

## WELCOME TO THE PREK ROOM

We would like to welcome you and your child to our PreK room. For parents of children who have been a part of our program, this may serve as a refresher concerning our goals and procedures. For those new to the facility, we are thrilled that your family will be a part of our PreK program, and hope this letter helps to familiarize you with the classroom.

The program your child will be involved in is developmentally appropriate and implemented on a year-round basis. This allows for the program to meet more of each child's individual needs. The classroom is set up in centers where children freely choose different materials to experiment with, and the learning centers will include, but not be limited to:

- \* Free Art
- \* Water & Dry Sensory
- \* Library
- \* Writing Center
- \* Construction
- \* Housekeeping / Dramatic Play
- \* Game / Puzzles / Fine Motor
- \* Computer
- \* Cooking
- \* Music

These centers are designed to be both stimulating and challenging, and children may choose to work within small groups or individually. Teachers actively interact with and observe the children throughout the day. Our goals are to encourage an interest in learning and exploration, promote a sense of self-esteem, and prepare each child for the kindergarten experience. Lesson plans are based on a theme that will change every 3 to 4 weeks, depending on the difficulty of the material and the interest level of the children. We hope your family finds the time spent with our PreK program to be a happy, comfortable learning experience that provides a positive foundation for the years of formal education to come.

### Tidbits to Remember:

- ☺ Every child has a personal space to store art work or classroom activities. Please check it daily, since many children will have papers to take home. It is also the space used for important messages to parents.
  
- ☺ Each child has their own cubby for storing personal items. It should always contain an extra set of clothing (including socks) labeled with your child's name.
  
- ☺ Food, drinks and personal belongings (toys) are not to be brought from home.
  
- ☺ Medication of any kind must never be placed in a child's cubby. It is to be given directly to the teacher with the appropriate medication from filled out. You can find these forms in the front entry.
  
- ☺ Check with your child's teacher to find out when show-&-tell is, and ask what type of items would be appropriate to bring. This will help with your child's

☺ sharing experiences, and it offers a great opportunity for children and parents to bridge between center and home.

☺ We do many messy activities and spend time outside...Please remember this when dressing your child to come to the center. Appropriate clothing (including rubber sole, tie or Velcro shoes) can make a world of difference in a child's comfort and safety level.

☺ We deal with many hats, coats and mittens during the day...please label EVERYTHING. It helps us immensely.

☺ Any question or concerns you may have should be addressed to your child's teacher or the director. If an issue requires more than just a quick conversation, please call the center to set up an appointment.

☺ The parent board is a good opportunity to see your child's day at a glance. This information provides a wonderful way to open conversations with your child about his/her day. The board will also include the daily schedule, lesson plans, and general information parents may need.