

Illini Central Grade School Administrative Report

Enrollment as of 4.11.2025

Year	Pre-K	K	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	Total
Apr. 2025	80	45	50	40	44	44	47	350 (+2)
22/23	80	37	38	44	42	38	50	329
21/22	62	270						332

Celebrations & Thanks

- State testing is over (for the most part)! We just have about a dozen make-up sections to administer, then we are officially done with the IAR & ISA for this year. Thank you to all staff, students, and families for helping our kids prepare for these tests, sending encouraging notes and snacks, and giving their best efforts. A huge thank you to all staff who helped to monitor and proctor testing and to those staff members that were impacted in other grades by location changes, etc.
- We're gearing up for the end of the year season of field trips, Teacher Appreciation Week, Field Day, STEAM Night, Kindergarten Parent Academy, and so much more! I appreciate all the staff, organizations, and parents who are working collaboratively to give our students and teachers the best opportunities possible. It's such a busy time for everyone, but so many people dedicate so much time and energy to making sure that we're finishing the year strong and celebrating special traditions.

All Things Kindergarten

Talk to current kindergarten parents about any questions you may have.

PARENT ACADEMY
Wednesday, May 7th 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Learn with us!

Have dinner with your family in the grade school cafeteria to help alleviate any lunch worries.

Make and take activities to help your child practice kindergarten literacy, math & fine motor skills.

Pre-K teachers are spilling **ALL** their best kept secrets to gain student independence!

Sessions will include:

- Parent Panel**
Current IC Kindergarten Parents.
- Independence Tips & Tricks**
IC Pre-K Teachers
- Make & Take Kindergarten Skills**
IC Kindergarten Teachers



Mr. Hopkins visiting with the PreK Students

One of our Strategic Plan goals was to help facilitate smoother transitions between grade levels and building changes, and we've been hard at work in this area this year. Here are some things that have been happening in this area:

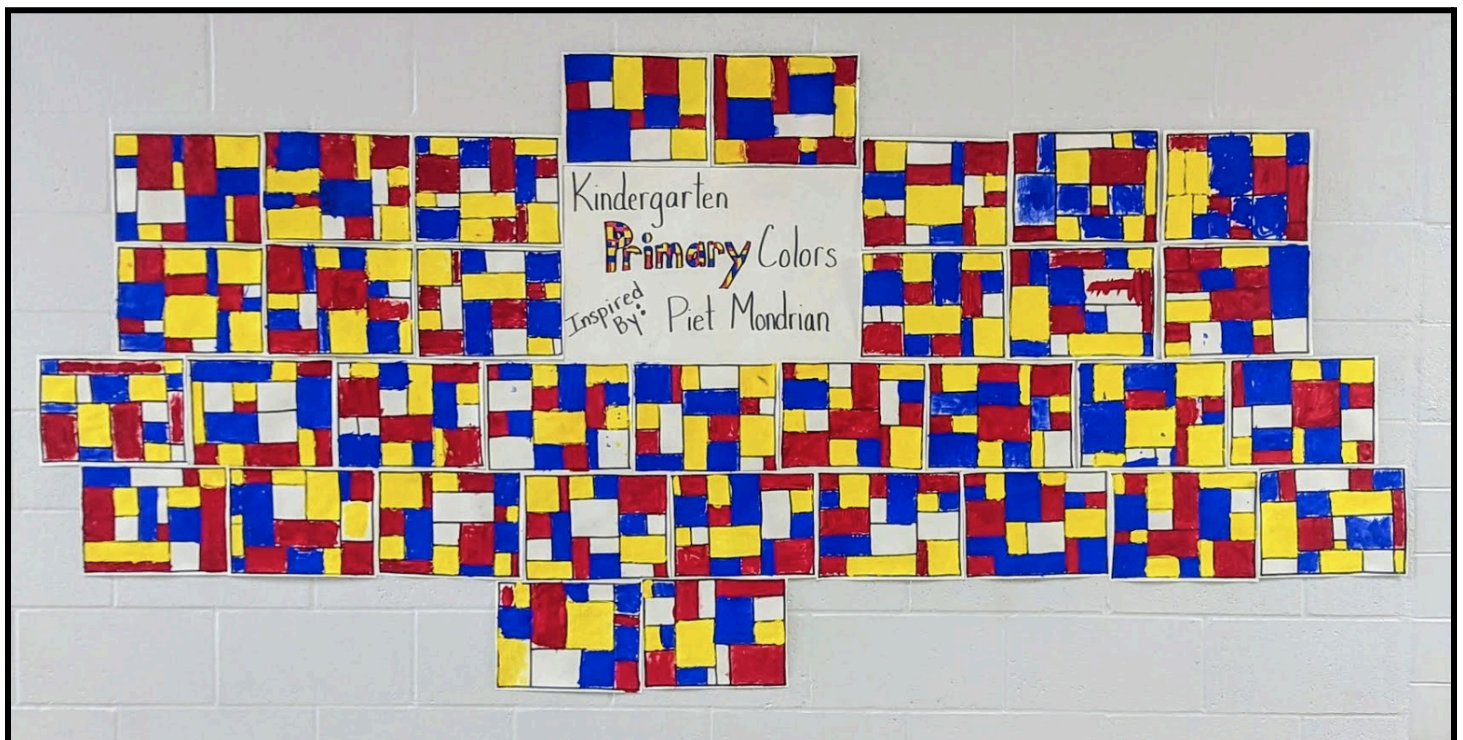
- **Community Helpers & Visits:** The PreK has been taking mini-trips into the community and having community members come visit them at PreK to help introduce students to everyone. Mrs. List has been integral in coordinating these opportunities. Mr. Hopkins is pictured above speaking to students about PE (and no doubt, the All Kids Bike program!). Mr. Wort from the PreK also visited Kindergarten classrooms at the main building to help him write better IEP goals for transitioning PK to K students, and in early May the Kindergarten teachers will spend a day at PreK interacting with their students and starting those relationships and connections early.
- **April 9, 2025–Kindergarten Transition Night:** Parents and their almost-Kindergarten students come in to experience “the big school.” Parents listened to presentations from the Mr. Francis, Mrs. Harrison, Mrs. Harris, all 3 Kindergarten teachers, Mrs. Henning, Mrs. Clark, and myself. The PTO also came to share some opportunities for involvement and to order school supplies for the fall. As a bonus, parents could also complete

their Kindergarten registration process with Mrs. List and Ms. Myers on this night, eliminating the need for them to be at Walk-In Registration over the summer.

- **May 7th, 2025–Kindergarten Parent Academy:** We added this night to help better prepare parents and children for their Kindergarten year and to build additional connections between parents and their children. This night will consist of a dinner for parents and their children and then 3 interactive sessions for parents while children play in another area. The session led by PreK teachers will include all kinds of practical things parents can do to help their children be more functionally independent (restrooming tips, dressing, etc.). Kindergarten teachers are leading another session that will feature several make and takes and manipulatives for building fine motor skills, literacy, and math skills in fun and creative ways. Finally, our current Kindergarten parents will sit on a Parent Panel session where incoming Kindergarten parents can ask questions. Participants in this session will receive dinner time cards to help spur dinner conversations between families. All those that attend will also be registered to win door prizes that encourage engaging and creative play. Feel free to join us if you're interested!
- **August 10th, 2025–Kindergarten Play Date:** This annual event is sponsored by the PTO. Our incoming Kindergarteners come to the ICGS Playground from 1-2pm and have a playdate and popsicles before we kick off school a few days later.

Mental Health and Depression Awareness for 5th Graders

Thanks so much to Mrs. Henning for arranging and the Hult Center for Healthy Living for presenting to our fifth grade students about Mental Health and Depression Awareness. The program's goals are to raise student awareness of good mental health, raise awareness of the signs of Depression (including the warning signs of suicide), and encourage help-seeking skills. Our students were engaged during the presentation and participated in meaningful conversation with the presenter. Mrs. Henning received positive feedback from students, parents, and staff about the high quality of the program. Suicide is the second leading cause of death for 10-14 year olds, and almost 1 in 5 teens aged 12-17 have had a major depressive episode this year. We hope that presentations like this one will help our students know they are not alone and there is help available if they or someone they might know needs it.



We're so happy to have Mrs. Brummell back with us in the Art room! Check out these beautiful works, inspired by Dutch painter Piet Mondrian. Right now they are dressing up the big, blank wall created by the APR renovation. We've ordered additional hangers for student work and to decorate these beautiful new spaces in the fall.