



SEPTEMBER 2021
NEWSLETTER ROOM # 104- Mrs. Jordan

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Lake Harriet Preschool!

Thank you for allowing me to visit you and your child at 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 school web site for newsletters, snack schedule, & other important information. I will be sending you the weekly lesson plan through Brightwheel.

September Learning Theme - What's your name? / Fall

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, I will read each child's page and send a picture of it home to share with your 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.

Lesson Plans - While some children tell their parents about their day, some don't, I will be sending you the weekly lesson plan through Brightwheel on Sunday, if you have any additional questions about your child's day, please let me know. Each day we will be reading and working on a project based on the learning theme. Some of the projects we work on will be executed over multiple days. Lesson plans may be modified based on the learning needs of the children.

Newsletters - A monthly newsletter will be posted each month that contains information about the monthly curriculum and classroom information.

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 15th 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.

Drop off / Pick up

Our classroom drop off/pick up location is on 49th Street, door by the playground gate. Please bring your child to the door, you will need to use the QR code to sign in your child. Pick up will be at the same location as drop off, please use the QR code to sign out your child and I will pass the preschool bag off to you. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Arrival - When arriving each day your child will hang his or her preschool bag and outdoor clothing on their hook. There will be a plastic home/school folder inside the preschool bag for sending fabulous pieces of artwork and preschool notes home. Please check and empty the bag every day.

The first two weeks of class the children will be getting acclimated to their new routine. Attaining independence and responsibility for themselves and paying attention to the needs and feelings of others are two of our goals for the year. I will be there for your child! I will differentiate my response to each individual child and help them as needed to be independent, learn to take care of themselves, and to learn to help their friends.

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.

Home/School Folder - Forms, notes, supplies, etc. that need to get to me can be placed in the home/school plastic folder in their preschool bag.

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 or milk to serve. To avoid sad feelings, please send 10 identical items. Reminder: All snacks must be commercially prepared. If your child has food allergies we will talk together and make a safe plan. If you have a conflict with your scheduled day, go ahead and switch with someone. Please let me know of any changes. Snack schedules will be posted on our class page on the school website.

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. Various assessment methods will be used to plan and modify the curriculum. At the beginning of each theme we will discuss what we already know and what we want to know. When we complete a theme we will review what we have learned.

Science Experiments - We will be doing science experiments throughout the year. Learning to be scientists, making hypothesis, conclusions etc. If your child would like to show their peers an experiment of their choosing please let me know.

Pets - Our classroom has a pet fish "Bluey" Throughout the year we will also take care of and learn about animals such as: ants, caterpillars - butterflies etc

Birthdays - Mabel on September 10th

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. Please send a special book of your child's choosing for me to read to the class.

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 - Due to COVID, we will not ask parents to volunteer in the classroom at this time. Currently I am looking for a parent 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.

I would also like to help families stay connected to their preschooler's experience. Lake Harriet UM Preschool is not just for kids, it is for families, too! If you would like to be the classroom room parent who helps coordinate and plan ways to connect, please let me know!

Important Dates:

September:

9/13 - Preschool Preview Night begins at 5:00pm at your drop off location

9/14 - First Day of Preschool!

Sept. 15th - Wednesday - Show & Tell

Sept. 22nd - 1st day of Fall

Looking Ahead...

October:

10/20 & 21- School Closed (Fall Break)

10/28- Classroom Halloween Party

November:

11/15-18 - Zoom Fall Parent/Teacher Conferences (regular preschool in session)

11/22-25 - School Closed (Thanksgiving Break)

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

