

# NEWS YOU CAN USE

Week of  
April 22, 2024

Comstock Park  
(616)493-0744



**We Appreciate  
our  
Bus Drivers  
and Assistants**

*Thank You!* ❤️

In any school year, driving a school bus is a hard job. Right now, school bus drivers are a resource that we can't take for granted. National School Bus Driver Appreciation Day is one day to recognize and celebrate the hard work that bus drivers do each day. School Bus Driver Appreciation Day takes place on April 23, 2024. The annual observance always takes place the fourth Tuesday in April. It was established in 1981 to celebrate this often underappreciated school role.

## Calendar of Events

Mad Scientist Night  
April 24<sup>th</sup>

Family Night  
May 22<sup>nd</sup>

No School  
May 27<sup>th</sup>

Last Day of School  
May 30<sup>th</sup>

## Arriving On Time

Arriving on time to school is important because...

- Helps your child to learn routines and commitment
- Gives your child time to greet their friends
- The most important learning activity hours are in the morning.
- Your child do not feel embarrassed when on time, other children are not focused on them walking in late

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/hs4kc/events>  
[www.hs4kc.org](http://www.hs4kc.org)

 **Head Start  
for Kent County**  
Connecting Families and Community Resources

These materials were developed under a grant awarded by the Michigan Department of Lifelong Education, Advancement, and Potential."

 **Readiness Program**  
Michigan's Nationally Recognized Pre-K Program

These materials were created under a grant awarded by the Michigan Department of Lifelong Education, Advancement, and Potential.

Preschool through first grade establishes the foundation for relationship building and life-long learning. Help your child gain comfort, self-confidence and delight in these milestone events.

Visit Attendance Works at [www.attendanceworks.org](http://www.attendanceworks.org) for free downloadable resources and tools!

### **First Aid: Cuts and Scrapes**

Many children get cuts and scrapes once in a while. These wounds are usually minor and easily looked after. Large or deep wounds may need medical care.

#### **What to Do**

- Wash your hands so they are clean before you help your child.
- If possible, clean the wound by running it under cool water.
- Stop any bleeding by firmly pressing a clean towel or cloth over the wound.
- When the bleeding has stopped, put a bandage on the cut or scrape. Keep a bandage on until the wound has formed a scab; if the bandage becomes dirty, remove it and put a clean bandage on.
- If you don't have a bandage available, keep the cut or scrape clean and dry, especially until it forms a scab.

Take your child for medical treatment if you cannot stop the bleeding, if you think there may be a more serious injury, or if you see signs of infection while the wound is healing.

**Family Collaborations:** These monthly activities help Head Start for Kent County parents advocate for and promote successful kindergarten transitions for their children.

April



#### Preschool Activities

Observe your child in the early learning setting. What can your child do now, compared to last fall?

Explore ways to bring your home culture and language to school with the educator.

#### Family Activities

Encourage your child to be curious and become a critical thinker. Ask a question, then wait and give your child enough time to think and respond.

#### Kindergarten Activities

Visit the school and kindergarten classroom. Try to see it through your child's eyes. When you bend down to their height, how do things look? Tell your child's kindergarten teacher about the languages spoken in your home, and how your families use those languages.



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## Help Your Child Succeed in Preschool and Kindergarten Build the Habit of Good Attendance

### DID YOU KNOW...

Showing up on time every day is important to your child's success and learning from preschool forward.

Missing 10% of school (1 or 2 days every few weeks) can make it harder to:

- Gain early reading and math skills.
- Build relationships.
- Develop good attendance habits.

High quality preschool and kindergarten has many benefits!

- The routines your child develops will continue throughout school.
- Make the most of early grades by encouraging your child to attend every day.

### WHAT YOU CAN DO

Work with your child and his/her teacher to develop your child's strong attendance.

Talk about it – sing about it – make it an adventure!

- Set a regular bedtime and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Share ideas with other parents for getting to school on time.

Before the school year starts

- Find out what day school starts and begin a countdown!
- Keep your child healthy and make sure your child has the required shots.
- Attend orientation with your child to meet teachers and classmates and find out about health and safety procedures.

Ready, Set, GO!

- If you are concerned your child may have Covid-19, call your school for advice. Ask for resources to continue learning at home if needed.
- Ask family members or neighbors for assistance if you need help.
- Try to schedule non-Covid-19 medical appointments and extended trips when school is not in session.
- If your child seems anxious about preschool or kindergarten, talk to the program director, teacher, your doctor or other parents for advice.





# Preschool – Here I Come!

## Open House

**Thursday, April 25 - 4:15-5:45pm**  
**Friday, April 26 - 9:00-11:00am**

Visit Great Start Readiness Program preschool classrooms across Kent County and Thornapple Kellogg Schools to -

- Learn more about GSRP
- See our classrooms
- Meet our amazing teachers and ask questions
- Even complete a preschool application!

Schedules may vary by location. See our website for details.



[freepreschoolkent.org](http://freepreschoolkent.org)

4/17/2024

Sample Footer Text



Scan for locations  
and schedules

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**Kent ISD** 