

FAMILY CONNECTION

Keeping you informed and engaged

JANUARY 2026

Family Engagement Event

Kindergarten and Transitional Kindergarten Preparation:

January 27, 2026
5:00 PM

Prepare your child for a successful start to Transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten by walking through the enrollment process, learning key dates, and preparing required documents. Our partners will help answer questions and share tips to ensure enrollment is a smooth and stress-free process.



Reminder:

Please stay connected through Brightwheel, our primary tool for communication.

Education

Social-emotional skills are developed throughout childhood and are strengthened through relationships, daily routines, and practice. Skills such as identifying feelings, managing emotions, building empathy, and collaborating are built using the Social-Emotional domain according to the Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP). Responsive care teaches infants to trust, toddlers practice naming emotions with support, and school-age children build confidence as they solve conflicts and collaborate with peers.

Build these social-emotional skills into everyday life by helping children label their feelings ("You're frustrated. It's okay, I'm here to help"), model calming strategies like deep breaths, and inviting children to think about others ("How can we help your friend feel better?"). Older children can reflect on challenges, practice problem-solving steps, or take leadership in group tasks.



Tip: Share stories, take turns when playing games, and schedule unhurried check-ins to help children of all ages feel seen, safe, and ready to learn.



Calendar

- **JANUARY 9, 2026**
1:00 PM
Early Dismissal for All Programs Except School Age
- **JANUARY 13, 2026**
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Virtual Health & Mental Health Services Advisory Committee & Parent Leadership Council
- **JANUARY 19, 2026**
Closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day



Community Events

- **EVERY SUNDAY IN JANUARY**
Sunday Farmers Market
A weekly outdoor market featuring fresh produce, local foods, handmade goods, and a lively community atmosphere.
Marin Civic Center, San Rafael
- **JANUARY 25, 2026**
Lion Dance: Marin Chinese Cultural Association / San Anselmo Public Library
11:00 AM – 11:30 AM
Celebrate Lunar New Year early with a traditional lion-dance performance.
San Anselmo Town Hall Plaza
525 San Anselmo Ave
San Anselmo

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Health & Safety

January is Immunization Awareness Month

Make sure your family is protected. Vaccines prevent serious illnesses like measles, whooping cough, and the flu, keeping children, families, and classrooms healthy. Stay up to date with recommended immunizations. They are one of the most effective ways to support your child's long-term well-being.

We partner with families to maintain complete and current immunization records so all children can learn in a safe environment.

How to Stay Up to Date with Immunizations:

- Check your child's immunization record and schedule any upcoming doses.
- Ask your healthcare provider if your child is due for routine vaccines or boosters.
- Keep a copy of your child's immunization card in a safe place for school and medical visits.
- If your child is nervous, offer comfort: deep breaths, a favorite toy, or a fun plan for afterward can help.

Nutrition

The New Year is an ideal time to explore new tastes with your child

Whether you are feeding a baby, toddler, or preschooler, offering a variety of foods from an early age helps build comfort and confidence. For babies and toddlers, exposure can be simple: place a small piece of food on their plate, let them smell it, or serve it alongside a favorite food they already know. Toddlers and preschoolers like to participate in the process. Invite them to help choose what's for dinner or pick between two vegetables at the store.

Tips for introducing new foods:

- Combine a new food with a familiar favorite.
- Offer very small portions without pressure.
- Try foods in different forms (steamed, roasted, or pureed).
- Let little ones explore with their hands.

Continue offering food even if they do not try it immediately.

