Warm August greetings to our ELA families and friends,

We are excitedly counting down the days until we have students in the classrooms. Although a delay in opening is disappointing, our staff is using this opportunity of time to continue preparing for the arrival of children.

In the meantime, you are invited to come by and visit the school. We are available on Tuesdays at 2pm and Fridays at 10am to show you around. Please reach out and let us know you are coming at ela@marymount.edu. If those times don't work, we will happily find a good time for you.

Enclosed in this newsletter you will find the updated information for our Popsicle Playdate and Meet the Teacher dates, along with another staff member interview, and helpful information for at home. Please feel free to reach out to us with any questions or concerns.

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September Popsicle Date
Please join us for a popsicle playdate at the ELA on Friday, September 15th at 3pm. We’d love for our families to get to know each other and allow you some time to meet the staff!

School Highlights and Features
We were thrilled to have our local NBC station come out recently and film a segment about the Early Learning Academy. We hope you enjoy this sneak peak of ELA. Take a look: NBC4Washington

Classes
We continue to grow as we are still accepting applications for the Fall. We will create our classes mid September and connect the classroom teachers and families through the Brightwheel app. The 3rd week of September, we will invite you and your child to join us for a "Meet the Teacher day" which will allow your child to see their classroom and meet their teacher.

Drop off and Pick Up Schedule
As we prepare for opening day, we need to know your drop off and pick up schedule. Children thrive on consistency so we would ask that you try to maintain a set schedule. Please complete the following google form so that we can anticipate our numbers throughout the day and maintain our student/teacher ratios.
What does my child need for school?

ELA will provide canvas tote bags for each child to carry to and from school each day. And it would be helpful for your child to bring a water bottle to school daily.

All students will need a complete change of clothes that can be kept at school (including socks and underwear or diapers/pull ups). We would also like for your child to have boots to wear outside on wet days, so we can continue learning and playing in the fresh air. Please change out these items as your child grows and the weather changes. All of your child's items should be labeled with first and last name.

At Home Fun and Learning

August Reading List

This month our books are focused on "going to school"

1. **The Kissing Hand.** Written by Audrey Penn and Illustrated by Ruth E. Harper and Nancy M. Leak
   - [Amazon](#)
   - [Youtube](#)

2. **Llama Llama Misses Momma.** Written by Anna Dewdney
   - [Amazon](#)
   - [Youtube](#)

3. **Chu's First Day of School.** Written by Neil Gaiman and Illustrated by Adam Rex
   - [Amazon](#)
   - [Youtube](#)

Activities

Making at home popsicles with your preschooler is fun and educational! You can choose a mold, and then your child can choose favorite fruits and fruit juices. Here's a recipe for some more ideas. Once you and your child fill the mold, place it in the freezer. Talk with your child about how the cold can change the juice. Wait a few hours and enjoy!
Supporting the Family
As you prepare for your child's first experience at school or starting a new school, we are happy to provide information and assistance for a positive and successful transition. Please feel free to contact us with any questions.

Helping Preschoolers Cope With Separation Anxiety, written by Katie Hurley, receives an "A" from ELA Staff regarding ways to assist with the transition to school.

Staff Spotlight

Eve Maryn - Lead Teacher

Favorite food: Tacos, potatoes, and anything with cheese!
Favorite hobby: I love making shirts and other projects with my cricut machine. I'm not very creative, but I'm trying!
Favorite Preschool book: I have so many favorite books! I think one of my favorites is a book called "Try" that was written and illustrated by my friend's sister. I can't wait to share it with all the children at ELA!
Favorite color: I absolutely love the color purple.
Favorite place to visit: My favorite place that I have ever been to is Israel. I learned so much and can't wait to visit again someday.
Fun facts: I can sing the song Row Row Row Your Boat backwards! I learned how at a birthday party when I was young, and I just never forgot it!

For more information on Ms. Maryn and other ELA staff members, please see our website.