PITC & TEACHING PYRAMID CLASSROOMS

The Press Democrat The BEST of Sonoma County Reader's Choice 2021

Storybook Village Preschool

DAILY SCHEDULES

Toddlers, Preschoolers & Transitional Kindergarten (TK)

(two-year-olds to entering Kindergarten)

There are three teachers of children—adults, other children, and their physical environment.
—Loris Malaguzzi

Friendship-driven mixed-age learning inspired by the Reggio Emilia Approach.

PLUM GROUP (TWOS)

This is a pleasant, informal time of the day when children are dropped off by 9:15 am to support the morning rituals and routines.

8:00 am - 8:30 am Extra Care

8:30 am Arrival and Play: Grown-ups drop off their child indoors

9:30 am Caregiving Routines

9:45 am Snack

10:00 am Circle Time: Group welcome and community time

10:15 am Outdoor Play (Rain or Shine)

11:45 am Caregiving Routines

12:00 pm Lunch and Stories

12:30 pm Nap or Pick-up

2:15 pm Snack and Outdoor Play

4:00 pm Goodbyes—ciao ciao

4:00 pm - 4:30 pm Extra Care

Special Notes

Our preschool classroom follows a fluid and flexible schedule. We value time as something children move through at their own pace—projects and conversations are given space to unfold naturally. Children are supported in making connections in their own time, without pressure. While each day holds familiar rhythms—like morning gathering, snack, lunch, rest, and pick-up—our approach allows for spontaneity and deep engagement. Classroom documentation will highlight the rich learning and discoveries taking place throughout the day.

With an emphasis on friendship skills, our daily routines and relationship-driven approach to learning will help children feel more in sync with themselves, their peers, and a loving community. We offer teacher-led proposals in small-group experiences to strengthen connections!

SWEETGUM GROUP (PRESCHOOL)

This is a pleasant, informal time of the day when children are dropped off by 9:15 am to support the morning rituals and routines.

8:00 am - 8:30 am Extra Care

8:30 am Arrival + Play: Grown-ups drop off their child outdoors

9:45 am Circle Time: Group welcome + community time

10:00 am Snack

10:15 am Outdoor Play + Small Groups (Rain or Shine)

11:45 am Storytime

12:00 pm Lunch on the Porch

12:30 pm Nap or Pick-up

2:15 pm Snack + Outdoor Play

4:00 pm Goodbyes—ciao ciao

4:00 pm - 4:30 pm Extra Care

Special Notes

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OAK GROUP (TK)

This is a pleasant, informal time of the day when children are dropped off by 9:15 am to support the morning rituals and routines.

8:00 am - 8:30 am Extra Care

8:30 am **Arrival + Play:** Grown-ups drop off their child outdoors

9:45 am **Circle & Inquiry:** Group welcome, community, project work

10:15 am **Snack**

10:30 am **Outdoor Play + Small Groups (Rain or Shine)**

11:45 am **Storytime**

12:00 pm **Lunch on the Porch**

12:30 pm **Nap, Non-Napping Small Group, or Pick-up**

2:15 pm **Snack + Outdoor Play**

4:00 pm **Goodbyes—ciao ciao**

4:00 pm - 4:30 pm Extra Care

Special Notes

Our preschool classroom follows a fluid and flexible schedule. We value time as something children move through at their own pace—projects and conversations are given space to unfold naturally. Children are supported in making connections in their own time, without pressure. While each day holds familiar rhythms—like morning gathering, snack, lunch, rest, and pick-up—our approach allows for spontaneity and deep engagement. Classroom documentation will highlight the rich learning and discoveries taking place throughout the day.

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MIXED-AGE LEARNING

"Every child needs one person who is crazy about them!"
—Urie Bronfenbrenner

The school serves children ages 2 through 6, with up to 30 children per day. Our teachers provide responsive caregiving and maintain an average teacher-to-child ratio of 1:6 within our mixed-age classroom.

When we plan and prepare our learning environment, we consider the ages of our mixed-age group and the needs of each learning group. We intentionally design our spaces while thinking about how we can support the optimal development of each child in our group. Our flexible learning environment can be altered as the children grow older or when we welcome younger children.

Storybook's Mixed-Age Group for Preschoolers

- The environment is flexible to accommodate toddlers and preschoolers at one time.
- Our teachers who work within our mixed-age group are PITC and Teaching Pyramid-trained and knowledgeable about the different stages of development.
- Children in the classroom are divided into close-age learning groups.
- The environment will provide challenges but not overwhelm children.
- The environment is modified to adapt to the developmental changes of the children.
- Low sinks and toilets are in the classroom for toilet learning.
- The children have direct access to the outdoors.
- The children and teachers can spend many hours of the day outdoors, as the space is designed as an outdoor classroom, overlooking the trail to the creek and under big trees. Mother Nature is our co-teacher, an old and wise teacher. Everyone learns from nature.
- We offer Creek Visits and walking field trips for older preschoolers.
- The preschool yards can access the school garden, including a sensory garden, where the children will help grow and care for the garden.