

**Week of  
April 21, 2025**

**North Kent  
(616)696-3990**



**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 22, 2025. It was established in 1981 to celebrate this often underappreciated school role.

Arriving on time to school is important because...

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

April 24 – Science Night

May 26 – No School

May 29 – Last Day of School for Preschoolers

Does your child receive Speech or Occupational Therapy? If so, Calvin College has a Speech and Hearing Clinic, as well as an Occupational Therapy Clinic on their campus. This is unique as it is their graduate students getting their clinical hours in, under the supervision of their professors. This is a donation-based program that can be utilized during summer or longer if needed. They typically have a waitlist, so if you are interested, contact them ASAP. For more information and the contact form, visit their website

<https://calvin.edu/academics/school-health/speech-pathology-and-audiology/speech-clinic>

Strong-willed kids become adults who change the world as long as we can hang on for the ride and resist the temptation to “tame” the spirit out of them. ~ Sarah Stogryn

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

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

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

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



## **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.

## **Head Start is Turning 60 This Year!!**

Head Start is turning 60, and we are celebrating YOU – the heart of our success! Wish Head Start a Happy Birthday by scanning this QR Code and signing Head Start's birthday card and share your memories of how Head Start has impacted your life!

<https://birthday.nhsa.org/birthday-sign-form/?code=REF689267bc951aaf570>



## The Magic of Music for Infants and Toddlers

Singing with your young child can improve their focus, communication, emotional regulation, social, cognitive, and physical skills. It can also help you feel calmer and more connected to your infant.

**Word Swap:** If you aren't sure what to sing to your baby, try using a song you and your baby already enjoy, and change the words to adapt to different situations. Like singing, "Ba ba bottle, it's time to eat" to the tune of "Baa Baa Black Sheep."

**Bounce to the Beat:** When singing or listening to music together, bounce your baby in your lap or pat them to the rhythm of the music. This helps young infants become familiar with musical rhythms before they are able to move their bodies independently.

**Follow the Leader:** When singing your young child's favorite song, pause, wait, and look for them to fill in the next word or movement. These back-and-forth interactions support social connections, language, memory, and sequencing skills.

**Hear Me Out:** Learn songs that include feelings and emotion words along with matching facial expressions and body language. Combining singing with language and emotional expression helps young children understand their own emotions as well as the emotions of others. Even if they're not talking about feelings yet, singing is a great way to calm them when upset.

[The Magic of Music for Infants and Toddlers | HeadStart.gov](https://www.headstart.gov/magic-music-infants-toddlers)