

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Week of
January 13, 2025

Sylvan Head Start
(616) 241-0250

Just a Few ^{friendly} Reminders...

- ❖ Drop off begins at 9:00 am. for preschool and 8:39am for Infant-Toddler. Our doors are closed for all programs from 8:50-9:00am. Dismissal begins at 4:05 pm. For preschool and 4:15 for Infant-Toddler. Parents are welcomed to pick up before 3:50. Between 3:50-4:05pm our doors for all programs are closed due to safety during transitions.
- ❖ If your child is sick, please keep them home. We just want to make sure everyone stay healthy.
- ❖ **Incident Weather Policy:** Please tune in to your local **news channels (8 & 13)** for up-to-date school closure information.

Calendar of Events

**NO SCHOOL - MONDAY,
JANUARY 20, 2025
MLK DAY**

**Sylvan's Family
Transition and Kindergarten
Event
Thursday, January 16, 2025
4:30 to 6:30 pm**

Dress for the Weather

If the temperature is allows, we will go outside everyday. Please dress your child accordingly. make sure your child has mittens, hat and weather-proof boots to wear outside. Please let us know if you need help in providing these items. Contact Simone at 616-241-0250 or sdekryger@hs4kc.org.



<https://www.facebook.com/pg/hs4kc/events>
www.hs4kc.org

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

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

Language and Literacy

Language development refers to children's emerging abilities to understand and use language. Language skills are receptive—the ability to listen to and understand language—and expressive—the ability to use language to communicate ideas, thoughts, and feelings. Children's language ability affects learning and development in all areas, especially emerging literacy. Emerging literacy refers to the knowledge and skills that lay the foundation for reading and writing. For infants and toddlers, emerging literacy is embedded in the Language and Communication domain. This reflects how closely connected these emerging literacy skills are to very young children's beginning receptive, expressive, and vocabulary skills. For preschoolers, Language and Literacy are distinct domains. They reflect children's growing skills as they begin to grasp differences between spoken and written language, as well as how they are connected. Language and literacy skills can develop in any language, and for the most part, they develop first in the child's home language. Supporting development of the home language helps prepare young children for learning English. Head Start programs must promote language and literacy goals for all children that are age, culturally, and linguistically appropriate and responsive. However, children who are dual language learners (DLLs) need intentional support to develop their home language as well as acquire English. For example, this may include creating environments that include their home language and culture; planning and organizing thematic instruction; and supporting them through transitions.

How Can You Protect Your Family from the Flu?

Here are some simple steps to help keep yourself and your family healthy this flu season:

- **Get vaccinated.** The flu vaccine is safe and effective and the best way to help protect you and your family from the flu.
- **Wash your hands.** Frequent hand washing keeps germs out of our bodies. Soap and water is best, but hand sanitizer works, too.
- **Stay home if you don't feel well.** If you do get sick, keep the germs from spreading by staying home – and take care of yourself!
- **Do the elbow cough.** Cough into elbows, not hands where you're more likely to spread germs when you touch things.



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.

