



Happy Easter from Loving Hands Preschool April 2018



How is it April?? It feels like this school year is passing by faster than the blink of an eye! These last 2 months will be no exception, as they are jam packed with activities and special events! Please be sure to pay extra attention to the calendars, as there are several special events and different scheduled days & you won't want to miss any of it!!

Thank you to everyone who filled eggs for our Easter Egg Hunt!! The Easter Bunny had so many eggs to hide!! And the kids enjoyed finding them!! We hope you enjoy your Spring Break!! We look forward to returning on Tuesday, April 3!!

DONATIONS NEEDED: We are running low on sandwich size Ziploc bags, snack size Ziploc bags, playdough, and we are out of Roll Paper Towels. Any donations would be greatly appreciated!! We can not thank everyone enough for all the product donations they made at the beginning of the year!! It is a HUGE help to us!! We made it all the way until now without having to request any additional items! Woohoo!!!

APRIL FIELD TRIPS: Our Pre-K and T-K classes have planned field trips this month!! Field trips will replace class times these days. If your child is not planning to attend the trip, there will be no class that day.

- The Green Room will be attending the Green Fire Station on Friday, April 6! Due to space limitations, the AM class will begin their tour of the firehouse at 9:00am. The PM students will begin their tour at 10:30. Please plan to arrive a few minutes early to assure we start on time.
- The Yellow Room will be attending the Greentown Fire Station on Friday, April 6. Both AM & PM classes will begin their tour at 9:30am. Due to space limitations, we request that only one adult attends with each child. A BIG thank you to our Yellow Room dads, Jason Laird and Nick Nicholson for inviting us to their firehouse, and planning a fun morning for us!!
- The Blue and Purple Rooms will be visiting the Akron Zoo on Thursday, April 26 at 10:00. Permission slips have been sent home and should be returned no later than April 16th. The cost is \$9.00 for adults, \$7.50 for children, infants under 2 are free. If you have a zoo pass, it will be honored for the field trip.

TUITION: WooHoo!! The last tuition payment (May) will be due BY April 16. For families who plan to return in the fall, your next payment will be due by August 16 (September payment). If you are currently signed up for your tuition payment to be automatically withdrawn from your account, you can return a new form to Brittney before the end of the school year, and we can begin the withdrawal for the August 16 payment. If you are not currently signed up, but would like to use this option for next year, you can pick up a form at the Information Station, in the folder labeled AFT. You will need to include a voided check with the form. If you wait to sign up until after the end of the school year, you will need to pay the first payment by cash or check.

PRESCHOOL CLOSED: There will be no preschool on Friday, April 27. This day is a preschool work day. Teachers will be disassembling the muscle room equipment for the school year in preparation for the end of the school year activities (i.e. Mother's Day Tea, Trike a Thons, Graduations and picnics). If anyone would be interested in coming in to help with this task, there will be a sign up sheet at the Information Station, outside of the preschool office.

TRIKE-A-THON: Preparations for our spring fundraiser are underway! On Monday, May 14 & Tuesday, May 15 at 11:30, we will have our 6th Annual Trike a Thon!! You will be receiving an Introduction packet about this event soon! We will send home a sheet of mailing labels with each child. You will choose family & friends that you would like a flyer sent and write their name/address on a label. Simply return the labels to school by Friday, April 6. They can be placed in the paperwork basket outside of the preschool office. We'll do the rest!!! The flyers will include a picture of your child and they will sign the letter letting sponsors know about the Trike-a-Thon. It will give instructions for if they want to make a donation. Every time a donation is returned in your child's name, they will have the opportunity to choose a prize from the prize box. The kids love getting mail!! An adult is required to be at the Trike a Thon for all children who plan to participate. On the day of the Trike-a-Thon, the AM children can participate in the trike-a-thon after dismissal, and the PM class can arrive at 11:30 to participate. The Blue Room will have an early dismissal day on the day of their event to allow all parents to participate in the event or take their child home if they choose not to participate. It has been a blast every year!! Each year, our goal is to raise \$1000 towards new equipment and supplies for the program. Here is what we raised...

- 2012-2013: \$3703.00 (we were able to purchase new cars for our muscle room & fulfill teacher wish lists!)
- 2013-2014: \$6347.00 (we were able to purchase new mats for the muscle room & fulfill teacher wish lists!)
- 2014-2015: \$8614.00 (we were able to use towards the purchase of a new playground fence and fulfill teacher wish lists)
- 2015-2016: \$9751.00 (we were able to use towards new lighting in all the classrooms, new tables for all the classrooms, as well as fans for the Blue Room, and fulfilled teacher wishlists!)

- 2016-2017: \$10,361.53 (we were able to replace windows in all of the classrooms, as well as fulfill teacher wishlists for new equipment and furniture items for their classroom. By being able to pay for the windows, it allowed the church to use that portion of their funds to replace the lighting in the muscle room, so that was a bonus for us!!)

If you choose not to participate in the fundraiser, your child will simply attend class at their regularly scheduled time (or dismiss early for the Blue Room). We are looking forward to this fun-filled day!!! There are a lot of opportunities for volunteers to prepare for the Trike a Thon. Check the information station to sign up!

In April, we will be sending home **Parent Surveys**. We encourage everyone to fill it out and return it to the paperwork basket in the preschool office. Whether you are happy with everything or find room for improvement in areas, your input is the key to our success!

GET THE WORD OUT!! If you would like to let others know what you think of Loving Hands Preschool, you can write a review! You can find a testimonial page outside of the preschool office. Simply tell us what you think; return the form to the paperwork basket outside of the preschool office, and your review will go on our website's Parent Testimonial page. Or you can write a review on Facebook! If you haven't already "liked" us, you can find us at www.facebook.com/LovingHandsPreschool. We appreciate all of the testimonials and reviews that we have already received!

Staff Changes: We are sad (but happy for her!!) to announce that Miss Marie just learned that she will not be able to return in the fall. Marie has her Associates Degree in Education, and has been working to finish her BS in Early Childhood Education. Unfortunately for us, she is at that point in her schooling, that her classes are no longer flexible to her work schedule, and she will need to attend classes on MWF now, as well. We are so excited for her as she moves closer to finishing school, but sad to see her leaving us! However, we would like to take this time to welcome Miss Libby Marks to our preschool staff!! Libby has been a preschool parent with us since 2014, and still has one daughter returning next fall. Libby has a BS in Education. We are confident that she is going to make an excellent addition to our staff!!! Some of you had the opportunity to meet her at the Spring Open House! She will also be spending some time here this spring to get to know the staff, the children, and the ins and outs of the program better!!

Mark your calendars... In May, Miss Shannon and Miss Robin will be hosting the **Mom's Day Off** on Friday, May 4 from 11:30-3:00. Similar to Christmas Drop-n-Shop, our children that attend school on Friday mornings can stay with us after preschool until 3:00 (\$20). Our Friday PM kids can come in at 11:30, and then go to preschool at 12:30 (\$10). Or children that do not attend preschool on Fridays can be dropped off at 11:30 and picked up at 3:00 (\$20). We will provide lunch for each child, make a special gift for mom, do crafts, games and activities, and end the day with popcorn and a movie! It is always so much fun! There will be a sign up sheet coming soon at the information station outside of the preschool office.

Enrichment has been a blast this year!! Miss Mary Ellen has enjoyed the time that she has spent with your children. April will be the last full month of Enrichment. For May, we are only able to offer Enrichment on various days due to our Mother's Day Teas, Trike-a-Thons, Graduations and Picnic. The dates that Enrichment will be offered will be:

	Tuesday, May 1
Monday, May 7	Tuesday, May 8
Wednesday, May 9	Thursday, May 10
Wednesday, May 16	Thursday, May 17
Monday, May 21	Tuesday, May 22

As with the month of December, The cost of enrichment for this month will be \$50/month if you attend the Mon/Wed OR Tue/Thur dates. If you are attending M-TH dates, the cost will be \$75. Children who attend PM classes will pay \$30. PERMANENT RESERVATIONS END ON APRIL 30. THE SIGN UP SHEET FOR MAY WILL BE POSTED WHEN WE RETURN FROM SPRING BREAK. If you have your enrichment tuition payment automatically withdrawn, you must be on the signup sheet before April 6 to have it withdrawn, otherwise you will need to pay with cash/check. We will open up the "Stay-n-Play" option IF space permits.

April Dates

- 1: Happy Easter
- 2: **NO SCHOOL**
- 4/5: Chapel time with Miss Shannon
- 5: Happy Birthday Sophia E
- 6: Return Trike a Thon Mailing Labels
- 6: Happy Birthday Mason M
- 9: Happy Birthday Nora H
- 9/10: Music and Movement with Miss Angelina
- 10: Happy Birthday Miss Kate
- 11: Happy Birthday Isabella D
- 11: Spring Picture Day for MW3, Green and Blue Rooms
- 12: Spring Picture Day for TTH3, Yellow and Purple Rooms
- 12: Preschool Board Meeting 9:00
- 13: happy Birthday Jack T



- 15: Happy Birthday Wes H & Gianna L
- 16: LAST TUITION PAYMENT IS DUE
- 17: Storytime with Miss Brandie 9:30
- 18: Happy Birthday Crosby F
- 18/19: Chapel Time with Pastor Katie
- 19: Happy Birthday Samantha G
- 23: Happy Birthday Eldan B
- 23/24: Music and Movement with Miss Angelina
- 25: Happy Birthday Reed N
- 27: Teacher Work Day- NO PRESCHOOL (volunteers needed to help tear Muscle Room Equipment down)9:30**
- 30: Happy Birthday Luke G



The Orange Room classes began March by c thinking. We made our own funny hats by us *Cat In the Hat* and *Green Eggs and Ham*. Many of the children were interested in construction, trains, and things that go! So, the following week, our focus was Transportation! We painted construction paper cars with truck tire tracks! Make sure to peak in the room to see our car map the children created! Next, GREEN was the subject as we celebrated St. Patrick's Day! The children learned that St. Patrick was from Ireland where there was lots of green grass. We painted 1 hand blue and the other had yellow, rubbed our hands together, and made our own shade of GREEN! The children learned how St. Patrick taught others to be kind to each other. It was fun observing the children as they have made great friendships. They continue to use their thinking skills to resolve conflict as well as share and respect the rights of their peers. The children made rainbows by classifying colored paper and gluing them onto divided paper. This worked their fine muscles AND pre-math skills! We played a game called "pass the hat". The children enjoyed taking turns picking a shamrock out of the hat which directed them to do silly activities such as; jump up and down 10 times, make a silly face... fun was had by all! We also had some Easter fun in March! The children chose the number of carrots to feed their construction paper bunnies, they made their own Easter bag, there was Easter egg number matching, and an Easter egg tower STEM challenge. During conferences, many of you asked how you can help your child be a better listener. I, like you, feel that building these skills is very important. In April, we will focus in on fun listening activities. To implement these skills at home you can find some ideas here:

https://www.themaven.net/kidsactivities/kidsactivities/15-activities-to-build-listening-skills-ViM2tSLQik-Xm_122ZHx1A?full=1.

April brings Spring, Growing Things, and Mother's Day preparations.

Green Room Pre-Kindergarten class

Miss Marie & Miss Carolyn

marieeubank@yahoo.com

Happy Spring Green Room families! Wow, two more months of school left! Wasn't it just yesterday you were dropping them off for their first day? We have come so far since the beginning of the school year. For the month of April we will be focusing on the Ocean and animals that live in it. We will have water in the sensory tub in late April and in May. The kids will have daily discussions about things we can find in the ocean and if they have had any experiences with it. This will be a great opportunity to expand their knowledge on animals that live below our surface. Their fine motor skills are progressing well as we continue to work on writing names correctly. We also have been working on our phone numbers and will continue to memorize them until the end of the school year. We are looking forward to our spring field trip which will be at the Green Fire Station on April 6. Lastly, I do appreciate it if you take your child to the potty before coming to class, we have been needing to go more often than usual recently. Thank you and let's have a wonderful month!

Letters- W,X,Y,Z

Yellow Room Pre-K class

Miss Kate & Miss MaryEllen (Miss Joyce on Fridays)

kathleenmgifford@gmail.com

Happy April, Yellow Room families! We hope you enjoyed your spring break and had a happy Easter! This month will start off with a unit on Community Helpers. We will discuss what makes someone a community helper and why they're so important, as well as create a list of careers that fall under this category. Both morning and afternoon classes will individually decorate an encouraging poster to send to the Green Fire and Police Departments as a token of gratitude for their services. We will also learn about construction and architecture by designing our own blueprints and constructing them physically with blocks. This will encourage creativity, fine motor skills, and STEAM engagement. It will be during this time that we will begin practicing phone numbers in class. Each student will get their own phone number learning kit that they will practice with upon arrival every day. At the end of the unit, they will be allowed to take them home. We encourage you to work with your child on their phone number and address at home to supplement the lesson.

We will finish the month with a unit on nature. In our classroom, we will learn about the metamorphosis process of caterpillars, and we will bring in some new class pets: our own butterflies! Students will monitor their growth over the course of the next two months before we release them into the courtyard at full size. We will read the classic Eric Carle story "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" and complete a fun fine motor activity to complement

the lesson. We will finish up the unit by discussing springtime weather, making a rain cloud in a jar, and cloud watching on the playground outside after reading "It Looked Like Split Milk".

Purple Room Transitional-K class
Miss Lindsay & Miss Stacey
Lindsaymoore2033@gmail.com

It's a bird! . . . It's a plane! . . . No! It's the Purple Room flying through April with their favorite theme of Superheroes! We are super excited to get this month started with fun activities and crafts that have to do with superheroes and villains. We will first learn what it means to be a superhero by talking about "why they are super." Then, we will talk about the "bad guys" and why they are still important to our stories. The class will spend time sharing what our super power would be if we had one.

Academically, we will be finishing our numbers up to 30, finishing the sight words of the year, learning about money, identifying story parts, and learning about ending sounds.

April is also a time where we are really pushing for your child to be independent, so we can help them be successful in Kindergarten. So, if you at home can work together with us to make sure the students are doing easy tasks, like hanging their coats up, checking their mailbox, putting their mail in their backpack at dismissal, throwing their trash away and other small "duties" you can give your child a great start towards transitioning to Kindergarten.

Near the end of April, we will be taking time to do our spring field trip to the Akron Zoo. This is all the students want to talk about right now! We will be going on April 26th, meeting at the Zoo at 10:00 am. They open at this time, so once we have a count of everyone, we will continue into the park. Please have your money turned into us by April 16th so we can pre-pay the park for the fun we will be having! If you have a membership, that's great, you will not need your money—just let us know who all is coming for our overall count. The membership will need to match the parent/guardian that is bringing the student as well. Also, please dress for outside weather; we are hoping it will be nice and sunny, but if it's looking like rain, please bring coats, umbrellas, etc. to still go. Rain or shine we still go!

Blue Room- Full Day Transitional Kindergarten
Miss Jessica & Miss Joyce
jfulmer0805@gmail.com

April is arriving, which hopefully means warm weather is approaching too! We had so much fun the month of March talking about Space, St. Patrick's Day and Easter. For the month of April, we will be talking about Spring, Butterflies and Plants. We will be planting our own seeds and watching them grow. Every couple day's we will document what we see happening. We will also be getting caterpillars and watching them turn into butterflies. We are going to continue working on our sight words, rhyming words and opposite's.

This month is also our field trip to the Akron Zoo. We will be going on April 26th, we will meet at the zoo that day at 10:00am. We will NOT come to school that day. If you have a zoo pass you may use it the day of the field trip. If you have any other questions please ask!

With April and May coming, there are lots of fun things that are going on at school. Please check your child's mailbox daily for important information. Excited for the next two months of school!!

Enrichment Class
Miss Mary Ellen

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Hello Enrichment families! Spring has finally sprung! I hope everyone had a Happy Easter and a relaxing spring break. The themes for April will be the spring season, plants, animals and bugs.

At the beginning of the month we will focus on spring weather like rain and wind. We will discuss what clouds are made of and how they form as we read "The Falling Raindrop" by Neil Johnson and Joel Chin. This book is a great introduction to the water cycle. In addition we will make "rain clouds" in a jar by using water, shaving cream and blue food coloring. Following that lesson we will learn about plants. We'll make little sprout houses and practice math concepts by sorting and counting seeds. Towards the end of the month we will focus on animals and bugs. We will read several books by the author Eric Carle and make crafts inspired by these books. Finally we'll continue to strengthen fine motor skills as we make bug fossils using play dough.

