

Dear Bridge student,

Welcome to PCA Bridge! We are so excited about the upcoming school year because at Providence we are all knights that work hard to bring God lots of glory. We can't wait for the opportunity to get to know you and to teach you all the units we have planned for our time together. Before we begin our school year, we have some helpful tips listed for your parent to better prepare you to have the best time ever in Bridge!

We hope you enjoy your summer! We look forward to meeting you soon and hope to have a special playdate at the school before school starts so you can meet some of your new friends! The school will email your parents to let you all know the date.

For God's Glory,  
The Bridge Teachers

Parents - We get asked all the time, "how can I prepare my child to thrive in the upcoming Bridge school year?" Here is some information we have compiled to help you transition your child into Big Boy and Big Girl school.

Be sure your child is able to do the following:

- Able to button and tie shoes (If your child is not able to tie, please send them in velcro shoes)
- Able to dress themselves and take care of all bathroom needs

Items to practice for our Bridge Curriculum:

- Writing - holding a pencil. We will be tracing circles, horizontal, vertical, wavy lines, and name
- Cutting - holding scissors and cutting straight lines
- ABC recognition & sounds (A-Z) - please visit [www.phonogrampage.com](http://www.phonogrampage.com)
- Math - counting and identifying numbers 0-10
- Reading to your child for 10 minutes every day!

If practice for particular skills was deemed necessary for your child's success in our Bridge program, the Dean of Lower School would have communicated recommendations during the admission process as a result of the entrance exam. However, here are lots of fun ways to incorporate learning into games that your child will enjoy. We have listed our favorites on the back of this page.

## Reading Fun

- Enjoy reading books to your child each day. Talk about the story and the pictures as you read. Ask your child questions about the story before, during, and after reading, such as:
  - What do you think will happen next?
  - Why do you think the character did that?
  - Who were the characters in the book?
  - Where did the story take place?
  - What happened in the beginning/middle/end of the story?
  - What does this story make you think about or remind you of?
- Help your child learn the names of letters and the sounds the letters make. Turn it into a game! “I’m thinking of a letter and it makes the sound mmmmmmm.”
- Have your child use a finger to trace a letter while saying the letter’s name and sound. Do this on paper, in sand, or on a plate of sugar!
- Make letters out of play-doh, yarn, pipe cleaners, etc.
- Put letters (magnetic or flashcards) in alphabetical order from A-Z.
- Go on a letter hunt. Pick a letter from the alphabet and see how many of that letter you can find in a newspaper, magazine, book, cereal box, etc. Use a marker or crayon to practice circling the letter.

## Math Fun

- Play board or card games together that involve counting, moving a certain number of spaces, or matching numbers.
- Go on a number hunt. Pick a number 0-9 and have your child practice locating it on whatever you happen to have around the house. Cereal boxes and other food packages often have lots of numbers!
- Count as you do daily activities with your child - the number of steps to the laundry room, the number of letters or catalogs that come in the mail, how many plates or bowls you will need for setting the table for a family meal.
- Play counting games in the car or as you walk down the street. “Let’s count how many dogs we see between home and school.” “Let’s count how many trucks we can see on the way to the store.”
- Have your child practice making the numbers 0-10 out of play-doh, yarn, or pipe cleaners. Have them practice tracing the numbers 0-10 in sand, sugar, salt or shaving cream!