



Loving Hands Preschool January 2021

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!! We hope everyone has a blessed Christmas and a relaxing winter break! We are excited to see what 2021 has in store for us!! We hope everyone enjoyed the Christmas Programs! We were sad that we were unable to invite our families in for a live performance, but so thankful for the technology to bring it to each of you remotely. A BIG thank you to April Ruther, who volunteered to help us to stream the events! We are so blessed to have so many wonderful families who step up to help us whenever we ask!

*****NEW UPDATE*****This newsletter was all ready for print when the announcement from Green came in. Please note that Green Local Schools will be temporarily moving to remote learning for the entire district by Thursday, December 17, and will all return to in-person learning on Monday, January 11. Loving Hands Preschool follows what Green does, except in this case, we will not begin our remote learning until January 4-8. This will allow us to finish out this Thursday for Polar Express with the kids. We couldn't let our kids miss out on this great day!! The teachers will be posting their lessons in Google Classrooms, setting up a zoom meeting, sharing stories, Heggerty lessons and more for the week we will be at home. By staying home from break for one extra week, it will allow everyone time to monitor for any health changes from our holiday festivities, with the least amount of interruptions to our routine. A BIG thank you to the teachers who have not skipped a beat since March in their willingness to be flexible and positive through all the things we have no control over. Parents, you have also been amazing. This is a lot for everyone, and we can't begin to thank you for your patience during all of the uncertainties. We feel that this year has been a success so far and can't wait for a fresh start in 2021 Enjoy the holidays with your family and we look forward to seeing everyone back on the 11th.

The remote learning will not change the registration dates. Miss Shannon will be in the office from 8:00am-12:00pm on Tuesday, January 5. If any current students are coming in to register at any other time, the church office will be open MWF 9:00-1:00 and TTH 9:00-3:00. Miss Pam, our church secretary will be able to log the registrations for me and verify the class that you are registered for if I am not present.

- **Registration for our current STUDENTS** for 2021-2022 school year will begin on Tuesday, January 5 at 8:00am. A Preschool Enrollment Agreement and new Parent Handbooks have been sent home with EVERY family. If your child is moving on to Kindergarten or will not be returning to Loving Hands Preschool next year, please feel free to pass a packet on to a friend or return it to the paperwork basket outside of the Preschool Office. Refer a friend and you will receive \$20 off your next tuition payment (referral cards are attached to the packets as well). If you need any additional packets for siblings or referrals, you can see Miss Shannon. Current students (sorry, siblings do not receive the discount) will receive a \$25 discount off the \$75 registration fee (\$50) if they register by Friday, Jan. 8.
- Registration will begin for **siblings of current students, returning families of LHP, or members of GUMC** at 8:00am on Tuesday, January 12. Please note: *If a family is planning to send their current student AND a sibling to school next year, they will have priority registration for both children beginning on 1/5. This will allow parents to make sure that both children are able to attend class at the same times/days. Returning families will receive a \$15 discount off the \$75 registration fee (\$65) if they register by Friday, Jan 15.*
- **New families** may begin to register for 2021-2022 school year on Tuesday, January 19 at 8:00am. If you know of anyone planning to register for next year, please pass this info along. We recommend registering your child at the designated registration time to give you the best opportunity to register for the desired class/times. Tours are available for any family that would like to visit our program before they register. They can contact Miss Shannon at 330-896-1936 or smiller1950@sbcglobal.net

**If we have a snow day on any of the registration dates, that registration period, along with any that follow will be pushed back one week, still on the following Tuesday at 8:00am. This notice will be posted on our FB page if the snow day is announced.

As you make your decision on classes for your child next year, here are a few things to keep in mind:

- Preschool 3's classes meet 2 days per week. The kids in this class will already be 3 or turn 3 by 9/30/21. This class is geared towards teaching the children the socialization/social emotional skills needed at this age. We will begin meeting pre-k standards for ideas like shapes, colors, letter recognition, gross/fine motor skills. Our classes are play based/center based. We will arrange our classrooms into centers to be able to introduce new experiences to our children through play activities. These classes meet on either MW or TTH, and offer an AM and PM option.
- Our Pre-K 4's classes meet 3 days per week. The kids in this class will already be 4 or turn 4 by 9/30/21. This class is set up to continue to work on our Pre-K standards, and to begin mastering skills needed for Kindergarten. For some students this will be their 2nd year of preschool, and others will be starting their preschool experience in this class. Either way, the teachers will offer small group times during the day to work with children at their own pace. These classes are offered on M/W/F or T/Th/F, with AM and PM options. Many of the kids in this class will go to Kindergarten the following year, some will move into our TK option.
- Transitional Kindergarten- 5's (half day) meet 4 days per week, M-TH. The kids in this class will already be 5 or turn 5 by 9/30/21. This class gives these children an extra year to master the skills to be successful kindergarteners, as well as beginning to work on those Kindergarten standards. The expectations in kindergarten are so much higher than they were in the past, and this option gives our kids an extra year to mature and prepare, while still in a play based setting, where children learn best. For some children, this may be their 3rd year in preschool, others may be in their first year. As always, our small group times will help assure that all children are able to work at their own pace, and receive the extra help they may need to learn a skill, or move ahead as they master one.
- Transitional Kindergarten-4/5's (full day) meets 4 days per week, M-TH from 9am-3pm. This class was designed as an option for all the children in our program for the year before they go to Kindergarten (therefore, some may be coming to us from our preschool 3's class, and others may be coming from the Pre-K class. This TK option is allowing children to "transition" to what full day Kindergarten is going to

feel like, while still at preschool with the flexibility to keep things moving at each child's own pace. Because this is our only mixed age class, this class provides a longer day for the children to give extra small group experiences and give opportunities in line with what our kids will be doing when they go to Kindergarten the following year. We keep this class at 6 hours, so we do not offer a rest time, but we can arrange our schedule to give children a variety of active and quieter activities to fit their needs as they adjust to the longer day. Children will bring a packed snack and lunch for these days.

There are many options for all of our children to choose from. We are so excited to continue on with the second half of this year, and begin looking at our classes for next year. This gives the teachers time to transition and get to meet their future students, and also gives our students a chance to prepare for their new class by becoming familiar with their new teacher/classmates.

We are fortunate to have an indoor play area at our program for the children, but occasionally classes may decide to venture **outside** in the cold for some play time, too. We will give families advance notice if your class is planning to head out so you can be sure to provide hats, boots, snowpants, etc. Typically if this happens, you will receive notice through REMIND. Please be sure that you are signed up for REMIND with your child's teacher. This is a great way for you to communicate between each other!

If you haven't "liked" our **Facebook page** yet, you may want to check us out! We post event reminders and pictures of happenings at school! We would also love if you would consider telling others what you think of us by writing a review on our page, or writing a review for our testimonial page on our website. A form is attached to this month's newsletter, or can be found in the folder labeled "Testimonial Forms" outside of the preschool office, if interested. Most of our families hear about us through word of mouth, so your opinion matters to us!! Thank you to all who have already done this!!

There will be **no school** on Monday, January 18 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. day. Just a reminder: If Green Schools cancels school for inclement weather, or decides to delay the start of school, there will be NO PRESCHOOL. Please check your local news for more information. I will also post it on our facebook page at www.facebook.com/LovingHandsPreschool. Teachers will send a REMIND to notify parents as well. Please see your child's teacher if you (or another family member) would like the class code to sign up. A bit of advice: if you have a grandparent or babysitter who brings your child to school, they may want to sign up for REMIND too. That gives them a reminder about activities going on at school, too!

Thank you to all who turned in **Acme** receipts this school year! The Community Cashback program ends on December 26. It will resume in the Fall. Please save all receipts through 12/26 and return them to school no later than Friday, January 8. We will not receive credit for any receipts turned in after we have submitted the receipts. We earn 5% of the Community Cashback listed on your receipt. There is a collection bucket at the Information Station outside of the Preschool office.

(Hot) Dogs with Dad was originally scheduled on Monday, February 1 and Tuesday, February 2. After much discussion/speculation on what January/February may or may not look like (we have no idea...lol), we have decided to POSTPONE our lunch event until April. We are actually excited about some brainstorming that we did, which would allow this event to happen outside if we still couldn't do it inside (and that probably just wasn't going to be an option in February). Our tentative dates for April are Monday, April 12 for our MW3 Orange Room, Green Room, and Purple Room & Tuesday, April 13 for our TTh3 Orange Room, Yellow Room and Blue Room. We will confirm those dates with everyone as soon as we can confirm availability of the spaces with the church.

January Dates

1: Happy New Year- NO SCHOOL
1: Happy Birthday Walter A.
3: Happy Birthday Carson R
4: Happy Birthday Cash B
5: Registration opens for current STUDENTS 8:00am
12: Registration opens for returning families (including siblings of current students) 8:00am
12: Happy Birthday Coralee A
14: Preschool Board Meeting 9:05am
16: February Tuition Due
17: Happy Birthday Bobby M
18: Martin Luther King, Jr Day- NO SCHOOL
18: Happy Birthday Miss Stacey
19: Registration opens for new families 8:00am
19: Happy Birthday Bryce B



Preschool 3's- Orange Room
Miss Terri & Miss Shannon B

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csbelaney@gmail.com

Whew! What a jam packed December we've had! We hope the newsletter finds ALL of our Orange Room 3's families safe and well. We made it through the holidays with many crafts, programs, and even a trip on the Polar Express. January we will slow down a bit we will begin exploring our cold weather animals. We will also intensify our name recognition skills, and begin writing our name independently without a template. The color of the month is blue, and our shape of the month is a rectangle. Praying that our families have a WONDERFUL start to the new year!!

Pre-Kindergarten TTHF- Yellow Room

Miss Kate & Miss Tina

misskate.lhp@gmail.com

Happy New year Yellow Room families! We had such a busy and wonderful December! We spent so much time working on Christmas gifts for you. We do hope you like them! We also worked hard on assessments, to give you a better understanding of where your child is academically at this stage. And of course, we had a lot of fun reading about gingerbread along the way! Our gingerbread decorating day was a blast! Thanks again for all the donations that made it possible!

In this new month, we will spend the first week back reading The Mitten, by Jan Brett. We have several fun activities centered around this wonderful story! We will then move to our postponed unit on the ocean! Yay!

Our letters are N, O, P, and Q. Our numbers are 14, 15, 16, and 17. And our shape is the rhombus.

Pre-Kindergarten MWF- Green Room

Miss Libby & Miss Carolyn

Libbyway4@hotmail.com

What a fun December it has been! From learning the true reason we celebrate Christmas and talking about baby Jesus to singing many Christmas songs and inventing toys to wrap in Santa's workshop, we have been so busy growing and learning every day! We transformed all the learning centers into winter and Christmas themed stations, like the Hot Chocolate Factory, where marshmallows were counted and matched to orders, or building igloos using marshmallows and toothpicks! We loved learning all about penguins, and thought the "macaroni penguin" was hilarious! The students also all loved wrapping various items from around the room to practice cutting skills.

January will bring a unit on outer space! We will learn all about gravity and the planets. We will also work on our address and phone numbers, and we will have a pretend post office set up on the dramatic play area to practice these things. We will continue to work on a letter each week, and practice writing them in our learning journals as well as work on their sounds and some introductory sight words!

We cannot believe how quickly this school year is flying by! We thank you for sharing your sweet children with us!

Transitional Kindergarten- Purple Room

Ms Alicia & Ms Stacey

aliciasobieski27@gmail.com

December is coming to an end, and we are busy preparing things for a smooth transition into the break. Once we return, we will begin to introduce sight words. I will introduce two words every one to two weeks, depending how the students have taken to the recognition process. I will be sending home sight word flash cards after each introduction, so they can continue to practice them while at home. After the break, we will turn our attention onto fairy tales. Our dramatic play will be set up with have a castle, King and Queen crowns and even a dragon to help guard the castle. We will construct bridges for the animals to cross, as if in the story of the "Three Billy Goats Gruff". We will also use Cheerios to make our own beanstalks and see if we can reach it to the clouds like "Jack and the Beanstalk". There is no end to the fun we will explore using science, predictions, and math in the world of fairy tales. We will end January talking about the circus. January 19th is national popcorn day, so I think it is a perfect month to talk about it. We will practice our gross motor and fine motor skills by completing games and activities that they perform while in the circus, to see if we have what it takes. The children will be able to act in the circus in our dramatic play area and choose to be the ringmaster, clown or animal. I hope they are ready for the circus to come to town!

Blue Room

Transitional Kindergarten

Miss Jessica & Miss Mary Ellen

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Welcome Back! We hope you all had a wonderful holiday with your families. It's a new year and we have lots of new things going on and we are so excited. We will be talking about lots of fun things this month. The first couple weeks we will talk about winter. We will focus on winter animals and hibernation. We will bring a cave into our dramatic play area. In there the children will be able to practice hibernating like a bear.

We will spend the last two weeks talking about space. Dropping into our classroom will be our very own space station. Where the kids will get to see what it is like to be in space. We will learning some fun things about each of our plants.. We will also get to create our own planet to join the solar system We will be doing lots of different science experiments.

We are going to continue working on our sight words the children are doing a great job learning them and finding them when they are looking at books Miss Mary Ellen and I are so proud. Now that we have started sight words we are going to start a sight word ring. When we learn a new a sight word we will add it to the ring so the kids can continue to practice there sight words at home. So excited for the fun things we have planned in January. Hopefully we can stay warm while doing them.

We are excited to start a new year with all of our wonderful children and families.



Loving Hands Preschool
Testimonial Page

Have you been happy with your child's experience at Loving Hands Preschool? Help us share the word on our website's testimonial page!

Name (optional) _____

Please return this form to the Paperwork basket outside of the preschool office. Thanks for your help!!
You can us a review on Facebook, too!