

Holmen Public Preschool
4K & Early Childhood Special Education Services
Viking Elementary

Public Preschool Office
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Holmen, WI 54636
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Ms. Sue Eitland, Principal
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May 2025

Dates to Remember

May 5th – 9th:

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week

Summer School Registration

Find Information Here:

- www.holmen.k12.wi.us
- Families
- Summer School
- Elementary School

May 14th: No School for EC/4K Students

“Meet and Greet” your child’s Elementary School Principal at 9:30 a.m. at their respective schools

May 26th: Memorial Day

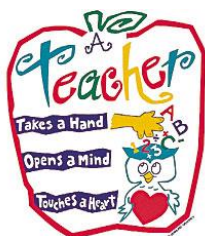
No School for students or staff

May 29th:

Last Day of School for EC/4K

AM & PM Classes

***School Staff
Appreciation Week
is May 5th through
May 9th. It is the
perfect time to
share a word or
two of gratitude
with staff members
who help to educate
your children.***



From the principal’s desk...

It’s hard to believe that we are already nearing the end of the school year! It seems like yesterday that we were just getting to know the students. Now, summer vacation will be here before we know it.

Please note that the last day of school for EC/4K students will be Thursday, May 29th. For our students with older siblings, the rest of the District will have their last day of the school year on May 30th. Our staff will be here packing up to move to the various elementary schools for the 2025-26 school year.

Before we get to that point, though, May is going to be filled with lots of learning and celebrations. Be sure to check out the “Dates to Remember” section for some of our upcoming special events. We sure hope you can join us!

The EC/4K staff would like to thank families for all of your support throughout the year! We hope your child has enjoyed making new friendships, learning the school routines, and participating in our various daily activities. We also appreciate that so many of you were able to join us for the Family Outreach Events!

The Holmen Public Preschool staff is confident that we have provided students with learning experiences to help them be successful as they continue on with their educational journey. We wish you and your family the best!

~Ms. Eitland, Principal
Holmen Public Preschool

**From the Health Office
Nurse: Emily Hanes BSN, RN**

Medication Pick-up:

All medications, over-the-counter or prescription, need to be picked up by parents/guardian at the end of the school year. **NO MEDICATION WILL BE SENT HOME WITH STUDENTS PER BOARD POLICY.** Medications that are left in the Health Office after June 27th will be properly disposed of. The office will be open from 8:00 AM until 3:00 PM during June. Please call 608.526.3316 if you plan to pick up medication after June 6th.

Footwear

We highly recommend children not to wear flip flops or open toe sandals to school. Children run on the playground, so wearing this footwear may cause an injury to their feet and makes them more likely to roll their ankles.



Fun in the Sun

Remember the sunscreen!

- Apply sunscreen at least 15 minutes before going outside, even on cloudy days.
- The SPF (sun protection factor) should be at least 15 and should be for broad spectrum protection.
- Try to limit exposure between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. when the sun's rays are most intense.
- Clothing can offer practical protection from the sun's rays. Lightweight, tight weave; cotton clothing is cool and protective. Wet clothing is not an effective optical filter. Hats with bills not only provide shade, but also can be cooler and more comfortable than a bare head.
- Remember to drink lots of water! Drinks containing caffeine, such as soda pop, not only provide empty calories but also can further dehydrate.

Speech and Language

Holmen Public Preschool Resource

Provided by: Liz Dahlen and Caitlin Mosel, Speech-Language Pathologists

TRY THIS ACTIVITY

Play houses have been shown, through research, to elicit more language than a train set or cars. Labeling items & activities in the house is extremely functional and concrete for your child. Try...

Naming: all the items in the house that are furniture, things to cook with...

Describing: "the bed and pillow are soft" "the table is hard"

Verbs: "what are some activities you could do in the kitchen/ bedroom/ bathroom?"

Prepositions: "put the girl *on* the bed" "the dog is sitting *under* the table"

Sequence: the steps to get ready for bed with the dolls

FOCUS ON...VOCABULARY

Vocabulary development can vary greatly from child to child. Generally, first words should coincide with first steps. By toddler age, children will start to combine words into phrases. How can you boost your child's expressive and receptive vocabulary development?

Talk, talk & talk some more! Relatively simple, but immensely important. Try narrating your actions while interacting with your child. This technique is two-fold, exposing your child to more words, grammar and expression as well as relating it to concrete items around you.

Bombard your child with a single word. Pick one word to focus on during play and say this word over and over in many different contexts. It can feel overwhelming to be charged with increasing your child's vocabulary. Pick one word at a time to focus on and set realistic goals for you and your child.

Boost receptive vocabulary. This refers to what your child can understand separate from what they are expressing. Receptive language skills are the building blocks to later expression. Ask your child to point to pictures in a book or 'go find' different toys. Start with simple one-step directions then increase to two.

BOOK NOOK

The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle

This book has many different opportunities for vocabulary development with lots of types of food featured. Try categorizing the foods into fruits, vegetables and sweets. There are also plenty of new opportunities for word development including words like 'chrysalis' and 'cocoon.'

STRATEGY OF THE MONTH: WORD PLAY

Finding new and interesting ways to challenge your child with words is great way to keep them engaged and learning. Target these skills:

Categories—working on categorization helps form connections between words and organizes an internal word filing cabinet.

Context Clues—giving your child clues or describing features of their favorite toys stimulates early inferencing and main idea skills.

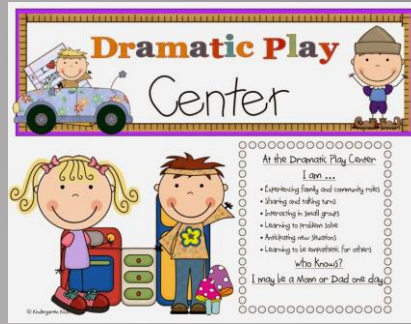
Word Associations— "which two things go together? juice, dog & milk" This also helps with identifying features and categorizing.



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CONTACT INFO: Liz Dahlen, daheli@holmen.k12.wi.us Caitlin Mosel, moscat@holmen.k12.wi.us

Creative Curriculum Interest Area



In the Dramatic Play Area, children take on different roles and recreate real-life experiences. They use props and make-believe to deepen their understanding of the world in which they live. The ability to pretend is very important to your child's development. Children who know how to make believe develop a good vocabulary, which is important for reading. They learn to cooperate with others and solve problems, and are able to think abstractly – all of which are important skills for success in school. When children pretend, they have to recall experiences and re-create them. To do this, they need to picture their experiences in their minds. For example, to play the role of doctor, the children have to remember what tools a doctor uses, how a doctor examines a patient, and what a doctor says. When children make believe, teachers might ask:

Is your baby sick? What are you going to do?

Are you the storekeeper here? I need to buy some food.

What are you cooking for supper tonight? It smells so good!

What You Can Do at Home

You can encourage the same kind of pretend play at home by simply playing with your child and providing some basic props. A sheet over the table creates a house or hideout. A large empty box can become almost anything – a pirate ship, a doghouse, a castle, or a train. The great thing about dramatic play is that it requires only your imagination. Here are some simple ways to encourage your child's learning through dramatic play:

- During bath time, include plastic boats, cups, and rubber dolls and play pretend.
- Save food cartons, make some play money, and play store with your child.
- Read stories together and involve your child in acting out different parts of the story.
- Collect some old clothes your child can use to dress up and make believe.
- Say to your child, "Let's pretend we're going on a train ride. What do we need? Tickets? Suitcases? Do you want to collect the tickets?"

When you engage in pretend play with your child, you are teaching important learning skills, and you are spending valuable time together.

VIRTUAL BACKPACK

The School District of Holmen has implemented a "green" approach for distributing flyers from community organizations, and has discontinued the process of sending paper flyers in your student's backpack, unless they are school related. The information is divided into three sections, by grade levels, and updated on a regular basis.

Click on this link: <https://www.holmen.k12.wi.us/community/pre-k-elementary-school-flier.cfm> to be directed to the actual webpage which is housed in the COMMUNITY/PARTNERS tab of the homepage.

Note that most of these advertisements are not district publications (unless marked). The District enables their online distribution as a community service to inform you of educational opportunities, activities and events available in our area.

Social-Emotional Learning: Transition to Kindergarten

Transitions seem to be a challenging time during the school day for some children. They may display behaviors or emotions that appear out of the ordinary. This is their way of showing/telling you they need something (i.e. adult support, attention, comfort, assurance, etc.). It is important to acknowledge your children's feelings, tell them it is okay to feel that way, and help them move on in a positive manner.

As you know, our 4K students have a big transition coming up in just a few short months – They will be going to Kindergarten for the entire day! The following article from the National Association for Educating Young Children (NAEYC) will give you some great ideas of how to support your child with that transition. The entire article is beneficial to various groups of people, and there are a couple sections specifically written *For the Families*. Perhaps some of these ideas will help lessen your own anxiousness about sending your little one off to school on their own, as well! Hope you enjoy Kindergarten!!

<https://www.naeyc.org/resources/pubs/tyc/feb2014/transitions-kindergarten>

If we can help with social-emotional; behavioral; or problem-solving issues your children may be experiencing, please feel free to contact your child's classroom teacher, our Pyramid Model team members Kylie Harrison and Deb Butzler, or principal, Sue Eitland. We are happy to partner with you to support your child.



Have a great
Summer
Vacation!



The School District
of Holmen is

CALLING ALL SUPER HERO DRIVERS

- Not all heroes get paid this well, but Holmen's do! Earn \$22/hour as a Substitute Bus Driver or \$17.30/hour as a Sub Van Driver.
- No CDL? No problem! We'll train you in-house and ensure you're ready for the test and beyond. Now is the perfect time to get the wheels in motion so you're ready for the start of the new school year!
- Sometimes you need to take the cape off and hit the golf course or have appointments just like the rest of us. Enjoy this flexibility and only work when you can.



Learn more today
by visiting the
EMPLOYMENT tab:
www.holmen.k12.wi.us

