Office Staff

Mr. Bellomo – Principal
Mrs. O'Bryan – Secretary 723-5604
Mrs. Casango – a.m. clerk 723- 5605
Mrs. Kerr – p.m. clerk 723 - 5606

Fox Elementary Important Information



17500 Millstone, Macomb, MI 48044
Principal Mr. Bellomo



- **Main Office Number 586-723-5600**
- **Attendance Line: 586-723-5699 (24 hours)**

Please call when your child will be absent, or coming in late.
Reasons to call include fever and vomiting

- **SACC (Childcare) 586-723-5684 Mrs. Kohl, SACC Director**

Hours: 6:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. 3:14 – 6:00p.m.

- **Transportation Number: 586-723-2160**
- **Chippewa Valley Web Site: http://www.cvs.k12.mi.us/fox**

All visitors entering the building must sign at the office and put on a visitors badge

Fox Student Promise

I promise to be a life-long learner
committed to a future of excellence
by being safe, respectful,
and responsible.



Latchkey

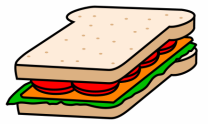
Hours: 6:45-8:50 am and 3:39-6:00 pm

Cost: $4.75 per hour for first child and $4.25 each additional child. $20.00 non-refundable family registration fee.

Any questions please call **Mrs. Kohl,** Director Phone # 586-723-5684

Lunchroom Head Server-Mrs.Pelkey-723-5619

Free and reduced lunch applications will be available in the fall.



Title One Para-Educators and At-Risk Para-Educators

- Title I is a program funded by the Federal government.
- We provide service for the children that need supplemental support in reading as a part of our school-wide intervention and support system.
- We also provide learning kits to students throughout the year for support.



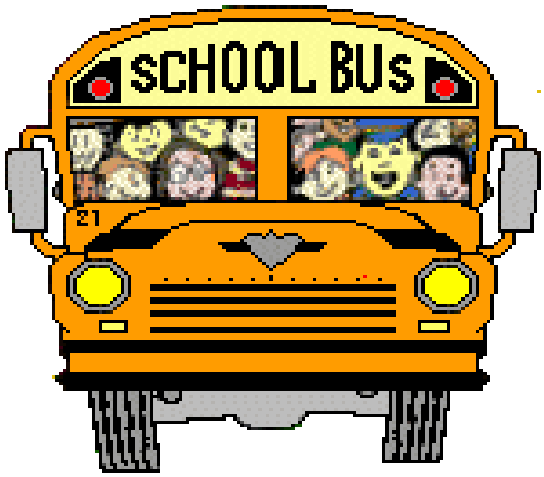
The English Language Program

- In the English Language Program, we are here to provide support for the education of students. We help in the line of communication between parents and teachers. We also assist students with the comprehension of reading, writing, and phonetics. Our English Language team is fluent in English, Spanish, Arabic, and Albanian.
- En el programa bilingüe estamos aquí para el apoyo en la educación de los estudiantes, al mismo tiempo asistimos con comprensión de lectura, ortografía, y fonética a los estudiantes. Ayudamos con la comunicación entre padres y maestros.
- Në Programin e Dygjuhësor, ne jemi këtu për të siguruar mbështetje për arsimimin e studentëve. Ne ndihmojmë në përputhje të komunikimit ndërmjet prindërit dhe mësuesit. Ne gjithashtu ndihmojnë studentët me të kuptuarit e lexim, shkrim, dhe fonetikës.

Bilingual Office /Oficina Bilingüe/:
Spanish - (586) 723-5668

Welcome to Fox PTO

- The Fox PTO supports activities throughout the school year ALL made possible by your participation in our fundraisers.
- Events include Assemblies, Service Squad, Student Council, Kindergarten completion, 5th grade completion, Fox Family nights and much more.
- We encourage parents to get involved in their child's education and one way to do that is by volunteering. We are always looking for energetic and enthusiastic parents to help run many of our events and fundraisers.
- PTO email/phone: 14PTO@cvs.k12.mi.us # (586) 723-5643
  I look forward to meeting each of you in the future and Welcome to the Fox Family.



Fox Elementary
Kindergarten Kickoff
May 26th, 2026

First day of school
Tuesday, September 8, 2026

Gross Motor Movement (large muscles)

- Skip EVERYWHERE
- Jump rope, balance board, hopscotch
- Get your child outdoors – visit playgrounds and splash parks around town
- Use tape or chalk to draw a line on the ground to make your own balance beam
- Toss a ball underhand back and forth: recite the alphabet, say a letter and name a word that begins with that letter, count, etc.
- Hop on one foot then alternate feet
- Encourage your child to stand with their legs crossed

Visit Waldenburg Park (21 mile & Romeo Plank)



Fine Motor Movement (small muscles)

- Encourage your child to begin writing his/her name properly; capital letter first, then all lowercase letters
- Use scissors to cut EVERYTHING – junk mail over the recycle bin
- Mazes, stickers, dot-to-dots
- Place clothes pins around the edge of a box
- Play with play dough or modeling clay
- Write name with crayons over a rubber shelf liner, using a different color for each letter

- Picking up coins with just thumb and pointer finger, storing coins in palm, then laying them out 1 by 1 in a row



Fine Motor Movement (small muscles)

- Fine motor skills actually come from strong upper arm and shoulder muscles. It is important to work on these upper body strength exercises:
  - Chair or wall push-ups
  - Holding arms out and rotating in circles
  - Wheelbarrow walk
  - Cook with your child-Stirring dough with a spoon-talk about measuring, adding more or needing less
  - Jumping rope
  - Writing on a vertical surface such as an easel, mirror or wall

MTSS- Multi-Tiered Systems of Support

Fox Elementary strongly believes in improving student achievement and continuously showing student growth. For this reason, we implement MTSS (Multi-Tiered Systems of Support). These systems of support consist of programs and resources used by both teachers and para-educators in an effort to increase student skills in specific areas of concern and to challenge students when they are at or above grade level. Based on specific assessments and teacher observations, students are placed into tiered groups for interventions and support.

Tier 1- Students at benchmark (grade Level) are challenged during specific intervention times.
Tier 2- Students below expected grade level expectations are provided Strategic interventions and support during specific intervention times.
Tier 3- Students below expected grade level expectations are provided Intensive interventions and support during specific intervention times.

Students may receive computer based instruction that is monitored and supported by para-educators or they may receive direct small group instruction from para educators or classroom teachers that involves specific activities and strategies geared at improving their areas of concern.

Title One, At-Risk, and English Language para-educators along with our teachers all work with students in our multi-tiered systems of support during the day.

Talking and Understanding

- Talk about spatial relationships (first, middle and last; Right, and left and opposites (up/down, big/little)
- Offer a description or clues and have your child identify what you are describing (Playing "I Spy").
- Point out things that are the same or different.
- Sort items into categories. Now try to sort them by pointing out more subtle differences between objects (i.e., rocks that are smooth vs. those that are rough, heavy/ light, big/ small). Have your child identify the object that does not belong in a given category and explain why the item does not belong.
  - Expand on social communication and narration skills (telling a story) by role playing. Play house or store using dialogue, props, and dress-up clothes. Do the same with a dollhouse and its props, acting out scenes and making the dolls talk.
- Read stories with easy to follow plots. Help your child predict what will happen next in the story. Act out the stories and put on puppet shows of the stories. Have your child draw a picture of a scene from the story. You can do the same thing with videos and TV shows. Ask questions like who, what, when, where, why.
- Give your child two-step directions (i.e.,"Get your coat from the closet and put it on".) Encourage your child to give directions to explain how he or she has done something (i.e., how he made a structure out of Lego's).
- Have your child help you plan and discuss daily activities (i.e., making a shopping list, planning a birthday party). Ask his or her opinion.

Fun-filled Field Trips

- Grocery store – name fruits and vegetables, read names on labels, read the signs and ask your child what you might find down that aisle
- Public library – play with the puppets, attend story times, check out ABC books
- Sprinkler parks – Metro Beach
- Music in the Park-At local Parks/Recreation
- Pet store – talk about the animals and their needs
- Dollar store or dollar bins at craft stores-buy scraps of things to use for creative projects

Read It and Get It

- Talk /questions about the cover, ignite curiosity about what might happen inside the book. **"I wonder…"**
- Books often remind us of personal experiences, you might want to say, "**That reminds me of**…."
- As you read, talk about what you see in your mind, **"I can get a picture in my mind…"**
- During reading, model what's important to remember in the books you read together. **"This is important…"**
- Make a game of "getting it": Pause and summarize the story line thus far
- Talk about the book and their favorite part, character and feelings about the story----ask questions
- Playing word games, reading riddle books, and listening to rhyming songs are fun ways to set the stage for reading and understanding.

PREPARING OUR STUDENTS FOR READING

SUPPORTING READING AND LITERACY (INFANTS AND TODDLERS INCLUDED)

You may not realize this but as parents we can begin preparing our children to read as early on as infancy. How so? Every time we talk to our children we are using different words, vocabulary, modeling conversations, and demonstrating the overall use of language. Even though talking with your child may not seem like reading, it does prepare your "little one" to be a successful reader in the future.

Did you know that the more you talk with your child the better prepared they will be for reading? Now, it is important to know that there is different type of "talk". When we give commands it would not be considered conversational talk with our child. Additionally, when our children overhear us talking to someone else, it does not have the same positive impact on their developing literacy skills as it does when we personally talk to them. To help best prepare your infant or toddler for literacy, be sure that they engage in frequent talk with you and not just overhear you speaking with someone else or engaging in basic "command" talk. (Command talk would be giving the child directions or asking basic task related questions) Multiple studies have been conducted comparing the literacy skills of infants, toddlers, non and school age children who engage in frequent conversations and talk with adults in their homes. The results all point to the same thing. Talking to our kids and engaging in rich conversations gives them a head start for skills they will need in both school and life. These children have been shown to have bigger vocabularies and stronger comprehension skills needed for being successful readers.

Want to help prepare your infant or toddler for their future reading skills, vocabulary use, reading comprehension, and overall literacy? Talk to them as much as you can each day. Use new vocabulary with them. Engage in rich conversations even at a very young age. Although you may not realize it, you are preparing them for reading and literacy.



Everyone Can Read!!

We teach kindergartners that there are different ways to read:

- "Picture read" - read a book by looking at the pictures and talking about the things you see
- "Pretend read" – pick an old favorite and tell the story
- "Read aloud" – reading all the words as they are written using picture clues as needed and/or using beginning letter sounds
- Talk about print on the page with your child
- Introduce Author- Illustrator
- Show children how to use their finger for tracking words
- Show how you can label your home/pictures etc.

Don't forget environmental print…signs like McDonald's, Target, STOP, and even the words on the cereal boxes is

READING!

Kindergarten Curriculum

- **Practice writing first and last name**
- **Practice writing letters and numbers**
- **Practice basic colors and shapes**
- **Recognize upper and lowercase letters in random order (this is different than singing the alphabet song)**

- **Practice letter sounds**
- **Rhyming**

Recognize numbers 0-20 & 45 sight words

Letter Recognition Ideas for Home Practice

- Start with letters in their own names and of their family members. Point to the letters as you spell the names together
- Spell the sight words together, pointing to each letter
- Climb the stairs-put a letter on each step. The child says each letter as they climb the stairs (you can lay the letters on the floor if there are no stairs). Start with five letters of the alphabet and add more after child masters these.
- ABC puzzles
- Paint letters on cement with water



Directionality (Knowing left and right)

A secure sense directionality will help the child learn to read, this is a pre-reading skill

- As you walk through a store, give him/her directions (turn right at the next aisle, turn left at the shoes, etc.)
- Name the child's feet as they put on shoes – "That is your left shoe." Or, "Which shoe are you going to put on first?"
- Put a sticker on the top of your child's right hand. Throughout the day say, "Show me your right hand."
- When you sit down to read with your child, mention that you are starting to read on the left side. Point as you move to the right side of the book. Do the same thing when you or your children are writing together.

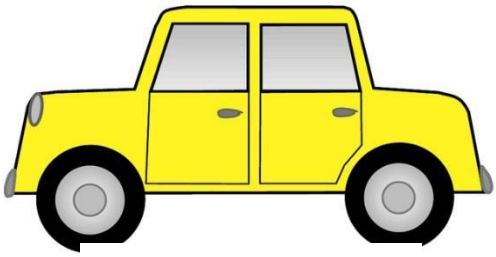
Alphabet Fun

- Teach letter names of the alphabet with songs
- Read and point at letters in magazines together
- Play challenge games of letters on cards out of order
- Trace letters in sand, salt, sugar or bumpy cards

- Use alphabet chart, say letter and sound
- Use magnet letters on fridge to recognize letters
- Play games of matching upper and lower case letters
- Cut letters and pictures out of magazines, match beginning letter sound to the correct picture
- Read ABC books together
- Write upper and lower case letters so child can trace, with crayons, chalk, or markers
- Place alphabet chart on refrigerator so child can practice daily.

Let the Car be your Playground

- Point out and encourage your child to read familiar signs (McDonald's, Target, stop, exit, etc.)
- Find individual letters of the alphabet on signs
- Read numbers around you – exit signs, house numbers, etc.
- Sing and chant nursery rhymes
- "Toss the rhyme" – go back and forth rhyming words with your child (he says "cat", you say "bat", he says "mat", etc.)
- "Turtle talk" – say a word or phrase very slowly and see if your child can then say it quickly, switch roles
- "Clap a word" – say a word then clap the number of syllables while repeating the word
- Have your child tell you a familiar story such as Goldilocks or 3 Little Pigs
- Use educational CD's like "Mother Goose Rocks"
- Try to count objects: counting cars, flags, etc.



Future Of eXcellence

Building Responsibility

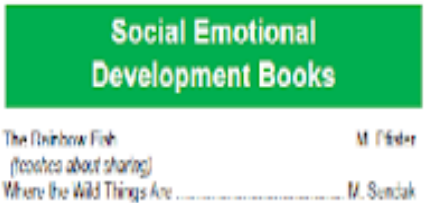
- Practice zipping and filling a backpack
- Practice learning to tie own tennis shoes
- Make a "School Spot" – a designated place for school items
- Opening Ziploc bags, snack bags, drink boxes / water bottles
- Dressing self COMPLETELY and independently
- Independently blow nose with tissue
- Practice washing hands responsibly after using bathroom
- Giving your child 2-step directions (i.e. put your shoes in the corner and hang up your coat; or go get a book and put it on the 2nd shelf)
- For SAFETY purposes, help your child learn his/her full name, address, and phone number

Helpful Websites

- www.Razkids.com
- www.Theschoolbell.com
- www.k12reader.com
- www.abcya.com/kids_typing_game.htm
- www.mrsperkins.com/dolch.htm
- www.kidzone.ws/dolch/kindergarten.htm
- https://www.prodigygame.com/ (for math)



EARLY LITERACY BOOK LIST







Transitioning into Kindergarten Children's Books

- Miss Bindergarten Gets Ready for Kindergarten ... J. Slate
- Seven Little Mice Go to School ... K. Iwamura
- Pete the Cat: Rocking in My School Shoes ... E. Litwin
- Mum, It's My First Day of Kindergarten ... H. Yum
- Yoko Learns to Read ... R. Wells
- Kindergarten Kids ... E. Sensei
- Timothy Goes to School ... R. Wells
- Franklin Goes to School ... R. Bunnett
- My First Day of School ... N. Starmees
- Will I Have a Friend? ... M. Cohen
- Froggy Goes to School ... J. London
- When You Go to Kindergarten ... J. Howe
- Kindergarten Rocks! ... K. Lewis
- Kindergarten Countdown ... A. Hays
- Curious George's First Day of School ... H A. Rey
- Leo the Late Bloomer ... R. Kraus
- Welcome to Kindergarten ... A. Rockwell
- I Am NOT Going to School Today! ... K. Harris
- Mouse's First Day of School ... L. Thomson
- Tiptoe into Kindergarten ... J. Rogers
- The Kissing Hand ... A. Penn
- Making Friends ... F. Rogers
- The Night Before Kindergarten ... N. Wing
- Look Out Kindergarten, Here I Come! ... N. Carlson
- Countdown to Kindergarten ... A. McGhee
- Emily's First 100 Days of School ... R. Wells
- Twelve Days of Kindergarten - A Counting Book ... D. Rose
- Ruby in Her Own Time ... J. Emmett
- Dino Starts School ... P. Edwards
- Starting School ... A. and J. Ahlberg
- Tom Goes to Kindergarten ... M. Wild and D. Legge
- Ryan and Ruby Go to Kindergarten ... A. McNeece and W. Betway
- Annabelle Swift, Kindergartener ... A. Schwartz
- On the Way to Kindergarten ... V. Knorl
- The Puppy Who Went to School ... G. Herman
- Do I Have to Go to School? ... P. Thomas
- Wemberly Worried ... K. Henkes
- I Don't Want to Go to School! ... S. Blake
- Jake Starts School ... M. Wright
- I Love School ... P. Sturges
- Kindergarten ABC ... J. Rogers
- Cool Dog, School Dog ... D. Heiligman
- Time For School, Nathan! ... L. Delacre
- What Teachers Can't Do ... D. Wood
- Who Will Go to Kindergarten Today? ... K. Kuhlmann
- My Kindergarten ... R. Wells
- How Do Dinosaurs Go to School? ... J. Yolen
- This is the Way We Go to School ... L. User
- The Berenstain Bears Go Back To School ... S. and J. Berenstain
- Adventure Annie Goes to Kindergarten ... T. Buzzeo
- The Best Teacher Ever ... M. Mayer
- Is Your Buffalo Ready for Kindergarten? ... A. Vernick
- Kindergarten Diary ... A. Parks
- First Day Jitters ... J. Dannebert
- Off to Kindergarten ... T. Johnston
- Let's Talk Over Kindergarten ... R. Hamilton
- Otto Goes to School ... T. Parr



SUMMER READING LIST

Great Lakes Great Books Award Winners 2017

Kindergarten and First Grade

Dino Racing ..... Lisa Wheeler

Second and Third Grade

Memoirs of a Parrot ..... Devin Scillian

Fourth and Fifth Grade

The Wild Robot ..... Peter Brown

Visit Your Local Library Today

Do your family members have their own library cards? One way to establish a love of reading is to frequently visit your local library. Libraries have wonderful collections of books, audio, and other media resources for you to borrow. Libraries also host summer reading initiatives and special events for kids. Visit your local library and bring this summer reading list with you for book recommendations.



Little Free Library

Join the Little Free Library initiative and find a little library near you! You may just be inspired to build a lending library for your community!

http://littlefreelibrary.org/ourmap/



Great Lakes Great Books Award Nominees 2018

Get a jump start on reading the Michigan Reading Association's nominees for the 2018 Great Lakes Great Book Awards. Nominated titles include:

Kindergarten and First Grade

Big Cat, little cat ..... Elisha Cooper
This Is How We Do It ..... Matt Lamothe
How Sky Wrote Stars ..... Surrender Nabeehaus
Life ..... Cynthia Rylant
After the Fall ..... Dan Santat
I Am Josephine ..... Jim Thornhill
The Water Princess ..... Susan Verde
That's My Book and Other Stories ..... Salina Yoon

Second and Third Grade

Whoosh! ..... Chris Barton
The Legend of Rock Paper Scissors ..... Drew Daywalt
Max and Jane and the Wonder Wheel ..... C. Merrole Harper
Spinach Dip Pancakes ..... Kevin Kammeraad
The Infamous Ratton Are Not Afraid ..... Kam LaKeam
The Youngest Marcher ..... Cynthia Levinson
Nerdy Birdy Tweets ..... Aaron Reynolds
If Sharks Disappeared ..... Lily Williams

Fourth and Fifth Grade

Grand Canyon ..... Jason Chin
Three Promises ..... Melanie Crowder
Real Friends ..... Shannon Hale
The Enemy, Detroit, 1954 ..... Sara E. Hollbrook
How Many Guinea Pigs Can Fit on a Plane? ..... Laura Overdeck
Silent Days, Silent Dreams ..... Allen Say
Orphan Island ..... Laurel Snyder
Save Me a Seat ..... Sarah Weeks

To find out more about Great Lakes Great Books and to vote for your favorite, please visit michiganreading.org and click on Student Involvement.



2018 Award Winning Books as announced by the American Library Association

John Newbery Medal

John Newbery Medal for the most outstanding contribution to children's literature.

Hello, Universe ..... Erin Entrada Kelly

John Newbery Honor Books

Crown: An Ode to the Fresh Cut ..... Derrick Barnes
Long Way Down ..... Jason Reynolds
Piecing Me Together ..... Renée Watson

Randolph Caldecott Medal

Randolph Caldecott Medal for the most distinguished American picture book for children.

Wolf in the Snow ... illustrated/written by Matthew Cordell

Randolph Caldecott Honor Books

Big Cat, little cat ..... illustrated/written by Elisha Cooper

Crown: An Ode to the Fresh Cut ..... Derrick Barnes
illustrated by Gordon C. James

A Different Pond ..... Bao Phi
illustrated by Thi Bui

Grand Canyon ..... illustrated/written by Jason Chin

Coretta Scott King (Author) Award

Coretta Scott King Award recognizing an African American author and illustrator of outstanding books for children and young adults.

Piecing Me Together ..... Renée Watson

Coretta Scott King Honor Books

Crown: An Ode to the Fresh Cut ..... Derrick Barnes
Long Way Down ..... Jason Reynolds
The Hate U Give ..... Angie Thomas