



Hello ELA families and friends,

We are excited to be back after our Winter Holiday break. January marks our 4th month to be open and we are thrilled with our growth and increased student enrollment. We now have our 4th classroom open and additional staff have been hired.

Speaking of growth, our teachers have fun winter inspired lessons to get us through the cold months while our students continue to learn and grow. For our large motor skill development and a good dose of fresh air, we will continue to get outside as much as possible and will wear our rain boots and bundle up with our coats, hats, and mittens when needed.

Happy New Year and Happy Winter!



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## Upcoming Events

Early Learning Academy will be closed the following upcoming dates:

Monday, January 15 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Monday, February 19 - Presidents' Day

Click [here](#) for the complete 2023-2024 school year calendar. It can also be found in your Brightwheel app under Documents.



### *Family-Teacher Conferences*

Teachers will be contacting parents to schedule a brief conference for the week of January 29-February 2



## Supporting the Family

Here's a great idea to add to your New Year's resolution list:

["Start the New Year off Right: Resolve to Raise a Reader"](#)

by Reading Rockets





## At Home Fun and Learning

Ms. Kristen shares some of her favorite books and activities

### *January reading list*

**Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus** by Mo Willems

[AMAZON](#)   [YOUTUBE](#)



**And the Dish Ran Away with the Spoon** by Janet Stevens

[AMAZON](#)   [YOUTUBE](#)

### *Activity for home*

**How to Make Fake Snow in 5 minutes!**

In case it doesn't snow, you can make your own!

[YOUTUBE](#)



## Staff Spotlight

***Kristen Cunningham - Director***

**Favorite food:** Nothing better than a good Hamburger!

**Favorite hobby:** I love taking long walks with my dog and snuggling on the couch with a good book.

**Favorite Preschool book:** Toot and Puddle

**Favorite color:** Red

**Favorite place to visit:** Any beach anywhere

**Fun facts:** I grew up in Houston, TX and love the hot, hot, hot weather!



***For more information on Ms. Kristen and other ELA staff members, please see our [website](#).***



# School Highlights and Features

## SCHOOL CLOSINGS/DELAYS

ELA will typically following the decisions of Arlington County Schools for closings/delays. The final decision by ELA will be delivered the following ways:

Brightwheel App

Message on ELA Office Phone # 703-526-6824

ELA has new staff joining us this month. We welcome Asseele Saleh Dirgham as an Assistant Teacher in our Creators 2 1/2 year old room. Additionally, we are happy to have MU School of Education student, Claire Johnson, join us as our first intern for the Spring 2024 Semester.

Let's  
Grow  
Together

### *Getting the word out*

As we continue to grow, we would love to have some "customer" reviews for our Google profile. We value your opinion and would greatly appreciate a few of you taking the time to help us with our ratings!



Play  
with purpose

Marymount University Early Learning Academy

Email: [ela@marymount.edu](mailto:ela@marymount.edu)

Phone: 703-284-5778

2807 N Glebe Rd.

Arlington, VA 22207

<https://marymount.edu/academics/early-learning-academy/>