

Welcome to Preschool

Teacher- Ms. Kat

Speech and Language Pathologist- Ms. Alex

Instructional Assistant- Ms. Lippy

Occupational Therapist- Ms. Becky

Physical Therapist- Ms. Allison

First Day of School

You are probably excited and somewhat nervous for this big event! Your child may feel the same way. There are going to be many new things for you and your child to experience — a new teacher, new friends, new school (for some), and new experiences in the classroom. I want to do everything I can to make your child's first day of school as pleasant and fun as possible. This information packet is designed to fill you in on the specifics.

Before the program starts, you may want to read your child a few books with a starting school theme. These stories can help your child get in touch with his/her feelings about going to a new place and separating from you. Reading also gives your child an opportunity to talk about these feelings or ask you questions about what to expect. It's also a good idea to go over the attached daily schedule with your child and talk about some of the things he/she will be doing in class.

Every child will be signed in and out by an adult that is listed on your child's emergency card or otherwise specified on a written notice. Your child may cry on their first day, and even the second or third day. This is normal, and we are used to this. We are comfortable with you leaving, even when they are crying. Experience suggests: the sooner you leave, the sooner your child will engage in the activities of the school day.

Attendance

Please let us know when your child will miss school for any reason. Leave a message at 480-897-6233

If your child rides the bus, you will also need to call 480-642-1540 ext. 1

Also, text Ms. Kat and let her know. 480-254-7483

Backpacks

Each student will be provided with a folder, containing any important information such as the monthly newsletter, calendar, and other important documents. This folder will go home every Monday. Please remove the items in the folder and return the folder Tuesday. There may be independently made art projects, these can be removed too. Additionally, please send diapers and wipes in the backpack if applicable.

Snack

Snack is provided by the district, however on special events, such as color of the month day, I may ask your child to bring something in. If your child has sensitive diet restrictions, please alert me so we can be properly prepared. If you want to send in a birthday treat, please let me know ahead of time. Items must be store bought – not homemade (school district policy). Thank you!

Extra Clothing

Because children learn best by doing, sometimes we get messy. Please bring an extra pair of short/pants (depending on the season), T-shirt, socks and underwear in a gallon Ziploc baggie labeled with your child's name. This baggie will be taken out and kept in the bathroom and used when needed. Even if your child is fully potty trained it is still important to have an extra set of clothes in case of spills or an art project gone wrong.

Communication

I am happy to communicate in anyway that is most comfortable for you. Email, phone call, text, and IEP progress reports/annual meetings. ALSO, please sign up for text updates. (see next section)

I am always happy to keep the lines of communication open.

Miss Kat's Phone Number: 480-254-7483 (Call or Text)

Email: kbrenzen@tempeschools.org

Webpage: <http://misskatsmeow.weebly.com>

Text Updates

Sign up for my text updates by going to the link: rmdat/meow2018
You can have multiple phones for each student signed up. Please remember that standard data and message rates apply. You can also download the "Remind" app for more communication options.

Newsletter/Calendar

At the end of the month a newsletter/calendar will be sent home in a folder. This newsletter will also be posted on the class webpage. The newsletter will have all the vital information about upcoming events and the week's objectives, classroom requests and overall communication about what we are doing in the classroom. Please make a habit of checking the newsletter as much as possible.

Webpage

www.misskatsmeow.weebly.com

We are very busy at school and squeeze as much content and fun into the 25-hour sessions. In addition to the hard copies that go home every month, I also upload the calendar, newsletter, etc. to the webpage if you prefer to have a digital copy.

I upload pictures of the students playing, learning, and working about twice a month. This is a great opportunity to chat with your child about what he/she did at school.

Dress Code

Our primary goal is to keep our students safe. We play outside often, so sneakers are best! Additionally, we will be getting messy at times so please dress your child appropriately.

PTO

Our Getz PTO has organized many wonderful events and fundraisers to support our students in the past. Because most of our parents are only at Getz for a couple of years, we are always looking for new PTO members. There will be NO cost to join PTO this year. It is a great way to become more involved and more knowledgeable about your child's education.

Curriculum

This year we'll be combining *Handwriting Without Tears*, *Second Step*, and our new curriculum *Big Day for PreK*.

The award-winning pre-k *Handwriting Without Tears* curriculum is developmentally appropriate and designed so that all children can thrive and build a strong foundation for kindergarten. *Get Set for School* uses music and movement to engage children and help them develop good learning habits.

Children actively learn as they play, color, draw, count, build, and sing. This curriculum helps your child develop social-emotional skills to support learning, build physical coordination/strength/crayon grip, recognize letters and numbers, learn habits for writing letters and numbers (start at the top!), ask and answer questions, build vocabulary, listen to and repeat a simple story, sort objects by size/color/other attributes, count/sort/create patterns, and so much more.

Second Step is a curriculum used for development of social and emotional skills. The curriculum includes songs, stories, visual aides, techniques and strategies for problem solving and sharing.

Big Day for PreK is the district approved curriculum. The curriculum covers all state standards in language, writing, mathematics, science, social studies, PE, social emotional, and art.

A Note From Ms. Alex

Welcome to the new school year at Getzl! I hope you all had a terrific summer. My name is Alexandria (Alex) Leach. I am the Speech-Language Pathologist working in Ms. Kat's room. I am very eager to work with your children and look forward to our collaboration. I will be with your children, in Ms. Kat's class, on Wednesday and Thursday each week. I will be participating in snack and center time activities, as well as providing speech-language therapy on these days. In addition, on Thursdays I will a run circle time and incorporate speech and language activities. I encourage you to communicate through notes, by email or by phone if there are any questions or I can assist in any way. I am looking forward to this year and all watching your children reach their speech-language goals.

Contact Information:

Alexandria Leach MS, CF-SLP
Alexandrialeach@tempeschools.org

517-581-1447 (Call or Text)

Our Daily Schedule

AM	Activity	PM
9:45-10:00	Playground	1:15-1:30
10:00-10:15	Routine into classroom	1:30-1:45
10:15-10:30	Class routine/Yoga	1:45-2:00
10:30-10:50	Circle Time	2:00-2:20
10:50-11:10	Snack	2:20-2:40
11:10-12:15	Center & Quick "backyard" play	2:40-3:45
12:15-12:30	Closing Circle/ Backpack routine	3:45-4:00

- Additionally times are subject to student needs.
- Circle is run by the SLP weekly
- Snack is used as a therapy time

2018-2019 Themes

August: Ready for School

September: My Family

October: Our Community

November: Awesome Animals

December: Multicultural

January: Imagine it, Make it

February: Project Based Learning

March: Growing Up Healthy

April: Nature All Around Us

May: Moving On