



PRESCHOOL PRESS SEPTEMBER 2023



Welcome to Preschool

Thank you for trusting us with your child's first educational experience. As we begin our second week of school, we are amazed at how quickly the children have settled into their classroom routines. The sounds of children singing, laughing, and playing fill the hallways. Speaking of hallways, you are more than welcome to walk your child to their classroom. If you would like to come in for an early pick-up or to observe in the classroom, 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.

We would also like to extend an invitation to your family to enjoy the playground before and after school. 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 have an fun year planned for the children. In this edition of the Preschool Press, you will find some of the things we have planned for your child over the next few weeks.

We are so excited to have your child join us for the 2023- 2024 school year. Please know that we are open to your questions and concerns. You simply have to ask.

Sincerely,

Robin Ozbolt

Administrator

Bring the Farm to You - Chick Hatching

Monday, September 25, will begin our journey through a chicken's life cycle. This is a favorite learning experience among the staff and children, as the chick life process is discovered before our very eyes. The chick eggs will be brought to us in an incubator, where the children will be able to watch the chicks hatch over the next 2 weeks. Once hatched, the chicks will be moved to a warm brooder, where the children will watch them grow. There will be opportunities for the children to see the chicks outside of the brooder as well. Trust me the baby chicks are so cute!!

Items Needed

The following items are needed for the children in case of spills, accidents and so forth. If you happen to have extra gentle used items, and are willing to share with us, we would be grateful.

Girls: tops - short and long sleeves socks pants

Boys: long sleeve shirts pants socks



Snack Choices

We would love for families to bring healthy daily snacks for the class to share. Hence, we would appreciate families choosing from the list below.

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

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

Letter of the Week

We will begin our journey through the alphabet on Monday, September 25th. Your child will be bringing home a folder with information and "homework." Homework will be sent home each week that coincides with the letter that is being introduced. We follow the Orton Gillingham approach to the alphabet, which is a multi-sensory tool for learning letters and sounds. A key component of this approach is that the letters are introduced in a specific order, rather than the traditional idea of Aa to Zz. For instance, we will begin with the letter Aa, but then move quickly to letters Tt, Bb, Ll, Ff, Hh, Pp... In essence, we are teaching the letters that will begin to form rhyming words, such as bat, pat, hat... Please do not stress over the "homework" being sent home. If your child is not ready to sit down and complete the work, there are many other ways to introduce the letters to your child in a more play-based manner. Let us know if you would like ideas in how to do so at home.

Picture Days

Picture days will be October 11, 12, and 13. More details will follow as the date approaches.

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

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.**