

JanuArY 2024

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!! We hope everyone has a blessed Christmas and a relaxing winter break! We are excited to see what 2024 has in store for us!! We hope everyone enjoyed the Christmas Programs! We were excited to invite our families in for a live performance! It is also exciting to have our parent volunteers come in and help at Christmas time, too! Thank you to everyone who participated in our Adopt a Family program this year. Our eleven families (32 children, plus their parent/guardians) were blessed beyond measure!

Registration for the 2024-2025 school year is coming soon!

- **Registration for our current STUDENTS** for 2024-2025 school year will begin on Tuesday, January 9 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 \$100 registration fee (\$75) if they register by Friday, Jan. 12.
- Registration will begin for **siblings of current students, returning families of LHP, or members of GUMC** at 8:00am on Tuesday, January 16. 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 1/9. This will allow parents to make sure that both children are able to attend class at the same times/days.*
- **New families** may begin to register for 2024-2025 school year on Tuesday, January 23 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 date, 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 9/30/24. 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 9/30/24. 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 9/30/24. 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. This is ideal for children with late spring, summer or early fall birthdays that would benefit from another year of preschool. 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. If you are trying to decide what would be the best option for your child for the 2024-2025 school year, contact Miss Shannon or your child's teachers and we can help you as you make your decision.

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, snow pants, 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 15 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 for this school year on February 15. It will resume in the Fall. Please save all receipts through 2/15 and return them to school no later than Friday, February 23. 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 will be on Wednesday, January 31 for our MW3 Orange Room, Green Room, and Blue Room and Thursday, February 1 for our TTh3 Orange Room, Yellow Room and Purple Room. Both days, the *lunch* celebration will begin at 11:30. Dads (or a special man in your child's life) should arrive at the Fellowship Hall before 11:30. AM students will remain in their classroom until the program starts. PM students can be brought to school by 11:30 and Dads can then make their way down to the Fellowship Hall (Muscle Room). The children will come down, sing songs for their dads, give a special gift that they have made, and enjoy hot dogs & sides for lunch! PM students will go up to their classroom for their class at the conclusion of the lunch (by 12:30). Students from our AM classes and our Full Day TK classes will be dismissed for the day at the conclusion of lunch. There will be NO ENRICHMENT offered on either day.

What if my child is not participating in the Dogs with Dad program?

- AM classes: pick up your child at their regular dismissal time
- PM classes: drop your child off at their classroom at their regular class time
- FULL DAY class: pick your child up at 11:30 (early dismissal day)



January Dates

- 1-2: Winter Break- NO SCHOOL
- 3: Preschool resumes/Happy Birthday Bryce B
- 6: Happy Birthday Everett D
- 7: Happy Birthday Mason B
- 8: Happy Birthday Levi J
- 9: Registration for current students 8:00am
- 10: Storytime with Miss Brandie 10:00am
- 11: Happy Birthday Finn A
- 13: Happy Birthday Harley W
- 14: Happy Birthday Aiden H
- 15: Martin Luther King, Jr day- NO SCHOOL
- 16: Registration for siblings of current students and returning families 8:00am
- 16: February tuition due
- 17/18: Chapel time with Miss Shannon
- 18: Happy Birthday Shep M & Miss Stacey
- 20: Happy Birthday Josie D
- 22: Happy Birthday Ryker M
- 23: Registration for new families 8:00am
- 23: Happy Birthday Chesney V
- 24: Preschool Board Meeting 9:00am
- 25: Happy Birthday David S
- 30: Happy Birthday Amina O & Kaysen S
- 31: Dogs with Dad 11:30 (MW3, Green, Blue) Early dismissal for Blue Room- NO ENRICHMENT
- 1: Dogs with Dad 11:30 (TTH3, Yellow, Purple) NO ENRICHMENT



PRESCHOOL



Registration



Preschool 3's- Orange Room

Miss Tara & Miss Shannon B

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csbelaney@gmail.com

HAPPY NEW YEAR!! We hope all of our Orange Room families had a very blessed Christmas filled with special traditions and love.

Our focus for January will be:

Letters: Z, V, W, Y Numbers: 0-4

Color: Blue

Shape: Rectangle

With the new year brings lots of new things to learn in the Orange Room. More classroom jobs will be added to our day, continuing name recognition without our picture, writing our first names without tracing, and more cutting just to name a few! Before break we began practicing putting on coats independently. Please continue to practice and reinforce this skill at home — they have been doing very well! January continues to bring more cold weather so we will be focusing on cold weather animals like penguins, and snow!

Pre-Kindergarten MWF- Green Room

Miss Libby & Miss Jess

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! 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. 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.

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

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 and parent helpers that made it possible! And thank you to our volunteers for your help making Polar Express Day so much fun! We appreciate your efforts so much!

In this new month, we will spend the first couple weeks back learning about polar animals. Our snowy weather makes this the perfect time to discuss how these animals stay warm! We will then transition into my favorite unit of the year - Superheros! We will discuss what makes someone Super and do many fun activities along the way to get the students ready for their very own Superhero Training Day! It's sure to be a busy and exciting month!

Our letters are N, O, P, Q and R. Our numbers are 13, 14, and 15. And our shape is the rhombus (otherwise known as the diamond).

Transitional Kindergarten (Half Day)-Purple Room

Miss Alicia & Miss 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 at a time, and I will be sending home flashcards so they can continue to practice them while at home. We will also begin our space theme where we will learn all about our planets and solar system. Our dramatic play area will turn into a space station where the students can help take flight into outer space. Once our travels have ended and we have returned safely to Earth, we will turn our attention to fairy tales. We will continue to talk about all capital and lowercase letters and the sound

they each make. Recognition is still a huge focus for us, and they will continue to learn and develop their skills in this area. We hope everyone has a great break and we will see you back in January!

Transitional Kindergarten (Full Day)- Blue Room

Miss Jessica & Miss Renee

jfulmer0805@gmail.com

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 learn some fun things about each of our planets. 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 start working on sight words now that we have finished all of our letters. Now that we are beginning sight words, we are going to start a sight word ring. When we learn a new sight word, we will add it to the ring so the kids can continue to practice sight words at home. So excited for the fun things we have planned in January. Hopefully we can stay warm while doing them. Can't wait for a fun month of learning!!!!

Enrichment Class

Miss Terri (MW) & Miss Libby (TTH)

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M/W: Happy New Year to my Enrichment friends! Hoping you all had a wonderful Christmas, as well as an amazing new year! We tried to stuff as much FUN and LEARNING into that quick month of December. We learned about ornaments and how important special ornaments can be. We talked about our elves, candy canes, and Santa! But most importantly, we also learned about "the reason for the season", the birth of Christ and made our own stable scene.

In January, we will concentrate on the COLD. Learning about some arctic animals and the really cold places they live. We will talk about a very important man, Martin Luther King Jr and how important he was. Looking forward to a wonderful first month of 2024. Thank you so much for the extra time we get to spend with your kiddos! Miss Brittney and I look forward to every class!!

T/TH: January will bring all kinds of fun and new activities in enrichment! We will learn all about the season of winter, as well as investigate the arctic region and what kinds of animals live there. Polar bears, penguins, narwhals, and orca whales...oh my! This frosty habitat is sure to be interesting.



It is time to update our Parent Testimonial page on our website!!!

Please take a minute and tell prospective families what made you choose Loving Hands!! We fill our program with little, to no, advertising. Thanks to parents like you!!

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!****

★★★★★ You can also give us a review on our facebook page! ★★★★★

It means so much to us that our parents take the time to let others know about our program!!

