

**"Two Peas in a
Pod"**

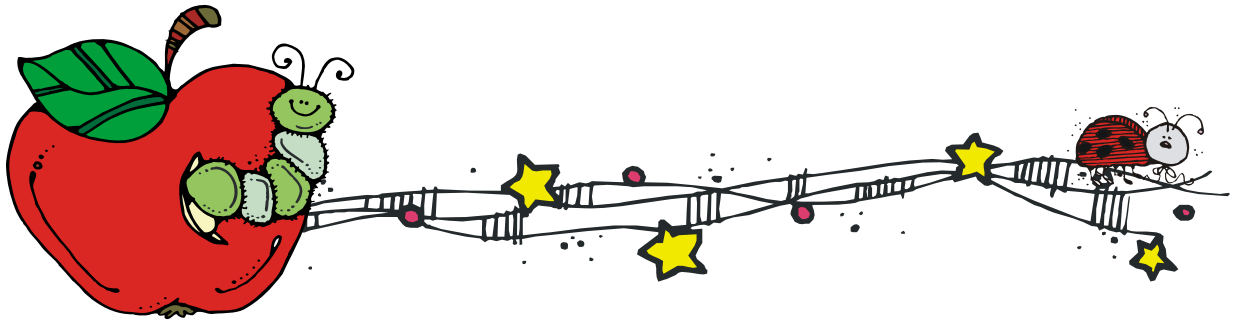
Preschool

Martensdale- St.

Marys School

District

2011-2012



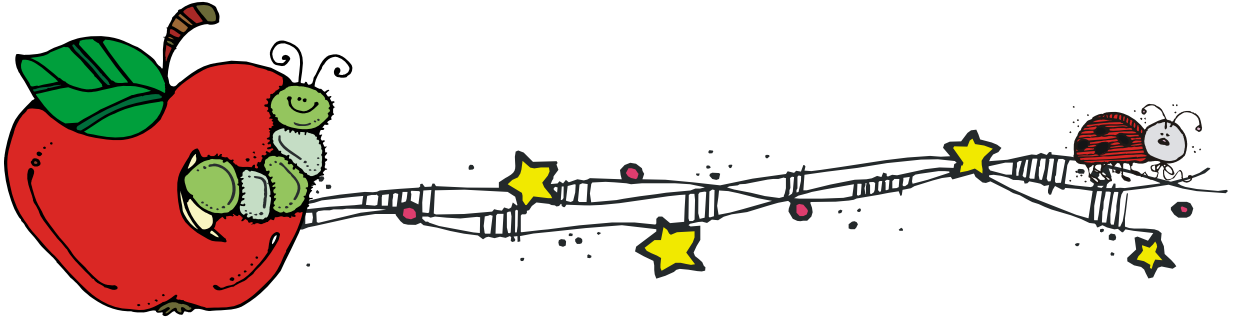
Dear Preschool Families,

Welcome to Two Peas in a Pod Preschool! We are all very excited to meet our future preschool students and welcome your family to our community! Included in this packet is important information about Two Peas in a Pod Preschool.



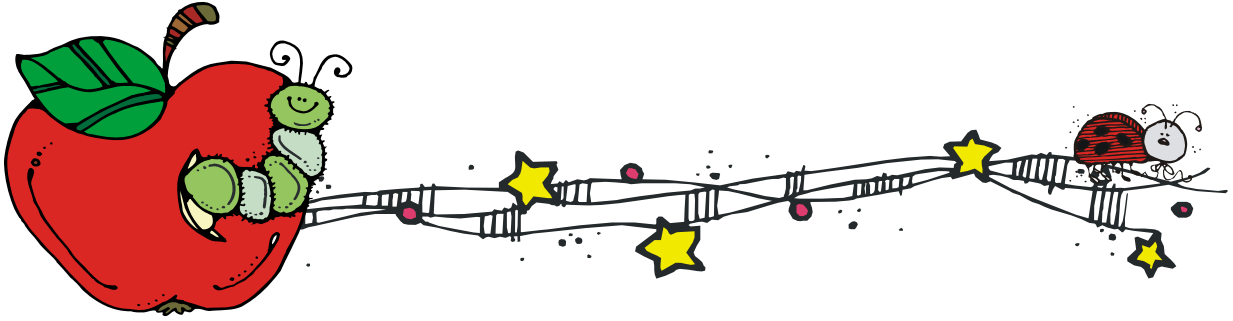
Our Mission...

It is the mission of the Martensdale- St. Mary's Preschool to provide an innovative learning experience for the Pre- School age child. We will strive to ignite curiosity one child at a time by teaching the necessary skills and understandings to succeed in kindergarten and continue to thrive academically and socially throughout their lives. We plan to create this nurturing environment by encouraging early learning and individual learning styles. We are committed to providing the highest quality education to our early learners.



Admission Requirements

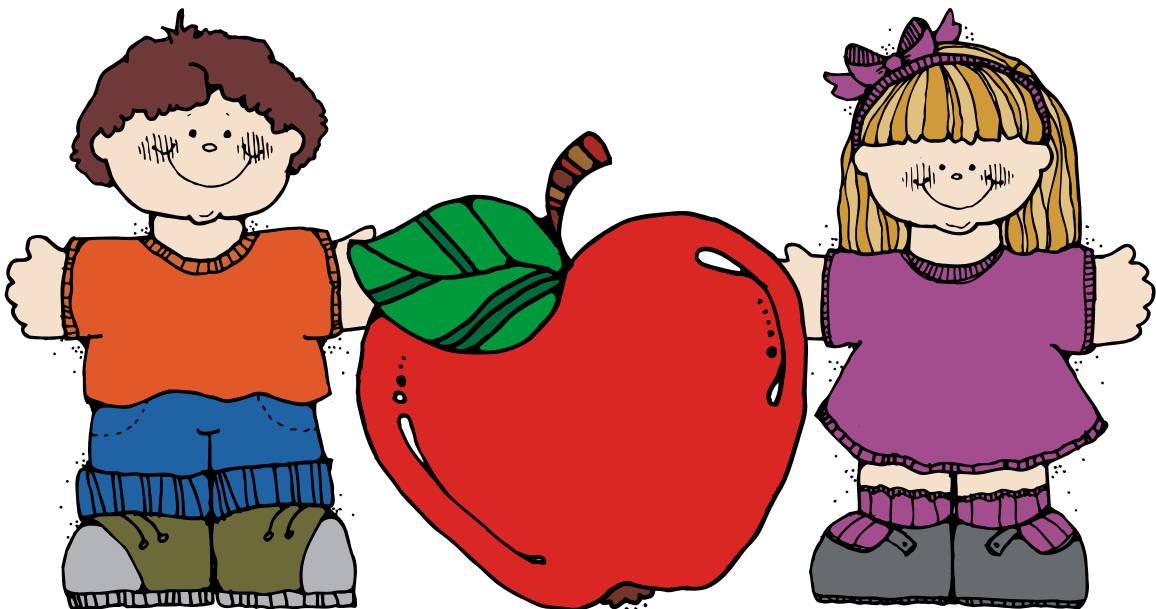
1. A child must be 4 years old on or before September 15th.
2. Children enrolled in preschool are required to have a complete physical by a physician. Proof of immunization must be present before the child attends school.
3. Students will be enrolled on a first come first serve basis. **However, students of kindergarten age will be an enrollment priority when conflict arises.**
4. Your child will be considered registered in Two Peas in a Pod Preschool when all forms have been completed and returned to the school along with a \$50 non- refundable, registration fee which will be deducted from your first week tuition fee. Your registration fee will help to cover expenses of classroom supplies, and consumables throughout the year.
5. We must have your address, telephone number at home, work, and cell, and a current email address, along with any baby- sitter information. Please notify us immediately of any changes.
6. Students with an IEP will be served on an individual basis.

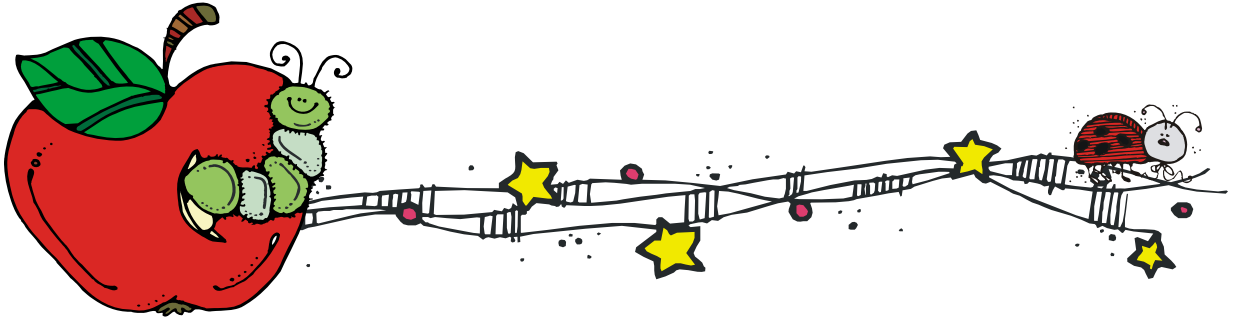


Parent Responsibilities

1. **Children should not arrive to school before 8:00 a.m. and they should be picked up by 3:25pm.** Classes will run from 8:20am-3:15pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, with class going from 8:20- 11:30 on Friday. Teacher assistants will be working with children facilitating activities related to our curriculum and program during this time, if they are not scheduled early dismissals. During this time teachers will be collaborating and working on our Iowa Quality Preschool Program goals. Therefore, Friday afternoons will still be spent in the normal preschool setting.
2. **Please be careful about sending your child to school with infections or illnesses that might disrupt or cause other children to become ill.** A child must be without a fever for 24 hours before returning to school. Please notify the teacher if your child has contracted a communicable disease.
3. If your child is too sick to go outside for recess, then please do not send them to school. Please dress your child in suitable clothing for indoor and outdoor play. We will use the 15/15 rule for recess. Recess is held outdoors except during inclement weather. During cold weather, if the temperature or wind chill is below 15 degrees, recess will be indoors. Tennis shoes are the best for your child to play in.

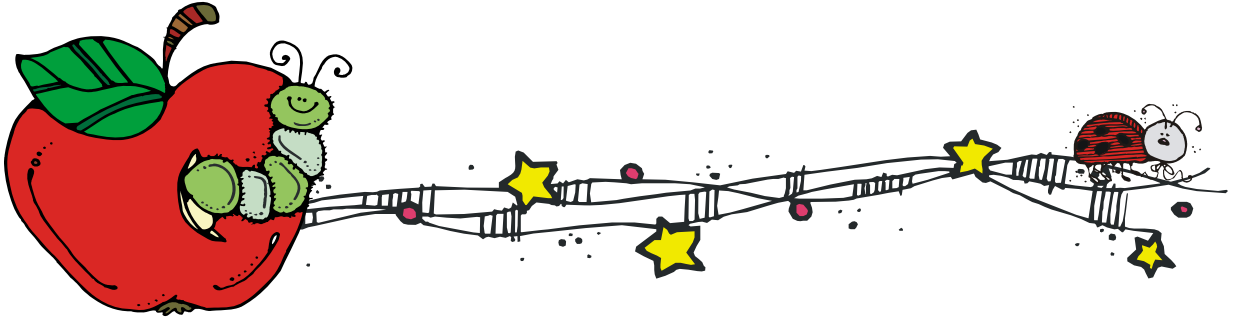
4. You are welcome to take part in life in our classroom and our school in a variety of situations: working with the teacher, helping on field trips, or acting as sources for a variety of personal, cultural, occupational, or specialized interest experiences. We do ask that you keep your visits to no more than 1 hour.
5. Parents are the children's first teacher. Please show interest in your child's education. Read with them, discuss school, and share in your child's interests.
6. If your child has a toileting accident while at school, certain procedures will occur. A teacher or teacher's assistant will assist your child in changing into clean, dry clothes. However, due to U.S. Department of Health and Human Services regulations, we are not allowed to clean the soiled clothing. The soiled clothing will be placed in a bag and sent home with your child.





General Information

1. Two Peas in a Pod Preschool will be offered in a regular classroom setting.
2. MSTM bus routes will be extended to offer transportation to students living in the Martensdale- St. Mary's School District. Seatbelts are not required when transporting 4 year old students.
3. The pre- school calendar will follow the MSTM school calendar.
4. Field trips will be scheduled throughout the school year. Notes will be sent home prior for approval and other information for the individual trips.
5. You are invited to share and exchange information on an ongoing basis with your child's teacher.
6. Sunscreen and bug repellent application will be an option for your child to have for outdoor play. These items will be an option on the supply list. If you choose to have these for your child, there will be forms to sign for your approval.
7. Tooth brushing will become a part of the daily routine, once after lunchtime.



Curriculum

Two Peas in a Pod Preschool will use a literacy research based curriculum.

There are ten themes that are three weeks long. The themes are:

- 1) Welcome to School!
- 2) My Family, My Community
- 3) My Five Senses
- 4) Seasons All Around
- 5) Animals Everywhere
- 6) Construction Zone
- 7) In The City, In The Country
- 8) Let's Move!
- 9) Growing and Changing
- 10) Ready for Kindergarten!

Weekly letters will be sent home that will include the focus for the week and any other essential information. Along with the literacy research based curriculum, the children will also learn the following:

- **Writing skills-** writing name, upper & lower case letters, tracing, writing left to right
- **Math skills-** sort & classify, patterning, identifying, writing numbers, shapes, measurement, graphing
- **Self- Help skills-** zipping, snapping, tying, buttoning, dressing yourself
- **Fine motor skills-** pencil & scissor control

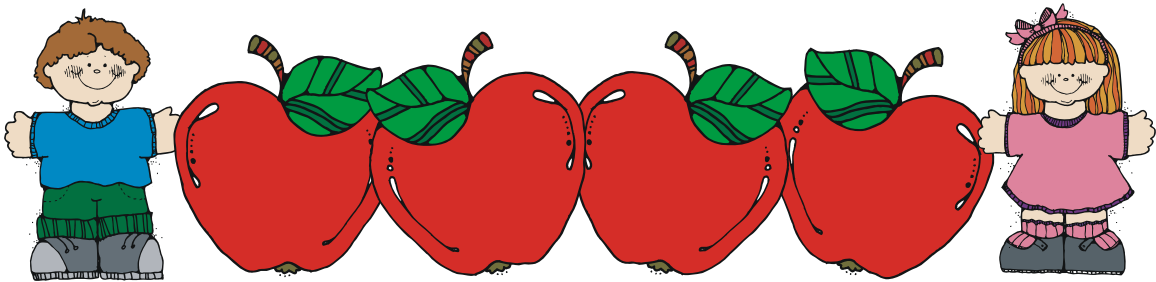
- **Social/ Community skills-** problem solving, manners, participating in different group settings, school skills: walking in the halls, raising hand, & standing in line
- **Technology-**listening center and computer

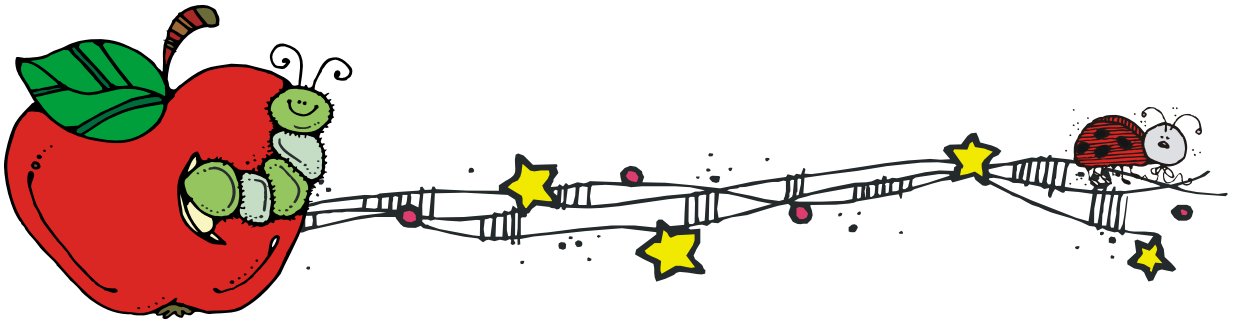
Specials

Your child will partake in the same specials as the older grades, which includes physical education, library, music, art, and guidance counseling.

Afternoon Snack

Our preschool will serve an afternoon snack and milk each day. Your child will be required to bring one to two snacks a month, as requested by the teacher. Monthly snack calendars will be sent home, which will show the day your child is required to bring the afternoon snack. Your child will also bring home a snack bucket that can be used to carry the snacks back to school. Snacks must be pre- packaged & store bought.





Fees

1. Tuition will be \$65/ week. The 1st week's payment is due on the 1st day of school. Payments are always due on Friday. You may pay monthly on the 1st of the month. ***Students that are 5 by September 15th will attend preschool for free.*** Tuition for the year is \$2,340.
2. Tuition will include an all- day educational setting for your child, morning snack with milk, lunch, and busing within the district.
3. Please take care of payments in the office or send them with your child to school each week in an envelope marked with their name.
4. You are responsible for paying for 180 school days of preschool, regardless of early outs and kindergarten round-up. If you choose to go on vacation or your child is sick, you are still responsible for paying for the time that your child is gone.
5. If your payment falls behind by one week you will be notified that you are delinquent. If you are still delinquent after two weeks, your child will be removed from the program.
6. ***Grants and scholarships are available based upon need. Please contact the elementary office for more information.***

MSTM NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

It is the policy of the Martensdale-St. Marys Community School District not to illegally discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity, and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy, please contact the district's Equity Coordinator. MStM's Equity Coordinator is Mike Crozier, secondary principal. His address is MStM Community School, 390 Burlington, Martensdale, Iowa 50160. His phone number is 641-764-2686 and his email address is: mike_crozier@m-stmarys.k12.ia.us