

Maureen Sullivan works with Jumpstart students



Incoming Fryelands Elementary Kindergarten students Lucy Ford, Emily Ramirez, and Olivia Llamas work on forming the sounds of the letter “O” with YMCA Jump Start teacher Maureen Sullivan. Jump Start is a partnership between the Y, Monroe Public Schools, and the Monroe Branch of Sno Isle Libraries to help children get ready to start Kindergarten in their new school. Its primary focus is to help students and supporting caregivers learn the routines of the school day, remove the anxiety of the “first day of school”, and better prepare new kindergartners for learning. In addition, families are invited to learn more about providing and assessing basic academic skills – letter and number recognition, language development, gross and fine motor use, and social/emotional readiness. The program is also offered at Frank Wagner Elementary. It is funded from generous contributions from the Monroe Public Schools Foundation and the United Way of Snohomish County. Y officials hope to expand the program to all of Monroe’s elementary schools when funding allows.