



## \* WELCOME TO WARD'S CHAPEL PRESCHOOL \*

### CALENDAR

Sept. 5	School Opens
15	Book Orders Due
20	Parent/Staff Board Mtg. 7:00 p.m.
22	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> - Staff Planning Day
27	<b>FIELD TRIP</b> – Carolyn's Apple Orchard <i>MTW 3's &amp; ThF 3's, 9:00-11:30</i>
29	Kids to Kids School Supplies End

### SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

03	Miles T.	4
14	Savannah G.	3
24	Olivia B.	3

### WELCOME FROM THE STAFF

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year. We are looking forward to the new year with excitement and anticipation. We expect there will be some separation anxiety. The teachers will deal with this on an individual basis. From past experience, we have learned that the sooner the parent leaves, the sooner the child calms down. Also, once the child is familiar with the routine, he/she becomes much more comfortable. If you are uneasy about leaving your child, please call us when you get home (410-922-6595). We will help you both to work through the separation.

### SEPTEMBER GRACES

Our hands we fold, our heads we bow.  
For food and drink we thank you now. Amen.  
(The two's will use this one all year)

*Johnny Appleseed*

Oh, the Lord's been good to me, and so I thank the Lord, for giving me the things I need, the sun and the rain and the apple seed. Oh, the Lord's been good to me. Amen.

### REMINDERS FROM THE OFFICE

- All forms, both newly completed or updated, are due immediately. This includes all medical forms and forms on the right side of the folder. When your child receives a shot, please get an updated record from your doctor.
- Activity fees for 3's (\$155.00) and 4's (\$210.00) are due by October 15. There is a tear-off page in your tuition coupon booklet.
- Please make all checks payable to **Ward's Chapel Preschool**. Tuition payments can be cash, check or Zelle (scan the QR code in your orientation folder).
- Please make sure ALL children playing on the playground before or after school hours are supervised at all times and follow the same rules as during Preschool. Also, if the grass is being mowed, you are asked to vacate the playground for obvious safety reasons.
- *Please – No parking on the Handicapped Lot, without Handicapped tags* (Ward's Chapel Road side). Thanks for your cooperation.
- Police and Child Protective Services will be notified if children are left in cars unattended.

### KIDS TO KIDS

Throughout the school year, our students participate in several community outreach programs sponsored by the Preschool Parent/Staff Board. By donating various items, the children learn to share their blessings with those less fortunate. This year's first opportunity for our kids to help other kids in need will begin the week of September 5 and continue through September 29. We will be donating school supplies to Baltimore County schools and the Church Food Pantry. Your children may contribute to the class box and put a sticker on the book bag chart. A more detailed flyer will follow.

## PARENT / STAFF BOARD

Our Parent/Teacher Board meets several times during the year to discuss issues, fund raisers, and outreach projects. They will also be supporting the teachers and staff in their endeavors. There are staff members and parent representatives from each class serving on the board. Our first meeting is Wed., Sept. 22, at 7:00. Parents who are serving this year are:

M/T 2s            Nikki Geld, Heather Gotsch  
Wed 2's  
MTW 3's AM    Elizabeth Eager, Taryn Freedman  
ThF 3's AM     Kayleigh Kronyak  
4's AM           Courtney Ackerman, Marty Henneberry  
Staff Representatives: Donna Gill, and Bridget Wetzel

Your class representatives welcome your input.

## FUNDRAISING FOR 2023-2024

The Parent/Staff Board will be planning two "fun" fundraisers this year; Super Bowl Sub Sale in February and the Prize Palooza in March/April. Details on these activities will follow later.

We feel as busy parents you would prefer not to be selling and buying things that you really don't want. In lieu of having numerous fundraisers during the year, the school's primary source of fundraising is through donations that can be made two times during the year; October and February. You will receive a letter with details in those months.

## VALUES EDUCATION

Each month in the classroom, we will be stressing a value to be practiced. For September, the value is **Cooperation**. The dictionary definition of cooperation is "to act, work, or associate with others for a mutual benefit."

## COOPERATION

Cooperation is a skill that means the child is becoming less egocentric, so that she gives something of herself and becomes less concerned about herself and more about the welfare of the group. Guidance and support are necessary as children balance the task of developing a strong sense of self with learning to become a member of the group. Reinforcement, lessening competition and planning group activities all work to foster the behaviors associated with cooperation.

## SENSATIONAL SAND

You've probably noticed in your yard or at the playground how much your child likes to dig in the sand. Sand is great fun, but it's also a wonderful material for learning.

Children learn mathematical and scientific concepts from playing at our sand table. For instance, when kids pour sand from measuring cup to measuring cup, they are likely to be learning about estimation, volume, texture, and even counting and simple physics.

As children play with sand, we encourage them to talk about what they are doing or experiencing. For instance, we might ask, "Does the sand feel different when it is wet?" or "How did you get the sand so smooth on your castle?"

Have you ever longed to dig your toes in the sand? Sand has the same soothing effect on children. We find that kids who are frustrated, annoyed, or angry often choose the sand center to work out those feelings.

You can encourage sand play at home by providing a sandbox. It does not need to be large. One excellent and inexpensive sandbox is a bin or busboy tray filled with sand.

Bins and trays are portable, easy to clean, and easily stored. Provide measuring cups and spoons and other plastic containers to support sand play.

Of course, spills and stray sand go with the territory. With indoor play, a sheet or large piece of plastic will help contain the mess, but the benefits are well worth any temporary inconvenience.

From: *Family-Friendly Communications for Early Childhood Programs* by Deborah Diffily and Kathy Morrison, eds.

