



# SEPTEMBER 2008

## NEWSLETTER ROOM # 104

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. Weekly lesson plans will be posted outside our classroom door as well.

### Themes:

- Friends

### Calendar Dates:

Sept 15<sup>th</sup> - Monday  
Family picnic  
5:30 - 7:00

Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> - Tuesday  
1<sup>st</sup> day of preschool

### 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 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 play different name games and sing songs to help us remember our friend's names.

We will also be working on our social/emotional skills. During September, emphasis will be on 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 once a month, usually on the 1st Wednesday of the month. Wednesday, October 1<sup>st</sup> will be our first show & tell day. The children will take turns telling us about the object that they brought, if there is time we will play with them. 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 - Pick up

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

Because we encourage good hygiene, 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.

The last 15 minutes of class are spent on the playground, please find me to collect your purple bag so I know you have arrived, and remind your car pool to pick up your child's bag also. Thanks.

## Chester

Chester is our raccoon puppet 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 Chester 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 Chester. I will give you a page that you can put your picture on and then tell a little about what Chester did with your family. Have fun.

## Snacks

Please remember to check the schedule for your child's turn to bring snack (ie: veggies & dip, crackers, fruit, granola bars etc.). We always have water to serve or you may bring milk, we are staying away from juice. To avoid sad feelings, please send 10 identical items. All snacks must be commercially prepared.

## Happy Birthday

... to Via on the 1st

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 treat for 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 before we go outside. Please let me know if you would like to come. Thanks.

## Themes

I have many ideas for themes that we will learn about throughout the year. Some of them include: Seasons, Artists, Authors, Careers, Transportation, Animals, Environment, Colors, Shapes, Alphabet, Numbers, Similarities/Differences, Opposites, etc. Each year I like to see what the children are interested in and would like to hear if there is a specific subject your child would like to learn more about or even teach the class about. In October we will be studying Occupations and Community Helpers. I'm looking for a few parents to come in to tell us about their jobs. Let me know if you would like to come in.

## Pet

Our classroom has a fish as our pet. His name is Nemo.

## Sign Language

We will be learning sign language throughout the year. We will start with yes, no, please, thank you. We will also learn colors, seasons, numbers, alphabet, their names, feelings etc.

## 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 and woodworking. 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. There is a sign up by the door.

If you have any questions please feel free to call.

Thanks,  
Sue