

Holmen Public Preschool
4K & Early Childhood Services
500 East Wall St.
Holmen, WI 54636

Ms. Sue Eitland, Principal
eitsue@holmen.k12.wi.us
608.526.3316, ext. 4133



2024

From the principal's desk

Thank you...

- Parents/Guardians - for attending Family/Teacher Conferences in October. Home and school collaboration is key to student success! Please reach out to your child's teacher or me if any questions arise throughout the school year.
- A Huge THANK YOU is extended to families who provided the taco meal and desserts for staff during Conferences. With long work days, it's helpful to not have pack lunch from home. We appreciate your generosity and support!

Reminders...

- Public Preschool Outreach Events take place each District Early Release Day. On November 13th, join us at PALM + PINE Yoga Studio in the Holmen Square Mall from 10:30 – 11:15. If you and your child are able to attend, please make certain you are on time for the session!
- If you haven't already, it's time to dig out your children's winter gear (coat, mittens, hats, boots, snow pants, etc.) now that the weather is turning colder on some days. Remember to label their clothing. We do play outside for 30-45 minutes most days.

Dates to Remember

- Nov. 3rd** Daylight Savings Time Ends
Nov. 4th Progress Reports sent home; Original Works Fundraiser orders due
Nov. 11th Veterans Day – Wear red, white, blue
Nov. 13th No School for EC/4K students
PALM + PINE Yoga Opportunity
Nov. 18th – 22nd: American Education Week
Nov. 21st WI Pyramid Model/Literacy Night
4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Viking gym
Nov. 27th – 29th: No School; Thanksgiving Break

From the principal's desk (continued)

What's New this month in 4K/EC?

- We're looking for volunteers to approve fall PreK PTO mini grants for classrooms. This involves reading through the grants submitted and determining whether it should be granted. Everything is done via email. Contact me soon if you can help! eitsue@holmen.k12.wi.us or 608.526.3316
- We will be having our first Lockdown safety drill in November. There are two Lockdown drills throughout the school year. By practicing planned procedures, we will be better prepared in the event of an actual emergency.
 - A letter will be sent home in the next week or so with more details.
 - Be assured that teachers do introduce this safety drill to the children in a developmentally appropriate manner.
 - Our message to students is that when they hear a Lockdown announcement, they are to immediately stop what they are doing; turn off voices; and look to their teachers for directions.
 - After this Lockdown Safety Drill, follow-up information will be sent to families.
- Please take time to review the "Dates to Remember." Hope to see you again soon!

Have a Happy Thanksgiving! We are thankful for the wonderful students and families we have the pleasure to serve each day!

If you have questions regarding any information in this newsletter, please contact your child's teacher or me at your convenience. Thank you.
~ Sue Eitland, Principal

“Meet the Staff”



Hello! My name is Ann Wilson, and this is my seventeenth year teaching 4K. It is my tenth year teaching in the School District of Holmen. I graduated from the University of Wisconsin – La Crosse where I earned my Bachelor’s Degree in Early Childhood - Middle Childhood Education. I live in Onalaska with my husband Robbie and my daughters Kennedy (12), Desiree (9) and Eva (6). I enjoy every minute that I have with my family. We especially enjoy playing and watching sports together! I love teaching young children because they have such a natural curiosity about the world around them! It’s so much fun to empower them to be lifelong learners. I can be contacted through email at wilann@holmen.k12.wi.us or by calling 608.526.3316.

Hi, my name is Lori Taylor and I have been an educational assistant with the School District of Holmen for over 20 years. I began as an Early Childhood Special Education Assistant and then moved into a 4K Educational Assistant position when the program started. I am privileged to work with Mrs. Wilson and the students in our classroom.

My husband and I love living in Holmen and truly enjoy the beauty of this area. Some of my favorite things to do are spend time with our four granddaughters, watch movies, read, kayak, bike and simply be out in nature.



Hello, Holmen Public Preschool families! My name is Kyara Manske, and I am one of the 4K teachers at Viking Elementary. This is my third year of teaching in Holmen, and it is fun to be teaching in the district where my mom went to school. Outside of school, I enjoy spending time with my family and friends. I also love to travel, bake, do anything crafty, and take (a few too many) trips to Target. I so enjoy my time spent with your children and having a part in helping them learn and grow.

Hello to all! My name is Mandy Nesseth (Ms. Mandy.) I am a 4K Educational Assistant working alongside Ms. Manske. This school year is my 17th year in the Public Preschool program. My husband and I live in Holmen. Our 2 adult sons also live around the area. As a family we enjoy sporting events, boating, traveling, swimming in our pool, cookouts, and spending time with family and friends. As a Holmen Alumni myself I love watching our great community grow! I am honored to get to work with such a great team and with your children as they start their educational experience here with us in 4k, where we have fun learning and engaging in new experiences every day!





Hello Families! My name is Sue Eitland. I am the Early Childhood and 4K principal, as well as the elementary summer school administrator. This is my 29th year as an educator in Holmen and my 12th year in the Public Preschool Program. The best part of my job is working with and learning from our amazing students, families, and staff. Thank you for partnering with us as we help the children play, learn, and grow together.

When I am away from school, I enjoy spending time with my friends and family. We enjoy attending my niece and nephews' various sporting and school events; playing cards and board games; baking; and cheering on WI sports teams. In addition to these activities, I play the piano/organ at my home church in rural Viroqua.

Please feel free to reach out any time you have questions or suggestions. I'm looking forward to a wonderful remainder of the 2024-25 school year!

Greetings Holmen Public Preschool families! My name is Kristy McKnight and I am Viking Elementary School's Administrative Assistant. I have been with the School District of Holmen for over 19 years. I am privileged to have had the opportunity to have been a part of "launching" our 4K program 18 years ago!

I am a graduate of Holmen High School. My husband and I have two children and reside in Holmen.

I look forward to connecting with all of our Preschool families at some point throughout this school year! I can be reached by email at mckkri@holmen.k12.wi.us or by calling 608.526.3316.



From the Health Office:

Emily Hanes BSN, RN

Immunizations

Every state requires immunizations for students attending school or daycare. Immunizations protect students against disease that are preventable by vaccinations.

All students are required to have a copy of their immunization record or have a completed immunization waiver. School nurses report immunizations to the county to stay in compliance with Wisconsin's Student Immunization Law. If the school is not within 99% compliance, the school is required by law to exclude students from school that are not up-to-date on their immunizations or have not signed a waiver.

Age/Grade	Number of Doses				
Pre K (2 years through 4 years)	4 DTaP/DTP/DT	3 Polio	3 Hep B	1 MMR	1 Var
Kindergarten (through 5 th Grade)	4* DTaP/DTP/DT/Td	4 Polio	3 Hep B	2 MMR	2 Var

*Some students do require a 5th DTaP immunization depending on age of vaccination.



From November 18th – November 22nd, the Holmen Public Preschool Program will be celebrating *American Education Week*. We will bring a guest reader into the classroom to share a favorite book with the children. You may also like to wish all those who help educate your child a great week (i.e. teacher, specialists, daycare provider, bus driver, etc.)!

The Holmen Public Preschool staff would like to reaffirm our commitment to early learning. We recognize that we all share in the responsibility of educating our students. As always, families are encouraged to participate in our program's family outreach events and contact us if we can be of assistance to you and your child. Thank you, once again, for your partnership with us!



VISIT OUR EMPLOYMENT TAB

www.holmen.k12.wi.us/employment

SUBSTITUTE *Openings*

BELONG. SERVE. SUCCEED.
WITH SDH

Sub Custodians

Typical shift is 4 hours. The afternoon start time is flexible to align with your schedule. You will train with a current custodian to learn the ropes in the buildings.

Sub Nutrition Cooks

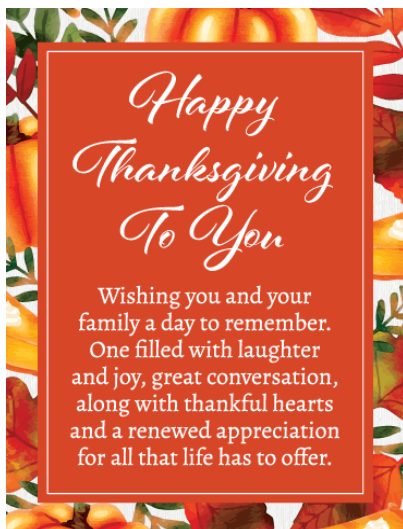
Typical shift is 4 hours: 10am to 2pm
Duties vary from washing dishes to serving meals to prep work/clean-up.
Only work when it fits your schedule - you'll never have to ask for time off!

Sub Bus Drivers

AM Route is 6:15am to 8:45am
PM Route is 2:20pm to 4:45pm
CDL Training is done in-house to ensure you are prepared for the driving test!
Only accept sub routes when you're available!

Learn more today!

Wendy McCoy
mccwene@holmen.k12.wi.us
608-526-1314



Don't Forget!

Wednesday, November 13th is a District Early Release Day. Therefore, **EC/4K students will not have school!** Please join our staff at **PALM + PINE Yoga Studio** in Holmen Square Mall at 10:30 a.m. There will be a sign-in sheet for us to keep track of the number of participants. Hope to see you there!

Virtual Backpack

The School District of Holmen has implemented a “green” approach for distributing flyers from community organizations. The information is divided into three sections, by grade levels, and updated on a regular basis.

Follow the path below to view community flyers:

- Go to www.holmen.k12.wi.us
- Click on Community tab
- Along left side column, click on Virtual Backpack/Online Flyers
- Select PreK & Elementary

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.

In order to have a flyer published on the district’s Virtual Backpack, it must first be approved through our District Administrator. Contact Stacy Lockington, executive assistant, with any questions.

locsta@holmen.k12.wi.us
608.526.6610



There is No School on Wednesday, November 27th, Thursday, November 28th and Friday, November 29th. Classes will resume on Monday, December 2nd.

Happy Thanksgiving from our school “family” to yours!

SAFETY DRILLS throughout the 2024-25 School Year

Within the Public Preschool Program, safety is a priority. Throughout the school year, students and staff practice various safety drills/procedures (fire, evacuation, lockdown, etc.) that will be used in emergency situations. It is our belief that by practicing planned procedures, we will be better prepared in the event of an actual emergency.

Are you missing social connections? Need heating assistance? Job insecurity? The Parenting Place can help. They provide assistance with housing, parenting, food resources, and more. Call (608)792-3923 for more information.

A special “Thank You” is extended to all service members as we honor you on Veterans Day. Your commitment to the people of our country is greatly appreciated!



PTO News

Are you interested in serving on the PreK PTO Mini Grant Committee? If so, please call or email Ms. Eitland at eitsue@holmen.k12.wi.us and our teacher rep, Ms. Manske at mankya@holmen.k12.wi.us

What are the expectations?

- You would be sent staff requests for mini grants via email and asked to review them.
- After reviewing, determine whether you would approve or deny each mini grant request (criteria will be shared in email with mini grant requests).
- Send back via email your input (whether you approve or deny each request).

What is the time commitment?

- We ask that the parent representatives respond to Ms. Eitland and Ms. Manske within one week of receiving the mini grant submissions.
- Staff submissions are due November 8th. You will receive mini grant requests via email on Nov. 11th. We are asking for a response from parents on the committee before Nov. 18th.

How will we and staff learn of the overall results?

- Ms. Eitland and Ms. Manske will email the parents on the Mini Grant Committee the final results based on parent responses.
- Ms. Manske and Ms. Eitland will inform staff whether their grant was approved, and if so, help with ordering of the items. Then, staff will make items available to students.

For the fall of 2024, each classroom or program may submit one grant for up to \$100. The items purchased will be used during the current school year and likely beyond to help support 4K/EC students and programming. There will be another mini grant writing opportunity for staff in the spring. We are hopeful, but it is not a requirement that whomever agrees to be on this fall committee will also help out in the spring. Thank you for your consideration!

Original Works Fundraiser

On Friday, Oct 25th, there was a piece of artwork sent home in your child's folder, along with a brochure and information pertaining to the Original Works Fundraiser. Please review the information and if interested in ordering, return the artwork, along with your order form to school by November 4th. The artwork makes wonderful gifts for family and friends. Proceeds go to the Holmen PreK PTO which supports 4K/EC mini grants for students and classrooms and helps to offset costs for special Family Night Events that we host throughout the year. Please know that you are under no obligation to place an order. Let us know if you have any questions.

PBIS/Pyramid Model and Literacy Event

Mark your calendars for the Holmen Public Preschool's PBIS/Pyramid Model/Literacy Event this month!

Thursday, November 21st
4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. (Open House style – come and go as you wish)
Viking Elementary Cafeteria and Gym

Our staff will introduce families to a number of books for promoting social-emotional development and ways to share these books with your child. You will also learn about parent resources for encouraging reading and social-emotional development at home.

At the end of the evening, you will have a folder full of resources to take home. There will be refreshments provided and each EC/4K student will go home with a book!

We hope to see many families in attendance! An RSVP will be sent home soon. Please return it in your child's folder on or before the event if your family is able to join us.

~Holmen Public Preschool Staff

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.'

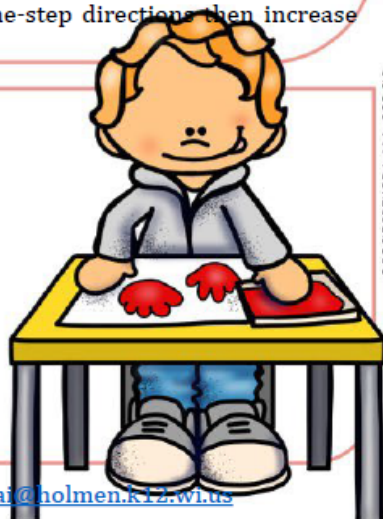
STRATEGY OF THE MONTH: WORD PLAY

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.

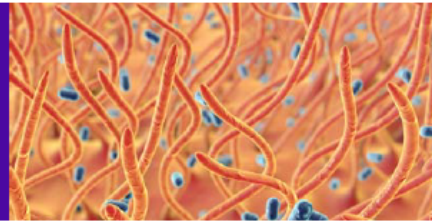
Word Associations— "which two things go together? juice, dog & milk" This also helps with identifying features and categorizing.



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

PERTUSSIS (WHOOPIING COUGH)



Pertussis, also called whooping cough, is a disease that is caused by a bacteria that attaches to the lining of the lungs. At first a person may feel like they have a cold with a runny nose, low-grade fever, and slight cough. After about a week, the person can start to have violent dry, coughing fits that can last a minute or longer. These fits can make it hard to breathe. Often during the coughing fits, a person needs to take a deep breath, which causes a “whooping” sound. Sometimes the coughing fits lead to vomiting. The disease is most serious in babies and can cause pneumonia (a lung infection). Half of babies who catch whooping cough go to the hospital and some even die.

How is it spread?



- ▶ Pertussis is caused by a bacteria that can easily be spread from person to person.
- ▶ Babies can catch pertussis from anyone around them (e.g., parents, siblings, grandparents, or babysitters) who spread the disease while holding or caring for the baby.
- ▶ The bacteria travels through the air on droplets of saliva. It can be spread by a sick person coughing or sneezing, or by spending time near an infected person.
- ▶ Infected people can spread pertussis up to three weeks after the cough begins if they are not treated with the appropriate antibiotics.

What are the signs and symptoms?



Early Symptoms

- ▶ Runny nose
- ▶ Occasional cough

Later Symptoms

- ▶ Fits of violent coughs that may be followed by a deep breath that makes a “whoop” sound or vomiting
- ▶ Coughing fits that make it difficult to breathe

How can pertussis be prevented?

The best way to prevent pertussis among babies, teens, and adults is to get vaccinated.



- ▶ Children need five doses of DTaP (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis) vaccine; the series is administered at ages 2, 4, 6, and 15 months, and a booster between 4 and 6 years of age.
- ▶ Teenagers should get the Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis) vaccine at age 11 or 12 years.
- ▶ Pregnant women should receive one dose of Tdap during each pregnancy, preferably during the early part of gestational weeks 27–36, regardless of prior history of receiving Tdap.
- ▶ Other adults should get at least one Tdap vaccine in their life.
- ▶ Keep babies and other high-risk people away from people who are sick with pertussis.
- ▶ *Talk with your health care professional about getting vaccinated against pertussis.*

For more information on the vaccine, please visit:

<http://www.immunize.org/vis/dtap.pdf> or www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vis/vis-statements/tdap.

