



Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are so excited that your child will be a Willow Grove kindergarten student!

You may be wondering what skills you can work on with your child between now and the start of the school year in August to support their success. In fact, you *can* help give him/her a significant advantage....

We encourage you to work with your child to develop these skills ***before the school year begins***. That is, before starting kindergarten, your child should be able to:

- Put on and take off his/her coat independently (including zipping)
- Hang up his/her coat and backpack on a hook
- Feed himself/herself independently using utensils (spoon/fork or chopsticks)
- Complete his/her bathroom routine with no help from adults. This includes:
 - Hand washing
 - Pulling their clothing up and down
 - Wiping
 - Fastening buttons (If they cannot, choose clothing with stretchy elastic waistbands or other appropriate fastenings for ease of bathrooming.)

Also, it would support your kindergartners' success if they begin kindergarten with these skills:

- Know the alphabet (the ABCs)
- Write his/her first name
- Cut with scissors
- Count aloud to 20
- Identify numbers 1 through 10
- Tie his/her own shoes (or wear shoes that do not need to be tied)

A strong ongoing home-school partnership is essential to school success. We look forward to building this partnership with you—beginning right now—before your children enter their classrooms at Willow Grove!