

# High school offers pre-K courses

BY ALLEN PARKER

allen.parker@register-news.com

MT VERNON — A goal of Mt. Vernon Township High School is to provide curriculum which lays foundation for higher education. Brittany Boldt's child care classes take it a step further.

"Parents don't want their child to attend four years of college to become a teacher and then realize they don't like it when they are student teaching," Boldt said.

Boldt's Child Care I and II courses give students hands-on experience in classroom settings.

"The classes help students de-

see PRE-K/Page 3A



Kody Farley, left, and Alistair Clodi play together with toys during pre-K child care class at Mt. Vernon Township High School Thursday morning. The two child care courses have 109 students gaining experience in the field.

ALLEN PARKER/REGISTER-NEWS

## PRE-K

continued from 1A

cide if they want to teach," said Boldt.

The primary focus of Childcare I is to allow students to experience what it would be like to teach early childhood care. Childcare II is geared more towards elementary education.

Davina Overbey oversees the hands-on part of the child care classroom. She became a staff member earlier this year. Overbey said most of the chil-

dren in the pre-K class have mothers and fathers who work at the school. The children are in school from 8 to 11:30 a.m.

Their day begins with breakfast before children split into smaller groups for circle time.

"We do a calendar and days of the week including birthdays. This week we are highlighting Veterans Day," said Overbey.

The children have also collected donated items to send to soldiers overseas, she noted.

After circle time, the chil-

dren split into what is called center time. In this block of approximately 15-minutes, the children rotate and interact with one another.

During this time, MVTHS students also interact and play with the kids.

"The students ask them colors and shapes and we also read a book," said Overbey.

Overbey organizes monthly schedules and the students

compile lesson plans based on what Overbey picks each week. She said her choices involve special themes.

"All of the students, and we do have some boys, really enjoy the children and have a good connection with them," said Overbey. "You have to have a spot in your heart for kids. We want the students to be involved and not just show up for an easy grade."

11/12/11

Register-News