

# THE SPOTTED ZEBRA

## Learning Center

September 2025

**Reminders:**

- The 25-26 school year begins on 9/3!



## Admin News

Welcome to the 2025-2026 school year! We are so excited to see both familiar and new faces around the building and are loving how everyone is getting settled into their new rooms and routines.

This year marks a big milestone—our 20th year at The Spotted Zebra Learning Center! We're so proud of how far we've come and deeply grateful for the supportive, engaged community that surrounds us.

We're also excited to share that all classrooms are now using Teaching Strategies, a new curriculum that emphasizes play-based, child-centered learning and supports individualized growth through observation and reflection.

A few reminders:

- Please label all of your child's belongings including lunchbox, water bottle, backpack, jackets, etc.
- We are a nut free school, please refrain from sending any snacks that contain nuts of any kind
- If you would like to purchase pizza and juice for Friday lunches please fill out the pizza form and return to Derek at the front desk

Fall is one of our favorite seasons at Spotted Zebra—get ready for cozy classroom crafts, festive activities, and lots of hands-on learning fun. Here's to an exciting and inspiring year ahead!

**Ms. Sheri, Mr. Matt, Ms. Shannon, Ms. Rachael, and Mr. Derek**

## What is Happening in the Classrooms...



## Teal Room News

Dear Families,

The Teal Room is ready for a brand-new school year! We love meeting new friends and are so excited to welcome some wonderful new faces to our classroom team. Ms. Heather, our Special Education Teacher, Ms. Shawna, our Speech-Language Pathologist, and Ms. Kelly, our Occupational Therapist, are all here to help us learn, grow, and have fun.

We're looking forward to all the opportunities this year will bring—playing, exploring, and learning together. Some of our favorite parts of the day so far have been time on the playground and music and movement with lots of bubbles. We can already tell it's going to be a fantastic year in the Teal Room!

**Ms. Heather, Ms. Lauren, Ms. Sara,  
Ms. Shawna, and Ms. Kelly**



## Violet Room News

Welcome to the Violet Room! We're excited to welcome so many new faces to our wonderful school for the first time. Teachers and therapists are prepared with plenty of hugs, comforting words, and reassurance to aid this transition and ease anxiety. We've worked hard to plan exciting and engaging activities and anticipate an amazing year with all of our new friends!

During the first few weeks of school we will be focusing on learning classroom rules & routines, becoming familiar with other classmates and teachers, and learning our way around the school. We will also learn our daily schedule, introduce new activities, and adjust to new expectations. We will spend lots of time getting acclimated before we dive into monthly themes such as "My Name", "My Family", and "My School". We appreciate your cooperation in labeling all of your child's belongings to avoid confusion and lost items. All clothing as well as personal effects (Crib sheet & blanket, water bottle, lunchbox, etc.) should be labeled with names or initials. Please also remember we are a peanut/tree nut free school, and to label any food not in original packaging as "Nut Free".

We believe that open communication between home and school is important for a successful year, and greatly encourage you to reach out with any and all questions or concerns. We're already looking forward to the many adventures that this school year will bring; We can't wait!

Lastly, we'd like to wish a happy birthday to Graham (22nd)!

**Ms. Brittany, Ms. Laura, Ms. Terry, and  
Ms. Allison**



## Blue Room News

Hello Families,

We are so excited to be welcoming new friends into the Blue Room this fall. We have a lot of fun activities planned and are excited to start implementing the new Smart Teach Creative Curriculum (more info to come soon). Some topics will include learning names, talking about our family members, exploring classroom interest areas, and feelings. We will also heavily focus on practicing classroom routines and expectations. The theme of our classroom this fall is Sesame Street. The core messages of Sesame Street surround kindness, self-esteem, and tolerance. These are great topics to introduce students to the classroom environment and help them adjust to a new place with new people. We strongly believe that home/ school communication is very important for a successful school experience. Do not hesitate to reach out to us with any questions or concerns.

Reminders:

- We are a NUT FREE school, we ask that you label any foods nut free if they are not in the original package. Blue Room staff and students have severe nut allergies.
- Please label all personal items (backpack, folder, lunch box, water bottle, extra clothing, nap items, sunscreen)

Here is to an amazing school year,

**Ms. Jackie (Early Childhood Teacher) and  
Ms. Katina (Special Education Teacher)**



## Green Room News

**Welcome to the Green Room!**

We are so excited to welcome you and your child to the Green Room for the upcoming school year!

We have many fun-filled activities planned for the first month of school. September is all about getting to know the Green Room and each other, as well as welcoming fall. We will learn about the Green Room classroom rules and discover our classroom routine and daily schedule. Friends will role-play how to make and be good friends, and we'll get to know each other better through group activities and projects. We will also work on patterns and making predictions about what will come next during our calendar time.

### Helpful Reminders

- Please label all of your child's belongings (e.g., clothing, lunchbox, blankets, crib sheet, diapers) to avoid confusion.
- Send a labeled water bottle for your child to use throughout the day.
- We are a tree nut/peanut-free school. If you send food that is not in its original packaging, please label it Nut Free.

We believe that home-school communication is very important for a successful school year. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at [greenroom@spottedzebra.org](mailto:greenroom@spottedzebra.org). We look forward to getting to know all of you and watching the children grow this year!

**Ms. Michelle, Ms. Elle, and Ms. Jennifer**



## Orange Room News

Dear Orange Room Families,

Welcome to a new school year in the Orange Room! We are so excited to begin this journey with your children and your family. September marks the beginning of an exciting time full of discovery. Our focus during these first weeks is to help your children feel welcome in our classroom community.

During the first several weeks, we will be guiding children through important routines, modeling positive behavior, and creating a warm and predictable environment. We spend this time intentionally teaching expectations and practicing classroom procedures. You'll see us engaging in activities that support friendship-building, cooperation, communication, and of course- play!

We also begin to explore how to use materials respectfully and how to navigate the classroom independently. Our daily schedule offers a balance of structure and flexibility to grow confidence as they adapt to their new learning environment.

The weather should be nice for the next several weeks, and we plan to take advantage of getting outside as much as we can! Please be mindful of what your children are wearing to school so that their attire is appropriate for all kinds of play.

Don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or insights about your child. We look forward to an incredible year together in the Orange Room!

Warmly,  
**The Orange Room Team**



## Yellow Room News

Welcome to the Yellow Kindergarten Room Brodie, Carter, Everly, George, Gigi, Greyson, James, Jayden, Liam, Lily, Silas, and Teddy! We are so excited to get to know you and your families. We have so many wonderful things planned to stimulate academic, physical, emotional and social development. We will start off the year by taking the time to get to know each other and learn our kindergarten classroom routines, responsibilities and expectations. We will celebrate each of our unique qualities, as we participate in many What Makes Me and My Family Special and friendship building activities. Please be on the lookout for activities to complete at home that will support this at school.

Turn taking with classroom helper jobs will be an integral part of our day as we learn responsibility and pride in being part of a classroom community of learners and helpers. We will also use this time to build confidence and independence.

Throughout the month of September, we will introduce our math curriculum and dive right into counting and working with single digit numerals. We will also introduce our literacy program (Learning Without Tears) and supportive activities to begin exploring letters, letter sounds, and high frequency words. Finally, we will begin to explore autumn themed curriculum, including apples and the change in weather.

Our specials each week will include: Amazing Athletes, Gym, Library, Where in the World Wednesday, Executive Functioning skills practice (ELEVATE), Book Club, and Music Class. Art, science, social studies, and other enrichment opportunities will also be integrated into structured play times, Learning Stations, and fine motor activities. Please remember that the Yellow Kindergarten Room's academic day begins at 9 a.m. and we like to get busy right away so we can make the most of our time together! Don't forget to check email, your child's mail, and the Spotted Zebra website for more important information regarding our program. We are looking forward to an exciting year of learning and growing together!

**Ms. Carol, Ms. Megan, and Ms. Chris**

# Meet the Spotted Zebra Herd!

## Therapists and Special Educators

|               |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Ms. Juli      | Psych           |
| Ms. Marlis    | OT              |
| Ms. Shawna    | Speech (Teal)   |
| Ms. Kaylyn    | Speech (Yellow) |
| Ms. Caitlin   | OT (V, B, O)    |
| Ms. Rachel J  | Speech (Orange) |
| Ms. Rachel M  | Music           |
| Ms. Carla     | OT (Y, G)       |
| Ms. Allison T | Speech (Violet) |
| Ms. Wendy     | Speech          |
| Ms. Cindy     | PT (B, G, O)    |
| Ms. Allison R | PT (Y, V, Teal) |
| Ms. Jesse     | Speech (Blue)   |
| Ms. Olivia    | Speech (Green)  |
| Ms. Kelly     | OT (Teal)       |
| Ms. Kaitlin   | Speech (T, Y)   |

## Offsite Therapists

|               |        |
|---------------|--------|
| Ms. Shawna    | Speech |
| Ms. Nicole Ge | Speech |
| Ms. Kathi     | PT     |
| Mr. Peter     | OT     |
| Ms. Nicole S  | SEIT   |
| Ms. Sarah     | PT     |
| Ms. Wendy     | Speech |
| Ms. Laura D   | Speech |
| Ms. Debbie    | PT     |
| Ms. Laura D   | Speech |

## Floating Teachers

Ms. Sunita  
Ms. Alaina  
Ms. Karen  
Ms. Emily  
Ms. Allison K  
Ms. Nicole Gr  
Ms. Tristyn  
Ms. Josilyn  
Ms. Ariel  
Ms. Ella

## Admin Team

Ms. Sheri  
Mr. Matt  
Ms. Shannon  
Ms. Amy  
Ms. Victoria  
Ms. Rachael  
Mr. Derek

