

# September Newsletter

Welcome to Lake Harriet UM Preschool!



## This year we celebrate 70 years!

Lake Harriet UM Preschool has been educating young children in the community and we welcome you to a year of learning, new experiences, and good fun!

Each month, a newsletter from the Director will be posted on the preschool website and shared with you through brightwheel. An email will be sent each month notifying you that the website has been updated with your child's classroom information and will also be shared via brightwheel. Communications between the home and preschool are extremely important to us! Please let us know if you are having trouble receiving the information you need.



brightwheel



daily check in & health screening



photos



messaging

## Family Handbook

Our family handbook contains important information for all preschool families. The handbook can be downloaded from our website and has been shared with you via brightwheel.

The Family Handbook addresses preschool policies. These policies have been developed in accordance with our state license. They are reviewed annually by our health consultant and MN Department of Human Services (DHS).

Policy areas in the Handbook include Philosophy & Goals, Program Plan, Behavior Guidance, Communication, Confidentiality, Grievances, Health & Safety, Illness, Maltreatment, Medications, and Special Needs.

**“Play is often talked about as if it were a relief from serious learning. But for children play is serious learning. Play is really the work of childhood.”** *Fred Rogers*

## Drop off and pick up procedures

For the safety of the children please park in the parking lot when dropping off and picking up your child(ren). Automobiles are not to idle when parking to drop off and pick up. It is very important to drive slowly and always pay close attention to children.

### Drop Off

The driver must bring all children into school. Children should not be left in the car, classroom, or hallway unattended. Please check your child in using the brightwheel app upon arrival each day. **Your child MUST be checked in before you leave the premises.**

### Pick Up

If your child is enrolled in the regular preschool program, pick up is on the school playground at 12:30pm. When you arrive, please check your child out using the brightwheel app and collect your child's preschool bag from their teacher by 12:30pm. If your child is enrolled in Preschool Plus or STEM Friday, please check them out in the brightwheel app at 3pm and pick up at the main preschool entrance. Families enrolled in AM/PM Flex Care, will check them out in the brightwheel app and pick up their child in either Room 101 or 102 when you arrive. Families are welcome to stay and play on the playground under their caregivers supervision.

## Muscle Room Time with Mrs. Taylor

The preschoolers will have several large motor movement opportunities each day, whether it is inside in the large muscle room, playground, outside with their teacher, or in the classroom.

Mrs. Taylor will be teaching the preschoolers how to play safely using the equipment both inside and out. She will also facilitate social and emotional development as the children play and interact with one another. Problem solving skills, turn taking, etc. Additionally, she will introduce your preschoolers to novel activities and vocabulary.

### General playground and muscle room guidelines:

- Preschoolers are under the supervision of the preschool staff - **all children must be within sight and sound of the teacher at all times**

- Shoes must be worn at all times. Please send your child in shoes that are appropriate to play in - no flip flops, heeled shoes, cowboy boots, etc.
- Please send your child with the appropriate outdoor clothing and label outerwear. If you are sending your child to school in rain or winter boots, please remember to send indoor shoes, too.
- Children are to slide down slides with their feet first.
- Toys should remain in their designated areas: sand toys in sand box, big trucks in the mulch, balls on grass, trikes on sidewalk

## Contact us

As always, if you have any concerns, questions or comments, please share them with us. If you use the messaging option through brightwheel, messages quickly reach us and will automatically notify both your teacher and the Director. If you have something more detailed to discuss, please email, call or talk with us at school.

## Preschool Bags

Please have your child bring their preschool bag to school each day and check it daily for information in their home/school plastic envelope - teachers will mainly use this to send home art projects and materials in the preschool bag.

Please make sure your child's name is on the bag and feel free to personalize and make it their own!



