



December 16, 2019

Dear Families,

“She’s ice skating,” said Andena of this drawing from twelve days ago. “She’s a little scared.” Look at the frown on the skater’s face. She’s *really* scared.



CPE1 skates to help children’s physical development, to give them the confidence to get up after they fall, to encourage children to notice their own growth. Between pre-K and fifth grade, between December and March, between *11:10 and 11:30 today*, children observe progress. *You’re doing it, Madison!*

Aishah’s and Charlotte’s classes were on the ice this morning, too. Most of second and third graders had their first day several years ago. Now, they mostly glide and rarely fall. The ice is familiar. The rink is the same, but they keep growing on it.

### **Logistics for Kindergarten Admissions**

From now through January 21, families of children born in 2015 may apply for kindergarten. That happens on line at [www.myschools.nyc](http://www.myschools.nyc). If you need help with that website, Najah can help you apply.

Here are a few important reminders:

- Children do **not** go automatically from pre-K to kindergarten. You have to take a few minutes to apply at [www.myschools.nyc](http://www.myschools.nyc).
- CPE1 does not control who gets admitted to our school; the New York City Department of Education manages admissions.
- Even if CPE1 is your first choice, visit and list other kindergarten programs and to apply to several schools. Again, we don’t control kindergarten admissions, so it helps to have back-ups in mind.
- List schools in your order of preference. If your child is not admitted right away to your first-choice school, you’ll stay of the waitlists of all the schools you

preferred, and they may get in touch if a spot opens for your child later in the spring or summer.

### **Kindergarten Admissions: Beyond Logistics**

CPE1 now has room for 36 children in two pre-K classes... but only 25 in kindergarten. Last spring was the first time that not all CPE1 pre-K children were admitted for kindergarten. As you can tell from the story above of today's first skate, we would love to keep all of our current pre-K children for a many years to come. It's painful not to be able to promise right away that every pre-K family who wants to return will.

CPE1 doesn't control admissions, but we do encourage applying. Families with older children who attend the school and residents of East Harlem are given first priorities. You never know what will happen after that. Every family interested in coming here for kindergarten (and beyond) should list CPE1 as a choice and give things a chance to work out.

### **Community Coffee Friday**

Our final community coffee of 2019 will happen on **Friday, December 20, at 8:35** in the library. We hope you can come for conversation then.

We'll see you after vacation on January 2, 2020.

-Gabriel