

Loving Hands Preschool

October 2021

Wow! We are so excited to be back in school and spending our days with the kids again! Thank you for making the first couple weeks great for staff and the kids. We couldn't do it without all of your cooperation and support!

Thank you to all our families for filling out the health screening form each day. That little bit of extra time that you take to fill that out ahead of time saves us much time at drop off and throughout the day! I also appreciate the diligence our families have already shown with watching for symptoms and keeping their kids home as a precaution. We know that it is very typical for lots of runny noses and colds at the beginning of the year and into winter, but also appreciate the special circumstances going on this year and want to be extra cautious so that we keep everyone as healthy as possible!

If your child has any of the following symptoms, they are required to stay home for the 10 day isolation period and 48 hours fever free, or a doctor's release or negative covid-19 test before they may return:

- Fever of 100 degrees or more
- new onset and/or worsening cough
- difficulty breathing
- or new loss of taste or smell

We ask that you keep your child home for the 10 day period (from onset of symptoms) if your child has 2 or more of the less common symptoms and no alternative diagnosis as to why:

- sore throat
- vomiting
- diarrhea
- chills
- muscle pain
- excessive fatigue
- new onset of severe headache
- new onset of nasal congestion or runny nose



When your child isn't feeling well, please contact Miss Shannon either by phone (330)896-1936 or email, smiller1950@sbcglobal.net, so we can document your child's symptoms and assess if there is any further precautions we need to take with our classes. If your child has been in close contact with someone who has Covid-19, the health department will do contract tracing and determine if your child or a class has to follow a 10 day quarantine. We are taking safety measures to try to lessen the risks to our children, but also understand that our children are with us a short time of their day, are exposed to others here and other places, and we need to continue to take universal precautions to keep everyone as healthy as possible!

We are permitted to use Hand Sanitizer with children when a sink is not available, but they are not permitted to have access to it without adult assistance, so we ask families who have included sanitizer in backpacks, or snack boxes to please remove them. We hand wash when we arrive, before snack, after restroom, when we come in from outside, when we are in contact with bodily fluids (wiping noses), anytime our hands are visibly dirty and before we go home, and use sanitizer on the playground or muscle room when a sink is not immediately available. So sanitizer in backpacks or snack boxes, in addition to being a violation of our licensing rules, won't be necessary. It will be provided by teachers at any time needed.

Drop off has been going great! Wonder why we use the color cards? It helps us to know who is picking up, recognize family members easier while they are wearing masks, and to know ahead of time who has someone new picking up that we will need to ID. If we had to look up each child's pick up list, we would lose some of the efficiency of pick up time. And this helps us to plan ahead. It is not a big deal if plans change and the same person isn't picking up. We will keep the card with us and then we will know to have that release form handy. Thanks to everyone for taking and returning your card each day.

We are asking families to only park on the left side of the parking lot, from where you pull in to the parking lot, down to the playground, and leave the back of the parking lot, to the right of the playground, empty. We do this because there are other programs that take place in the back of the building at times during the week, and with Covid-19 regulations, those programs have become a drive thru service. In order to make a habit of leaving that area free for their set up, we are limiting our parking there at all times. Thank you for your help!

Just a reminder, if you are a new student and haven't turned in your **medical statement**, they will be due NO LATER than October 13/14 (one month from their first day of school). Anyone who has not turned in their form by that date will not be able to attend until it has been turned in. These are ODJFS rules, so we must get these forms on file for your child. If you need a new form, stop in to the Information Station, outside of the Preschool office and pick up a new one! If you would like to have your physician fax it to us, our fax number is 330-899-9880. There is an updated list at the entrance to show if we are still in need of your medical statement or a part of it. Please double check to see if you are compliant. Please be sure that their immunization record is also attached.

Where do I return things? To help keep things organized and lessen the chance of something getting lost, please be sure to return items to the correct places.

***tuition payments:** there is a box inside of the sliding window of the MAIN office. It is labeled Loving Hands Preschool Tuition Payments. If you need a receipt, please make note on the envelope and Miss Brittney will put one in your child's mailbox as soon as payment is registered. Or if you need one sooner, you may ask the office secretary or Miss Shannon and we can provide you with one, as well.

***paperwork, medical statements, fundraiser items.** There is a basket on the desk (Information Station) outside of the preschool office. It is labeled "paperwork basket." Please return all of these items to my office. It is too hard for teachers to keep track of items left in the classrooms. Teachers may not always be able to go through backpacks during the day, so items that are left in the backpack may remain there. The basket makes it easy to drop it off as you are waiting in line to drop your child off at school each day.

As the **weather** begins to cool down, please be sure to send in a jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with your child daily. We will continue to go outside as weather permits. If you would like your child to wear sunscreen, please apply lotion before your child arrives at school. Unfortunately, we are limited on time to apply sunscreen on the children during class time.

Scholastic Book Club order forms went home at Meet the Teacher. Please be sure all orders are in before September 30. You can go online to scholastic.com/bookclubs to order. Our school code is HXLFB. We sent home one flyer, but when you go online, you can see additional flyers and items each month!! The books can be sent to the school, and we will sort orders and send them home as soon as they arrive. This year, we chose to do book club instead of book fairs to allow parents to shop at their convenience. **IMPORTANT REQUEST:** when ordering, please add your child's first AND last name (or at least last initial) to the account. This month, we have a few orders with first name only, and multiple students with the same name. This just helps assure that we get the books to the right student faster.

Fall Picture Day will be on Wednesday, October 13 (Blue Room, Green Room, M/W 3's) & Thursday, October 14 (Purple Room, Yellow Room, TTH3's). Buckeye Photography of Canal Fulton will take the portraits. This will be our first year using them, as our past photographer just retired this year, but we are so excited to start a new partnership with BP! Buckeye does their ordering online AFTER picture day. So once pictures have been taken, you will be able to go on and view the pictures and order what you would like. This is new to us, as well, so please don't hesitate to ask any questions that you may have as you begin the process. This will also allow ALL children to get their picture taken. The class picture will be taken in the fall, as well. The Picture day information will be attached to the back of this newsletter. Please use the QR code to access our album when the pictures are available for viewing.

Enrichment is starting this month!!! Enrichment is an optional month-month program that extends your child's day by 1.5 hours on M-TH. The AM class will stay after class from 11:30-1:00 and the PM class will arrive at 11:00 and stay in enrichment until they head to preschool at 12:30. It's not too late to sign up for October! We would like to welcome Miss Tara Barrick to our staff as our M/W Enrichment teacher and we are excited that Miss Libby will join us in the Green Room for Enrichment on T/Th this year!! They have so many fun activities planned!!! The Stay-n-Play sign up is also now available. If you don't want your child to stay for Enrichment all month, you can choose individual days that you would like them to stay, space is limited for this option. Both sign up sheets are available at the Information Station, outside the Preschool Office!

There will be **no school on Friday, October 8 or Monday, October 11**. We follow Green Schools calendar, and it is teacher inservice days for the teachers.

We knew at the start of the year that some events and activities would need to continue to look different. We will be cancelling our planned **Open House**, that was scheduled for Wednesday, October 13. There just isn't a way to invite everyone into the building at one time. We will be looking at other ways to invite our families up to check out what's going on. We apologize for the disappointment this may cause some.

FIELD TRIPS ARE BACK!!!!!! We are excited to add our fall field trip back to our 4 and 5 year old class curriculum this year! Since we missed them last year, we decided that both Pre-K and T-K would head to Kingsway Farms for their trip this year. Kingsway Farm is located at 1555 Andrews St. NE, Hartsville, OH 44632. The cost of the field trip is \$8 per child (siblings are welcome, ages 2 and under are free) and \$4 per adult (for the wagon ride only). Permission form/money (cash only) should be returned to your child's teacher. Field trips replace your child's class day, so there will be no class that day. A responsible adult must stay with their child at all times.

Our **Green Room Pre-K** classes will be meeting at **Kingsway Farm** on Friday, October 15 for their first **field trip**. The first wagon ride will leave promptly at 11:00, so please arrive at 10:50 to give us time to check in. Please send in form/money by Wednesday, October 6.

Our **Yellow Room Pre-K** classes will be meeting at **Kingsway Farm** on Friday, October 15 for their first **field trip**. The first wagon ride will leave promptly at 11:30, so please arrive at 11:20 to give us time to check in. Please send in form/money by Thursday, October 7.

Our **Blue/Purple** Transitional-K classes will be meeting at **Kingsway Farm** on Monday, October 18 for their first **field trip**. The first wagon ride will leave promptly at 9:00, so please arrive at 8:50 to give us time to check in. Please send in form/money by Tuesday, October 12.

Halloween Parties will be on Wednesday 10/28 (Green and Orange MW) and Thursday 10/29 (Orange TTH, Yellow, Blue and Purple). This year, we are excited to be bringing back parent volunteers for the parties. Each classroom has volunteer signup sheets if you would like to help for the party. This year, we did limit the number of volunteers to no more than 4 adults (sorry, due to space limitations, we will not be able to invite siblings, or additional family members to the party. If the sign-up sheet is full, you are still welcome to put your name down to help with party planning. Our party chairpersons will contact the volunteers on their list to set up a meeting time to plan the party. This will take place about the first week in October. We are asking parents to plan: One Halloween story, One music/movement game, one craft, and snack (nut free, and other specific classroom restrictions will be shared at the planning meetings).

On each party day: children will come to school in their costume (**BLUE ROOM PARENTS, PLEASE SEE SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR YOUR CLASS**). We ask that costumes are not scary or contain weapons. Parents will drop their child off at their normal class time. Parents and other family members are then invited to join us for the Halloween Parade, which will begin as soon as all classes have arrived. The parade route will begin downstairs in the Gathering Area, down the Sunday School hallway and into the Muscle Room. Spectators are welcome to bring a treat/prize to pass out to the children as they pass. Please remember: **NO NUTS!!** We have several children with allergies this year, so passing out prizes instead of candy is also encouraged. The number of preschool children that we will have at each para

Wednesday AM: 26

Wednesday PM: 27

Thursday AM: 36

Thursday PM: 49



PLEASE NOTE THAT ANY PERSON ATTENDING THE PARADE OR PARTY MUST WEAR A FACIAL COVERING WHILE IN THE BUILDING.

At the conclusion of the parade, classes will meet in the Muscle Room for pictures. Parents who are helping will head up at this time and begin the party. At that time, children will proceed to their classrooms to set up for the party. If you are not planning to stay for the party, please plan on picking your child up at their normal preschool dismissal time. There is no Enrichment on EITHER of the party days. Check out our Facebook page for pictures of the day!!

BLUE ROOM: The morning will be a typical preschool class for your child. After lunch, they will begin preparing for the party. Please send in your child's costume in a labeled bag. Blue Room parents are welcome to come in at 12:15 if they would like to help their child dress in their costume.

For members of our **Preschool Board**, our next meeting will be on Thursday, October 21 at 9:00am in the Library. Loving Hands Preschool is always looking for parents who may be interested in volunteering on our preschool board if a spot would open up. We typically meet on a Thursday morning each month at 9:00am. If you would be interested in being considered for a seat on our board, please see Miss Shannon.



4: First day of Enrichment (openings still available for this month!!)

8: NEOAEA Day-Green Schools closed- NO PRESCHOOL

9: Happy Birthday Sophia F and Zachery W

11: Professional Development Day- Green Schools closed- NO PRESCHOOL

13: Picture Day for Orange MW, Green, Blue Rooms

14: Picture Day for Orange TTH, Yellow, Purple Rooms

15: DAY TRIP to KINGSWAY FARMS for Green Room 11:00am; Yellow Room 11:30am
17: Happy Birthday Hunter L
18: DAY TRIP to KINGSWAY FARMS for Blue and Purple Rooms 9:00am
21: Preschool Board Meeting 9:00
21: Happy Birthday Kira C
22: Fall Assessment/Individual Learning Plans sent home
27: Halloween Parties for Orange MW and Green Rooms
27: Happy Birthday Cooper W and Nolan W
28: Halloween Parties for Orange TTH, Yellow, Blue and Purple Rooms
29: Happy Birthday Miss Jess
31: Happy Halloween



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

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csbelaney@gmail.com

It has been amazing getting to know each one of our new friends this past month. In October we will continue to learn about each other and practice our class routines. This month our shape will be the triangle and the color orange.

October brings two fall favorites: apples and pumpkins! During the beginning of the month, we will be incorporating all things apples into our stories, songs, daily centers and small groups. They will have the opportunity to weigh and measure apples, and even build their own apple tree using paper tubes, craft sticks and pom poms. We will begin to practice recognizing the letters of our names — with the special focus on their beginning letter. We will also be playing a few cooperative games during small group. These games will help to promote taking turns, recognizing colors, counting and sorting. Towards the end of the month we will shift our focus onto pumpkins in our centers and small groups.

Another skill we are continually working on is potty independence! We always encourage them to try independently first and we will step in to help as needed. At home, you can start with having them practice independently pulling their pants and underwear down. It definitely takes a lot of practice to master this skill!

Here are a few great books about apples and pumpkins:

Apple Trouble by Ragnihild Scamell

Little Mouse and the Big Red Apple by A.H. Benjamin

Pumpkin Trouble by Jan Thomas (one of Miss Shannon's favorite children's authors)

Pete the Cat: Five Little Pumpkins by James Dean

Pre-Kindergarten MWF- Green Room

Miss Libby & Miss Jess

Libbyway4@hotmail.com

The Green room is off to a fantastic start! We have been super busy already and it seems that we are all adjusting well to the classroom procedures and having fun while getting to know all our new friends.

The kids have loved sorting pretend bugs in the science center and making patterns by their shape and kind. We made our own very hungry caterpillar using a balloon to paint with! We have also enjoyed reading many books about different bugs and butterflies...the class favorite is *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle! The green room can now name the four stages of the butterfly life cycle in order, complete with hand motions! Our fine motor skills were put to use when we "adopted" our very own pretend caterpillar in the form of beads on a necklace! We also created the butterfly life cycle on a plate using pasta. The excitement about caterpillars and butterflies continued as we learned about bees and ants and other insects. Who knew these tiny, sometimes creepy, creatures would be so exciting and interesting!!

Another big focus for our class this first month has been on kindness and making friends. This will continue throughout the whole year, as we believe it is very important to show the importance of being kind to others. One book we read was *A Little Spot of Kindness* by Diane Alber, in which the main character shows us how to make good choices and show kindness. We each came home that day with our own "spot" of kindness on our hands, and have since learned that we don't need to have the "Spot" on our hands to remind us to make good choices.

The kids are practicing writing their first names, and we will continue to work on that daily! We will also continue weekly letter work - including recognizing the letter, writing the letter, and learning about the sound that the letter makes! The morning journals have been a great way for us to get some extra practice on the letters at the start of each new day! We also experiment with making the letters using a variety of items, like play-doh, sand, tiny erasers, fingers, blocks, legos, and many more during our learning center time in the classroom!

The green Friday folders may be returned to school each Monday, so we can organize them and fill them with important paperwork to return on Fridays! We will collect the “peek into our week” pages in the prongs and add a new one each Friday!

October will bring new themes as we continue our progress with the alphabet letters and sounds, and numbers. We will explore farms and farm animals this month, which is always exciting and fun!

Thank you for letting us learn and grow with your children at school...we think they are each so special and can't wait to help them continue to grow this year!

Pre-Kindergarten TTHF- Yellow Room

Miss Kate & Miss Tina

misskate.lhp@gmail.com

Hello Yellow Room families! What a great September! It seemed like we waited forever for school to start and when it did, it just flew by! Miss Tina and I are so impressed with how well the children have adjusted to the school day! We are having a blast with them discussing what makes each of us unique and all about our different feelings. As we move into this new month, we will begin discussing all things Fall - leaves, pumpkins, apples and cooler days! Our field trip to Kingsway Pumpkin Farm on October 15 at 11:30am is the perfect place to bring it all together. Look for more information on that to come home soon. We will celebrate the color Orange on Oct. 22. And during the last week of the month, we have our Halloween Celebration and a few class days to learn all about spiders.

Our October letters are D, E, F, G. Our numbers are 4, 5, 6, 7. And our shape is the triangle.

Transitional Kindergarten (Half Day)-Purple Room

Miss Alicia & Miss Stacey

aliciasobieski27@gmail.com

September has been a great month of learning about rules and expectations for school, as well as learning about our new friends. We have some things planned for October that will be a lot of fun. Our class Halloween party will be at the end of the month. An email will be sent out in advance before the party to those that have signed up to help. I will be sending home your child's Individual Learning Plan this month, which needs to be signed and returned. This will discuss how your goals for your child will be implemented into our learning plan. Please keep an eye out for that. October will also bring our first STAR OF THE WEEK. I will send a brown paper bag home, along with the instructions on what to fill it with for their special week. We will start the month with our Fall theme and talk about apples, pumpkins and all things Fall. The students will have fun picking apples in our classroom's own apple orchard, where they can weigh and sell at our market. The last couple weeks of October will be about Halloween. Our dramatic play area will be turned into a potion's lab and the students can create their own potions with some very interesting ingredients. We also have our first field trip planned to Kingsway Pumpkin Patch this month. A permission slip will be going out soon with all the details. We will use this month to continue reviewing all capital and lower-case letters, letter sounds and numbers, while also focusing on our writing skills. Practice makes progress, so please practice at home with your child. We are so excited to get October started!

Transitional Kindergarten (Full Day)- Blue Room

Miss Jessica, Miss Carolyn (M/T) & Miss Mary Ellen (W/TH)

Jfulmer0805@gmail.com

Oh, my what a great first month of school we have had. We have had so much fun getting to know everyone and learning about one another's families. We have been working on writing letters and being able to recognize them. We are going to be working on two letters a week we will learn to recognize them and how to write them, the last couple days of the week we will work on the sound and what things begin with that letter. We will also be working on a number a week. We will work on a shape and color a month at a time. We are going to keep focusing on recognizing our names by signing in every morning when the children come into the classroom.

For the month of October as the children begin to recognize their first name we are going to start slowly working on last names. We will begin working on fine motor skills such as cutting a line with scissors. We will continue working on letter recognition and letter sounds, along with number recognition. This month our themes will be Fire Safety, Fall, Pumpkins and Halloween. There are lot of important dates to remember for the month of October so please keep an eye on remind and for important things we send home. October 13th is Picture Day!!! We will be going to Kingsway Pumpkin Patch Monday October 18th at 9:00am Please arrive at 8:50am. October 17th -23rd is the Scholastic Book Fair which is open during preschool hours October 20th is Fall Open House from 5-6:30pm and last October 28th is the Halloween Party. There will be more information coming soon about the Halloween Party. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask or send us a remind at any time. Can't wait to see what this month has in store.