



SEPTEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

ROOM # 104- Mrs. Jordan

Dear Parents,
Welcome to Lake Harriet Preschool!

Thank you for allowing me to visit you and your child in your home. I truly enjoy having a special time to get to know you and your child. If you have any questions after our visit please give me a call.

Be sure to check the web site for newsletters, snack schedule, & other important information. This information will also be posted outside the classroom.

While some children tell their parents about their day, some don't, please check the newsletters online and read the weekly lesson plans (posted in the hallway) if you have any additional questions about your child's day please let me know.

Themes:

- Friends, Seasons, Fall & Apples

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Calendar Dates:

Sept 10th - Monday
Classroom Open House
5:00 - 5:30

Sept. 11th -Tuesday
1st day of preschool

Sept. 12th - Wednesday
Show & Tell

Sept. 22nd - 1st day of
Fall

What's your name?

During the first few weeks of school we will be spending time getting acquainted with each other, our school facilities, and developing our classroom rules and routines. We will be making a classroom friends book. When it is complete, each child will have a turn to take it home to share with his/her family. This has become a great way for the children and parents to learn more about the other children in class. We will talk about how we are the same and different, play name games, and sing songs to help us remember our friend's names.

Throughout the year we will be working on our social/emotional skills. During September, emphasis will be on welcoming new friends, learning the names of our classmates and teachers, recognizing our written names and learning to introduce ourselves and others.

Show & Tell / Sharing Day

Show & tell is an opportunity for the children to talk about their experiences, likes, interests and teach their friends games etc. They build confidence when speaking in front of a group as well as improve their verbal skills. We will ask who, what, where, why and how questions. It will take

place once a month, the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Wednesday, September 12th will be our first show & tell day. Each month will have a special theme; September's theme is "Something special to you". In order for everyone to get a turn, please help your child decide on one thing to bring. To help avoid lost treasures, please leave them at home except on show & tell days.

Arrival

Please remember to bring your child's bag daily. Please say your goodbyes before your child hangs up their things. While your child finds their name and hangs up their outdoor clothing and bag, you can check your child's bin for notes and artwork. There are extra bins for you to leave an extra set of clothes or shoes if you want. Any notes for me or forms being returned should be placed in the basket on top of the children's bins. Thanks!

Because we encourage good hygiene and prevent the spread of germs, we require all children to wash hands before starting their day.

The children will be asked to check in before playing. The form of checking in will change throughout the year as the children's skills advance.

Corduroy

Corduroy is our stuffed animal that came to your house for home visits. He enjoys watching the children playing and learning at school but would like to have a sleepover at your house. We will be making a book about his adventures. Please sign up for a weekend that Corduroy can stay with you, have fun and take him with you on any adventures you may go on, then have your child draw or take a picture of them with Corduroy. I will give you a page that you can put your picture on and then tell a little about what Corduroy did with your family. Have fun. The sign up will be by the door.

Snacks

Please remember to check the schedule for your child's turn to bring a healthy snack (ie: veggies & dip, crackers, fruit, bagels & cream cheese, granola bars, yogurt, cheese sticks etc.) each snack should include 2 food groups. We will talk about what a healthy snack is and the importance of staying healthy. We always have water to serve or you may bring milk. To avoid sad feelings, please send 10 identical items. Reminder: All snacks must be commercially prepared.

Learning Themes

I have many ideas for themes that we will learn about throughout the year. Some of them include: Seasons, Artists, Authors, Careers, Health, Nutrition, 5 senses, Animals, Environment, Recycling, Feelings, Family, Expressing ourselves through music, Experimenting with colors, Building with shapes, Alphabet, Numbers, Similarities/Differences, Opposites, Telling time, Money etc. I will be asking the children what they are interested in and if there is a specific subject they

would like to learn more about or even teach the class about. The amount of time we spend on each theme depends on the children's needs and interests.

Science Experiments

We will be doing science experiments throughout the year. If your child would like to show their peers an experiment please let me know. Starting in Oct. each child will have a turn to show their friends an experiment of their choosing. There will be a sign up by the door or let me know what works for your family.

Pets

Our classroom has a pet fish. The children will help name it. Throughout the year we will also take care of and learn about animals such as: ladybugs, tadpoles - frogs, caterpillars - butterflies, hornworms - moths, etc

Birthdays

Birthdays are special and a great time to talk about how it feels to be older. We will be celebrating each child's birthday as close as we can to their day (or $\frac{1}{2}$ birthday, if their birthday is in the summer). Your child may bring a special birthday snack that day. Many parents like to come on that day to have snack with the class and read a story of your child's choosing after or during snack. Please let me know if you would like to come. Thanks.

Walking through the alphabet

We will be learning the alphabet throughout the year, the letters will be introduced based on the letter people program which follows a sequence that is grounded in what experts know about the order in which children typically acquire speech sounds and will change monthly. We will look for the letters in our classroom, in books and magazines as well as talking about how each letter sounds. We will focus on words that begin with the letter we are working on. The first letters we will focus on are "Nn" and "Ww"

Volunteer opportunities:

Generally, I don't request any classroom volunteers the first few weeks as the children are settling in. Throughout the year I will ask for help with classroom projects, Star of the week portraits, woodworking and fieldtrip chaperones. Volunteer opportunities will be posted by the door as they come up.

Currently I am looking for parent helpers to put together our "Classroom Friends" book. This would consist of re-writing a few notes about each child and gluing on pictures for the book.

I can show you samples from past years and will give you all the info you need. Let me know if you are interested or there is a sign up by the door.

Looking ahead: We will be talking about careers in October. If you have a job you think the children would be interested in learning about please let me know when you could come in. I will also be looking for volunteers to help with woodworking in October.

If you have any questions please feel free to call or email me.

My number is (612) 802-8350 Email address (sjordan@lakeharrietumpreschool.org)

Thanks, Mrs. Jordan

