

Old Friends / New Friends Picnic

We were delighted to see almost all of our families at the potluck picnic. It is a great way to kick off the new school year. We hope you connected with old friends and made new friends, too!

TRANSPORTATION PLANS

Just a reminder to turn in your Transportation Plans sheet. The information you provide on this sheet helps us ensure that your child is leaving school with an authorized person. Please update the form if your plans change during the school year.

AAMODT'S APPLE FARM

Thursday, October 2nd is our all-school field trip to the Apple Farm 9:00 am – 1:00 pm.

Book Orders/Coffee Orders

The October book order and coffee order forms will be in your child's bin soon. If you are interested in ordering books, please return the order form and a check to the Preschool by **Thursday, October 9th**. If you'd like to order coffee, please return the order form by the 9th. You will be billed for coffee ordered.

FALL Break

Preschool will be closed on **Thursday, October 16th**.

Pumpkin Patch

On **Tuesday, October 21st**, we will have a Pumpkin Patch at the Preschool. Each child will have the opportunity to find a pumpkin in the straw. We are looking for volunteers: two to help us during the morning and two in the afternoon. Please let Heidi know if you can help.

Kids & Bids Silent Auction

Keep your eyes on the posters displayed at the Preschool – you may find the perfect item to bid on or maybe you'll find your perfect item at the event! Donations are coming in and there will be lots of exciting items. Your invitation will arrive soon and we hope you already have the date saved – **Friday, November 7th**!

If you have an idea for a donation or have any questions, please talk with Heidi or Nicolle.

Picture Day

A photographer from Rich Osness will be at Lake Harriet UM Preschool on **Thursday, October 9th**. Each child will be photographed at no cost to you. Before Thanksgiving, we should receive the pictures for you to review. You may purchase as many as you like or return the photos to us. Siblings of Preschoolers may be photographed at 9:00 or 12:30. We have been very pleased with the quality of the photos in the past.

Halloween Program

On **Thursday, October 30th**, we will be presenting our Halloween Program. The children may wear costumes to Preschool and will be performing some special Halloween and fall songs and fingerplays for family and friends. More information will be sent home.

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Drop Off and Pick Up

For the safety of the children, we ask that you use the parking lot doors to enter and exit the Preschool. **The playground gate is to remain closed while the Preschool is in session.** We will occasionally make an exception to this policy for special circumstances – please speak with Heidi or Nicolle if you have questions.

The sessions begin and end promptly at the times stated below:

AM: 9:00 am to 11:30 am

PM: 12:30 pm to 3:00 pm

The time before the beginning of each session is very valuable to the teachers. It is during this time we prepare the classroom and materials to make your child's experience a positive one. The teachers will be prompt in opening their classrooms at the beginning of each session so that every child is greeted and guided through the expectations of the day. We ask that you do not enter the classroom until you have been made aware that the teacher is ready for the day. Please do not leave children unattended in the classroom.

If you are going to be late picking up, please give us a call.

Illness

When your child is ill and will not be attending preschool, please call us at 612.926.8043 to let us know. It is very important that we keep track of the symptoms that are keeping children out of school. When leaving a message please give a brief description of your child's symptoms.

Please remember to also let us know when a child has had a contagious disease like strep throat over the weekend. We are required to document illnesses during the school year.

When an illness notice is sent home, it means that the illness has occurred in the school but may not be in your child's classroom.

Fall Conferences

In November we will be offering optional Fall Conferences. The purpose of this conference is to discuss your child's adjustment to Preschool. The conferences will be held after school or on days when school is not in session. Children do not attend the conference. If you will not be attending a conference, a written observation form will be sent home with your child on Thursday November 20th.

Lunch Bunch Information

Our Lunch Bunch Coordinator for this school year is Mary Z. Our other staff members are Elizabeth and Rachel. Two Lunch Bunch staff members will supervise the children each week. Lunch Bunch takes place most Thursdays that school is in session. Lunch Bunch provides an opportunity for children to have casual social interactions for an hour after school (for AM kids) or before school (for PM kids). We play outside or in the muscle room, read books, color, and eat lunch together. Important information for all families interested in Lunch Bunch:

To sign your child up for Lunch Bunch look for the sign-up sheet upstairs near the Muscle Room on the **second Tuesday of each month** between 9 am and 3 pm.

On **Tuesday**, you may sign up for **ONLY ONE DAY** of Lunch Bunch. On **Wednesday**, you may sign up for one additional day. We want to give all children an opportunity to attend. If you see on **Thursday** that the sheet is not filled then you may **sign up for any additional days**.

AM children should sign up on the AM sheet, PM children on the PM sheet.

While we welcome any child at Preschool to the Lunch Bunch program, there are some who may not be ready yet for an extra hour at Preschool. You know your child best.

Please let us know if you have concerns so that we may work together to make Lunch Bunch an enjoyable experience for your child. If you have any questions, please call Mary at 952.926.6896 or talk to your child's teacher. Hope to see you at Lunch Bunch!

GARDEN CLEAN UP

Our thanks to Sarah & Todd (and Sunnyside Gardens) for cleaning up the Preschool gardens! We appreciate their work and love the beautiful pots near the doors.

Thanks Preschool Board...

Our thanks to the Preschool Board for helping us at our Old Friends/New Friends Picnic and for hosting our Welcome Coffee. We are grateful for their help!

Upcoming Elections

During this election season, help us keep Early Childhood Education near the top of the agenda. When you have opportunities, ask candidates for public office to articulate their understanding of Early Childhood Education, and ways they would support and strengthen it in our community.

Enrichment Classes

There may be openings in some of our Enrichment Classes for the fall session. If you are interested in one of the programs or would like more information, please call the appropriate teacher.

Contact Us

As always, if you have any concerns, questions or comments, please share them with us. You may leave us a voice mail: 612.926.8043, use one of our email addresses:
admin@lakeharrietumpreschool.org
mrs.caskey@lakeharrietumpreschool.org
mrs.rockhold@lakeharrietumpreschool.org or
talk with us at school.