

Reading

- enjoy getting a book as a present
- have many books of his/her own and special place to keep them
- recognize his/her first name in print
- look at books or pictures on his/her own
- read stories or poems to you (reads or pretends to read a book to you)
- try to read in everyday situations (street signs, store signs, cereal boxes, magazines, newspapers, TV advertisements)
- try to talk about or retell the stories or poems heard in school
- try to read along with you on your favorite parts of the story or sentences that are repeated over and over again
- see you reading
- know nursery rhymes by heart
- pretend to read books by reading the pictures

Social & Emotional Development

- use words to solve problems when angry or frustrated
- use words such as "please," "thank you" and "excuse me"
- attempt new tasks knowing it's okay to make mistakes
- do things for him/herself (dress self, put toys away, take care of own toilet needs)
- have success in taking turns and sharing
- interact appropriately with peers and have friends
- ask for help when necessary
- stay with an activity to completion (finish a picture, build something with blocks/legos)
- follow through when you give directions
- comply with rules, limits and routines
- interact appropriately with adults
- respect the rights, property and feelings of others

Find more online!

www.branchburg.k12.nj.us

Whiton Elementary School

We're excited to have your kindergartner or First Grader as a new Whiton Owl

We have more information and help online!



School Day 8:50am-3:40pm



Call With Questions
908-371-0842

To & From School

Information regarding bus routes and times will be mailed to your home in late August. The District will bus your children to after care facilities, providing those facilities are in Branchburg.

If you will be driving your child to school, you will drop them off by the side playground and they will enter through the gym. This is also where you will pick them up in the afternoon.

- Drop Off is between 8:50 and 9:00
- Pick Up is between 3:40 and 3:50

For questions regarding transportation, please call Mr. Robert Cline at 908-725-2895



We LOVE Parent Help!
Sign Up with our PTO.

Number Concept Development

- arrange items in groups according to size, shape or color
- group items that are the same
- arrange toys or objects in size order (big to small or small to big)
- use words like "bigger," "smaller," or "heaviest" to show comparison
- compare the size of groups of toys or items
- correctly count four to ten objects
- show and understanding of the passing of time

Language

- talk in sentences
- follow through when you give one or two directions
- use descriptive language ("That's a tall building with round windows.")
- use simple conversational sentences
sing and/or recite nursery rhymes
- use sentence that include two or more separate ideas
- pretend, create and make up songs and stories
- talk about everyday experiences
- ask questions about how things work in the world around him/her
- express his/her ideas so that others can understand
- tell or retell stories

Writing

- try to write, scribble or draw
- have a collection of paper, pencils, crayons
- like to receive notes from you and others
- ask you to write words or notes to people
- use chalk or magnetic letters
- attempt to write letters and/or numbers
- attempt to write his/her name with a capital only at the beginning
- attempt to invent his/her own spelling while writing (scribbling sentences)
- see you writing (notes, recipes, lists, letters, reminders)
- demonstrate a preference for being left or right handed

Readiness Skills

Encouraging the development of the following skills will help prepare your child for a successful start to their school career.

Concept Development

- recognize and/or name colors
- match or sort by color and shape
- participate in art and music activities
- understand concepts such as: in, out, under, on, off, front, back
- know his/her body parts (head, shoulder, knees, etc)
- draw a picture of his/herself including head, body, arms, and legs

Physical Development

- put puzzles together
- cut with scissors
- try to tie his/her shoes
- enjoy outdoor play (running, jumping, climbing)
- hold a crayon or marker
- ride a tricycle
- bounce a ball

Health and Safety

- have a set routine and schedule for preparing for bed, personal hygiene (brushes teeth, takes a bath) and eating meals
- use good habits (uses spoon to eat, closes mouth when chewing, covers nose and mouth to sneeze, washes hands after using toilet and before eating)
- follow simple safety rules
- visit the doctor and dentist regularly
- eat healthy foods

Thank you for all you are doing as your child's "first teacher." We look forward to partnering with you in his/her continued development and academic growth for many years to come.

These supplies have been chosen by your kindergarten teachers. Save big if you shop during "back to school" sales!

School Supplies

We will be sending out a school supply list at the end of the school year. The list for all grade levels will be posted on the website, and will be emailed to families by July 1.

As you shop for backpacks, please keep in mind that we do not permit backpacks on wheels. All students will need a full-sized (child-sized) backpack



Before and After Care

Before and After care is provided at Whiton through The Jointure – 908-722-0233. Students can be dropped off at Whiton as early as 7:00 and are picked up by 6:30pm. Students have time to complete homework, have a snack, and play, play, play!

Lunch and Breakfast

Each child at Whiton has a lunch account in his/her name through our food service provider, Maschios. Deposits to pay for your child's lunch can be made online at www.payforit.net or with cash/check at school. Students who are in the Before Care program have the opportunity to purchase cereal or a bagel for breakfast, also through their account with Maschios.

We recommend using www.payforit.net to manage your child's lunch account. A simple, effective and secure way of doing lunch!

When paying for lunch, you can send a personal check payable to Maschios Food Service in with your child on Mondays. The cost for lunch will be posted by September. Always remind your child when dropping them off about turning the check in. Please also include your child's name in the memo whenever sending a check to school.



Chocolate and white milk are available everyday. Students can purchase milk to go with a lunch brought from home.

Attendance

A successful school experience is the responsibility of the children, the parent, and the school. Your child's progress, both academically and socially, is influenced to a great extent by daily participation. Regular attendance without tardiness is the key!

Daily attendance is extremely important to your child's educational experience. We have the expectation that if your child is healthy, he/she will be in attendance.

If your child arrives after 9:00am, he/she goes to the office to receive a tardy slip before entering class.

Office Hours: 8:00am - 4:30pm

If your child is absent from school for any reason, please call the school office at 908-371-0842 before 9:00am. Our attendance line can be reached by pressing 2

If schools are closed for an emergency, announcements will be made via the Honeywell Alert System. Instructions for registering will be included with our summer mailing packet.

School Day:

8:50am - 3:40pm