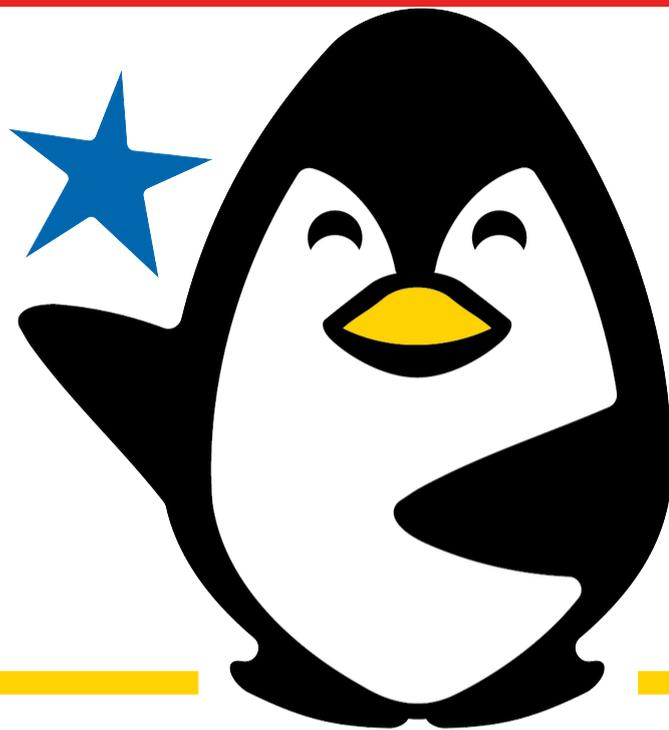


Preschool Parent Newsletter

February 2026



WEST CHICAGO ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL DISTRICT 33

PIONEER PRESCHOOL

Thank you for attending Parent Child Day!

Click this [link](#) for directions so you can do the activities at home!



February Spirit Week

Monday February 9	Tuesday February 10	Wednesday February 11	Thursday February 12	Friday February 13
Share the Love Dress up as something you love!	100th Day of School Dress like you're 100 years old!	Valentine's Day Wear red, pink, purple, and hearts!	Abraham Lincoln's Birthday No school	No School No school

Semana del espíritu de febrero

lunes febrero 9	martes febrero 10	miércoles febrero 11	jueves febrero 12	viernes febrero 13
Comparte el amor ¡Vístete como algo que amas!	El día número 100 de clases ¡Vístanse como si tuvieran 100 años!	Día de San Valentín ¡Vístanse en rojo, rosa, morado, y corazones!	El cumpleaños de Abraham Lincoln No hay escuela	No Escuela No hay escuela

Star Students



Evelyn from Maestra Jackie's Class

Evelyn has shown she is kind, she's always there to comfort and care for her friends when they are hurt or feel sad. She reminds her peers of classroom expectations and also always reminding her friends to be safe. Eve, I am so proud of how kind and helpful you are! 🙏



Kaida from Miss Carrie's Class

Kaida comes to school everyday with a smile and a story to share. She has learned so many letters and letter sounds this school year as well as learning to write her name independently. She is a proud artist, too. Way to go, Kaida!

Benjamin from Miss Shaquita's Class

Benjamin comes to school ready for the day! He shows kindness in playing with friends around a shared activity! He shows safety in his patience for friends when running, he will slow down to allow them to pass before he continues his fun. He shows strength in working together by always finding fun in creating cool builds with friends in the classroom. Benjamin is a funny, cool kiddo and he deserves to a Super Star. 😊



Jaylah from Maestra Maria's Class

Jaylah has grown so much during these five months. She is kind to her classmates, and worries about them when they are not in the green zone. She is friendly with everyone when it comes to play, she is able to invite her friends to play, and have students join her play too. She is safe in the classroom by following the rules that we have, she can communicate to the teacher and classmates when others are not being safe, and helps them remember how to be safe. When it comes to working together, she cooperates during play, learnign, sharing and giving turns/waiting for turns, etc. she is a great example of a leader and works hard when she

Destiny from Miss Jennifer's Class

Destiny is our star student because she is kind and shows genuine care to everyone. She is welcoming and is a friend to all. She is always willing to help a teacher or a friend in need. This is her second year in our classroom and she has made tremendous academic progress too. Destiny is always positive and has a smile that warms your heart. We are so proud of you Destiny!!



Angela from Maestra Leticia's Class

Angela follows our pyramid expectations by being kind, working well with others and following safety rules. She has demonstrated growth since the beginning of the year and follows our classroom routines.

wants to accomplish something she works hard for it. I am so proud of Jaylah, she is showing progress in a lot of areas. She is confident and kind.

Attendance Matters

We LOVE to see you at school

February is all about spreading kindness and showing up for what matters—like your education! Just like you show love to friends and family, show some love for your future by attending school every day. Each class is a step toward success, and we've got some fun Valentine's-themed activities planned to keep things exciting! Let's make this month full of learning, laughter, and lots of love for school!

Kindergarten Registration!



Kindergarten Registration for the 2026–27 School Year

Big First Steps Start Here.

If your child will be 5 years old by September 1, 2026 and lives within District 33 boundaries, it's time to register for kindergarten!

Online Registration Opens Tuesday, March 3

Need help? Join us for in-person registration support from 9am-6pm on the following dates:

Scan here to get started or visit wego33.org/register



**TUESDAY
March 3** Gary Elementary

**WEDNESDAY
March 4** Indian Knoll & Turner Elementary

**THURSDAY
March 5** Currier & Wegner Elementary

Not quite kindergarten yet? We've got you covered.

- **Pioneer Preschool (Ages 3–5)** - FREE for all children living in District 33; get started by completing a Preschool Screening Form.
- **Birth to Three Program** - For families expecting a baby or children under age 3; call 630-293-6000 ext. 1302 for more info.

Interested in the Two-Way Dual Language Program at Gary?

Our Dual Language Program supports students in becoming bilingual, biliterate, and obtaining sociocultural competence.

You must attend ONE of the following events to qualify for the Two-Way Dual Language Program:

In-Person at
Gary Elementary School Library
February 5 or February 19
from 5:30-6:30pm

Virtual on February 11
in **Spanish**: 10-11am
in **English**: 2-3pm





Inscripciones para Kínder para el año escolar 2026-27

Los Primeros Grandes Pasos comienzan aquí.

Si su hijo cumplirá 5 años antes del 1 de septiembre de 2026 y vive dentro de los límites del Distrito 33, ¡es hora de inscribirlo para kínder!

La inscripción en línea se abre el martes 3 de marzo.

¿Necesitan ayuda? Los invitamos a participar en inscripciones presenciales de 9:00 a 6:00pm en las siguientes fechas:

Escanee aquí para comenzar o visite wego33.org/register



**MARTES
3 de marzo** Escuela Primaria Gary

**MIÉRCOLES
4 de marzo** Escuela Primaria Indian Knoll & Turner

**JUEVES
5 de marzo** Escuela Primaria Currier & Wegner

¿Todavía no ha llegado a la edad para kínder? No se preocupen, nosotros nos encargamos.

- **Programa Preescolar Pioneer (3 a 5 años):** GRATUITO para todos los niños que viven en el Distrito 33; para comenzar, complete el formulario de evaluación preescolar.
- **Programa de Recién Nacidos a 3 Años:** Para familias que esperan un bebé o tienen hijos menores de 3 años; llame al 630-293-6000 ext. 1302 para obtener más información.

¿Le interesa el Programa bilingüe bidireccional de Gary?

Nuestro programa de Leguaje Dual apoya a los estudiantes a ser bilingües, biliteratos, y a obtener competencia sociocultural.

Para poder participar en el Programa Dual de dos vías, **debe asistir a UNQ** de los siguientes eventos:

Presencial en la biblioteca de la Escuela Primaria Gary
5 o 19 de febrero de 5:30-6:30pm

Virtual el **11 de febrero** en **español**: de 10-11am

en **inglés**: de 2-3pm



Friendship, Feelings, and Fun!

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Theme of the Month: Kindness & Friendship

- Learning about love and friendship through stories, crafts, and play
- Celebrating what it means to be a kind friend
- Practicing sharing, helping, and using kind words in class

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Learning Focus

- **Literacy:** Valentine's-themed books, name writing for cards, letter recognition
- **Math:** Counting hearts, matching pairs, sorting by color or shape
- **Fine Motor:** Cutting, gluing, making valentines, threading beads

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Books To Read This Month

- *"The Day It Rained Hearts"* by Felicia Bond
- *"Guess How Much I Love You"* by Sam McBratney
- *"How Do Dinosaurs Say I Love You?"* by Jane Yolen

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Social-Emotional Focus: Expressing Feelings

- Talking about emotions and recognizing how others feel
- Using words to express love, frustration, excitement, etc.
- Activities like "How Do You Feel Today?" or feelings charts

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At-Home Connection: Spreading Love & Kindness

- Make homemade valentines together
- Practice complimenting each other at home
- Read a favorite book about love or friendship as a family bedtime story

Chat with the Principal

You are invited to a virtual "Chat with the Principal" this month!

Please log on to Google Meets for a time to talk with members of our Principal team.

- **Date:** Monday, February 2nd at 7:00 PM PreK Chat with the Principal

meet.google.com/bmn-sfoc-sxa

Spanish translation will be provided. We look forward to seeing many of you there!



Healthy Sleep Patterns

Did you know that preschoolers need 10-12 hours of sleep each night? Without proper sleep, children struggle throughout the day and their learning is greatly impacted. [Here](#) is a helpful article on how to establish healthy sleep routines.



Winter Wellness Tips

🧥 Dress for the Weather

Cold air doesn't cause illness, but being underdressed can make kids uncomfortable.

- Send children in layers so they can adjust indoors and outdoors
- Don't forget hats, mittens, scarves, and warm socks
- Label winter gear to help it find its way home

🧼 Wash Hands Often

Handwashing is one of the best ways to stop the spread of germs.

- Wash hands with soap and water for 20 seconds
- Important times: after playing, before eating, after using the bathroom
- Sing a short song to make handwashing fun

🍏 Fuel Little Bodies with Healthy Foods

Nutritious foods help support growing immune systems.

- Offer fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and protein
- Encourage water throughout the day
- Try warm foods like soups, oatmeal, or roasted veggies

😴 Prioritize Rest

Sleep helps children's bodies fight germs.

- Keep consistent bedtimes, even on busy days

- Preschoolers typically need 10–13 hours of sleep each night
- Calm bedtime routines help kids wind down

☹️ Teach “Cover Your Cough”

Simple habits go a long way.

- Cough or sneeze into an elbow, not hands
- Use tissues and throw them away right after
- Wash hands afterward

🏃 Keep Moving

Fresh air and movement are great—even in winter!

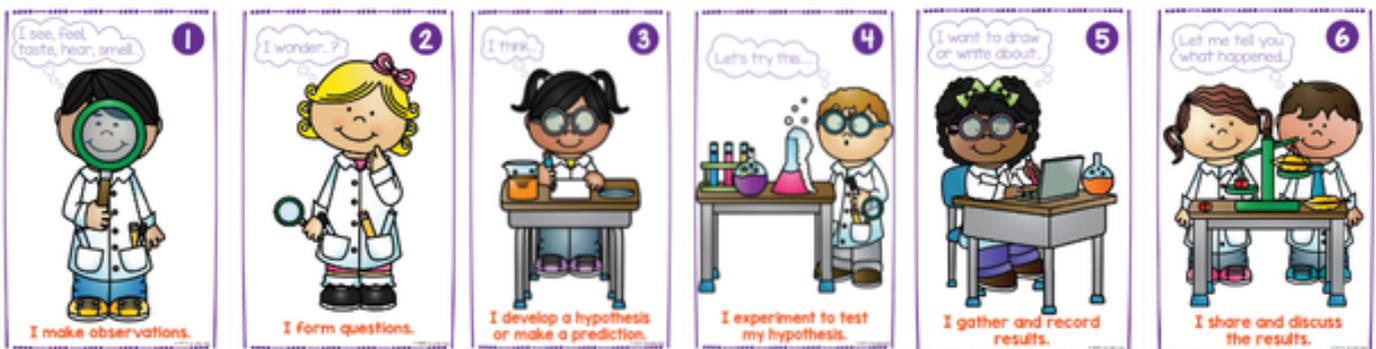
- Enjoy outdoor play on milder days
- Try indoor dancing, yoga, or obstacle courses
- Physical activity boosts mood and overall health

♥ Stay Home When Sick

Keeping sick children home helps everyone stay healthier.

- Watch for fever, vomiting, or unusual tiredness
- Children should be fever-free for 24 hours before returning
- When in doubt, rest is best

Exploring Changes Around Me!



Our Preschool staff and students have begun their next Unit of Study:

Exploring Changes Around Me

Students are learning to reflect and dig deep in their understanding of the Scientific Method, as well as the related standards. To become those investigators they will be studying each step of the Scientific Method so they can plan and carry out simple experiments. We are looking forward to all the fun they will have in observing, predicting, experimenting, gathering and sharing their results with their peers as well as you! We encourage you to ask them what type of experiments they are doing in their classrooms.



Share photos of family celebrations with us!

We'd love to share photos of your family celebrations with our classes. Please send these electronically to your child's teacher anytime.



Reading with your child

We send ARC and library books home in the backpack for you to use. We also encourage you to join the West Chicago library for additional books in your home.

As you read to your child, ask them questions about the pictures and stories and celebrate together all they are learning! Here are some [comprehension questions](#) for you to ask.

Preparing for Possible Snow Days

[Here](#) is the link to the PreK activity boards. In the event of a snow day, your child will complete fun activities from home. Please also consider an art bin, books, blocks, or other toys for your child's at-home learning.



Important Dates!

No School on these days coming up!

Thursday, February 12th - Lincoln's Birthday

Friday, February 13th - Professional Development Day

Monday, February 16th - President's Day

Friday, February 28th - County Wide Institute Day



APTT Parent Conference Night

- Thursday, March 5th- 5:30-7:00 PM



School contact information for attendance

If your child will be absent, please call the Attendance Line to report symptoms **for every day that they are absent**, AND also call the bus company.

Please make sure that all emergency contacts are always updated.

- Pioneer Preschool Attendance Line: 630-293-6040 ext.6300
- Illinois Central School Bus 630-584-1658 EXT 1

How Sick is Too Sick?

[Here](#) is a friendly reminder about the cold season and when it is appropriate to send your child to school. Additionally, **PLEASE CALL** the school attendance line for **EVERY DAY** that your child will

be absent and leave the **REASON** for the absence. Thank you so much for your help with this!



Birth to 3 Program in West Chicago

If you have a child ages 0-2 or know of families with children this age, check out our [Birth to 3 services](#) right here in West Chicago D33!

Call for more information today: 630-473-0778. You can also reach us via email at: wegobirthto3@wego33.org or on Facebook: @d33birthtothree

Preschool Hours

½ day preschool and (extended day until 1:40 PM)

Preschool Hours:

AM 8:40 a.m. - 11:10 a.m.

PM 12:10 p.m.- 2:40 p.m.

Full-day preschool Hours: 8:40 a.m. - 2:40 p.m.





Things Happening in West Chicago

West Chicago Public Library District

- **Nature Storytime with the Morton Arboretum** – Thursday, *February 5*: A seasonal nature-themed storytime for families featuring a guest presenter from the Arboretum sharing stories about trees, weather, and animals.
- **Family Baking Grab & Go** – Monday, *February 2*: Library provides baking materials/ideas for families to take home and enjoy together.
- **Winter Reading Challenge** – *All of February (through Feb 28)*: Ongoing fun for all ages through reading incentives at the library.

Park District & Recreation Events

- Local parks and recreation departments also host seasonal activities:
 - **Sweetheart Family Dance** – *Saturday, February 7*: A family-friendly dance event suitable for kids and grownups (hosted by area park districts).



EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
PRESCHOOL

Questions? Contact the Preschool Admin Team

Brenda Vishanoff, Principal
vishanoffb@wego33.org

Leah Nelson, Assistant Principal
nelsonl@wego33.org



Brenda Vishanoff

Brenda is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

