



PRESCHOOL PRESS

SEPTEMBER 2022



Welcome to Preschool

Thank you for trusting us with your child's first educational experience. As we return to a new normal, we are excited for the possibilities of what this means for you and your family. We will be serving snack during our preschool day for the first time in two years. Snack provides an abundance of opportunities for learning. The child bringing the snack is the leader for the day, which is a confidence builder. Those waiting for a turn to be the leader are learning to take turns and patience. Gratitude is being taught as the children sing a song of thankfulness to the leader. Eye-hand coordination is being developed as each child pours their own drink, spills to be expected. Conversational skills are developed as the teachers model the skill set needed for chatting with friends. Healthy snacks of fruits and vegetables allow us to bring science to the snack table as we talk about colors and what grows above and below the ground. Please see the approved snack guide when choosing snacks to bring to preschool.

Another aspect of preschool that we are able to return to is parents being able to enter the building. For the past two years, we have highly discouraged parents from coming into the school, but we are now loosening the reigns a bit. Parents will be able to come into the building to observe their child's classroom. You are able to walk your child to the classroom, if you enter with the classroom and the teachers are aware. If you would like to come in for an early pick-up, please come to the playground doors. The office staff will be checking your ID and then allow you to go down to the classroom. If you plan to stay for a bit, you will need to come to the office to get a visitor's badge.

Finally, children are allowed to play on the playground before and after school. We had been disinfecting the playground between classes, which did not allow for families to enjoy the playground. The playground will be available prior to 8:50, from 11:30 to 12:20 and after the school day ends. The playground will be closed once classes are in session.

We are so excited to have your child join us for the 2022- 2023 school year. Please know that we are open to your questions and concerns. You simply have to ask.

Sincerely,
Robin Ozbolt

News for September

Bring the Farm to You will be delivering eggs at the end of September, and the children will be able to watch the baby chicks hatch. This is such a great experience for all the children. The chicks will be with us for about two weeks and the children will learn to care for them.

Also, the children will be planting bulbs all around the playground in a few weeks. Spring on the playground will be blooming with a harvest of tulips and daffodils. The children will be responsible for watering the plants.

You may want to check out the pumpkins growing on the playground as well. Mrs. Gruber and her friends planted pumpkin seeds in the spring and we have a tiny pumpkin patch underneath the windows.

We will begin the letter of the week towards the end of September. Watch for details to come.

Snack Choices

We would love to include families in bringing healthy daily snacks for the class to share. Therefore, you must choose from our snack guide which we have provided for the 2022-2023 school year.

Fruit of any kind

Applesauce

Yogurt

Veggies

Crackers and Cheese

Cheese Cubes

Cream Cheese and Mini Bagels

Pasta Salad

Fruit Cups

Graham Crackers

Teddy Graham

Nut Free Granola Bars

Veggie Straws

Mini Turkey and Cheese Sandwiches

Baby Carrot Sticks and Hummus

Nut Free Granola Bars

Raisins

Yogurt Covered Raisins

Fig Newtons

Grapes sliced in half

Muffins

Goldfish Crackers

Chips and Salsa

Veggie Puffs

Nut Free Trail Mix

Fruit Smoothies

Pudding

Mini Pizzas

String Cheese

Pretzels

STAFF EMAILS

Our experienced staff will do their very best to make you and your child feel at home. Our doors are always open to any questions or concerns that you might have throughout the year. Teachers are available via phone and/or email.

The following is a list of our staff emails.

Robin Ozbolt - Administrator: robin@hilliardumcpreschool.org

Katie Williams - Assistant Administrator: katie@hilliardumcpreschool.org

Chris Bailey: chris@hilliardumcpreschool.org

Amanda Ballstaedt: amanda.b@hilliardumcpreschool.org

Meredith Bembenic: meredith@hilliardumcpreschool.org

Rachael Blankenbiller: rachael@hilliardumcpreschool.org

Julie Graham: julie@hilliardumcpreschool.org

Dorie Gruber: dorie@hilliardumcpreschool.org

Sandy Holcomb: sandy@hilliardumcpreschool.org

Molly Kocher: molly@hilliardumcpreschool.org

Cindy Kuhlman: cindy.k@hilliardumcpreschool.org

Amy Kurtz: amy@hilliardumcpreschool.org

Gretchen Merz: gretchen@hilliardumcpreschool.org

Erin Miller: erin@hilliardumcpreschool.org

Katie Pattie: Katiepatti@hilliardumcpreschool.org

Katie Peachey: katie.p@hilliardumcpreschool.org

Amanda Ray: amanda@hilliardumcpreschool.org

Dottie Rice: dottie@hilliardumcpreschool.org

Laurie Stewart: laurie@hilliardumcpreschool.org

Sue Valenti: sue@hilliardumcpreschool.org

PARKING LOT SAFETY

It is imperative that all drivers within the HUMC Preschool parking lot abide by the following rules.

WE NEED EVERYONE TO BE SAFE!

- ⇒ **Your foot should not be on the gas pedal when driving in the parking lot. A very slow coast is the safest speed to travel.**
- ⇒ **Refrain from cell phone use in the parking lot, whether you are walking with your child or driving your vehicle.**
- ⇒ **Do not park in the fire lane. The lane is designated for emergency vehicles only.**
- ⇒ **Follow the directional lines to ensure that traffic is flowing in a proper order.**
- ⇒ **Watch for little ones and please hold your child's hand when crossing through the lanes.**
- ⇒ **When entering or exiting the playground, please, please, shut the gate.**