 2 Var3, 3 Hep B

Grade 7 through grade 8

4 DTP/DTaP/DT/Td, 1 Tdap2,
4 Polio, 2 MMR, 2 Var3, 3 Hep B

Grade 9 through grade 12

4 DTP/DTaP/DT/Td, 1 Tdap2, 4 Polio, 2 MMR, 2 Var3, 3 Hep B

PLEASE make sure to turn in any paperwork for your student's vaccinations before October 16th, to avoid exclusion from school!!

COVID Guidelines

Students will just stay home if not feeling well and are unable to participate in class (or if they have a fever). If a fever is present, they should stay home until fever free for 24 hours (without using fever reducing medication). There are no masking stipulations. We are not tracking cases at all.

What is **Bright by Text** ?

Bright by Text is a **free** program for parents & caregivers that sends tips and resources promoting child development, specific to each child's age, right to their cell phone.

92% of parents are more confident as a result of receiving Bright by Text messages.



Bright by Text families have **children** who are on average



ahead of a comparison group in language development.

Feel more prepared & informed with research-based messages about healthy child development, and local messages with resources from United Way of South Wood & Adams Counties.



United Way of South Wood & Adams Counties



Car Seat SAFETY CHECK

Wood Co Health Department will be doing **FREE** car seat safety checks at Pitsch ELC Mon 10/9

Details

When	Monday 10/9 from 11:15-12:45
Where	Pitsch Early Learning Center Playground 501 17th St S, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
Who	All WRPS 4K and Early Childhood Families

Safety Week in 4K

Why	The week of 10/9 we are all learning about safety in 4K; classrooms will be learning about fire safety, doing school safety drills, learning about bus safety. We are excited to work with Wood Co Health Department to share this FREE resource with our families to help continue our theme of Safety Week.
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How to Participate

Directions	Enter the Pitsch Early Learning Center Playground from 17th St South entrance to have your child's car seat checked. Please stay in your vehicle, this will be a drive thru event. Pitsch AM families can join after picking up their child from the car rider line if they would like to participate. Pitsch PM families can participate before dropping their child off for class if they choose.
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FREE

Developmental Screening

Developmental Screening is a quick check of your child's development and can identify your child's strengths, uncover new milestones to celebrate, and reveal areas where your child may need support.

Who: For ALL children 0-5 years* of age living in the Wisconsin Rapids School District Area

When: Friday, October 13, 2023
Children ages 3-5

Where: Biron Head Start

*Children ages 0-2 will be screened by Wood or Portage County Birth to Three Program by a separately scheduled appointment

For more information, call Paula Tesch at 715-424-6700

Screenings are provided by Wisconsin Rapids Public School District, Wood County Head Start and Wood and Portage County Birth to Three Programs



PLAY AND LEARN

WRPS is excited to offer a play group for any 3- and 4-year-old children that reside within our school district area and do not currently attend another preschool or 4K program. Play and Learn sessions will be held on Friday mornings from 9:30-11:00, beginning in October.

- ✓ Learn in a play-based environment
- ✓ Participate in activities led by certified teachers
- ✓ Connect with other families

SEND ME INFO

ALL SESSIONS WILL BE HELD AT
PITSCH EARLY LEARNING CENTER
Weekly attendance encouraged
but not required

Questions?
Call 715.424.6779, Option 1

