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SCHOOL CLOSURE: Monday, September 3rd ~ Labor Day

Dear Parents,

Our Wee Care Preschoolers have been having a great summer! We have hunted for dinosaur bones, made pop rockets, picnicked on the playground, went “camping” for a week, and then had a “flashlight dance”. If you do not know what I am talking about please ask your child’s teacher to show you the classroom activity calendar.

We are looking forward to another month of fun-filled weeks to keep everyone busy and happy! If you have not already picked up your August activity calendar please check your parent pocket for your copy. Copies will also be posted in each classroom near the sign-in sheet. Summer will end all too soon and we will start up our new “school year” the day after Labor Day with our regular curriculum.

~Diane Martine



### Sign *IN* and *OUT*

Don’t forget to sign your child in and out every day. State law requires a full parent signature when a child is left in our care and retrieved. It is very important for us to have each child signed in each day, especially if there were to be an emergency.



### August Birthdays

*Becca D. \* Hope F. \* Jackson A. \* Luke L. \* Reese R.  
Will T. \* Clairra W. \* Emmalynn M. \* Kingston L.  
Ila L. \* Constance H. \* Flynn M. \**



### Sick Policy

*If your child has a fever, a rash of unknown origin, is vomiting, or has diarrhea, we ask that you keep them home for at least 24 hours. This helps prevent the spread of illness to all the other children.*

*Thank you*

## Why We Play

As an ongoing effort to be sensitive to the needs, concerns, and expectations of parents, I would like to provide you with in-depth information regarding curriculum and programming at Wee Care Preschool.

Many of you see a preschool program that is vastly different than the one you may have attended as a child. Many of you see a preschool where it seems all we do all day is play. Read on, and discover there is a lot more to a day at preschool than meets the eye!

What follows is a discussion of current theory and research and then a brief (certainly not complete) outline of daily preschool activities and how they meet academic objectives.

Unlike older children, preschool age children are unable to learn through abstract or passive methods. Young children learn best by direct hands-on experience. The need to actively explore and manipulate materials and toys; discovering answers, properties, relationships, skills and concepts for themselves. Classroom experience needs to be concretely relevant to a child's personal knowledge and maturation level. Often this is referred to as age appropriate or developmentally appropriate curriculum, an approach that meets educational goals based on research on how young children learn best. Some researchers and policy makers tell us, "Play is the work of childhood". It is a child's very personal way of interacting with their world and learning to master the possibilities in it. The Wee Care curriculum is much more than meets the eye; it's the very serious endeavor of starting a life-long path of learning, and having a little fun along the way!

It looks like play but it meets an academic goal:

- **Block building** - Mathematical goals (spatial concepts, problem solving, balance and weights, cooperation)
- **Stringing beads** - Mathematical goals (correspondence counting, patterns, sequencing); Literacy goals (visual motor coordination, left to right concepts)
- **Finger plays and rhymes** - Literacy goals (auditory discrimination, phonetic skills, auditory memory, concept comprehension, visual motor coordination, vocabulary development)
- **Concentration game** - Literacy goals (visual discrimination, symbolic decoding, visual memory, concept development; Mathematical goals (matching and classification)
- **Drawing and painting** - Literacy goals (symbolic representation, visual memory, visual motor coordination, creative expression)

I hope these materials have enable you to understand the amount of care and consideration that goes into to planning a quality and worthwhile preschool experience for your child.