

Notes for Parent Night

These are the topics we will discuss at the Parent Meeting. We have given them in advance for your review. The items will be discussed in more detail then and you can bring any questions you have about the topics with you.

Assessments/ASQ's/Conferences - We will be sending home with you an assessment tool called the ASQ. **(It will be in your parent folder in the room.)** Fill out the ASQ at home and bring it back to the office within 30 days. Try to make it a game with your child, instead of a "test", and don't feel like you need to do it all at once. We will be doing our own different assessment and will review all of it together at the conference. Hopefully, it will help all of us (parents and teachers) be able to better focus on our goals for your child throughout this preschool year. The second conference is scheduled for February. However, please feel free to request time with your teachers whenever you feel the need.

Binder – Please bring in a 1 ½" wide 3-ring binder (five-day children should have a 2" binder). Have your child (or you) decorate the front and put your child's name down the spine. This will become their portfolio. Please bring this in at the start of school.

Birthdays - For licensing and to be able to include all children, we ask that no baked goods be brought in. Instead, you might bring a book, cd, board game, art supplies or such for the class, or a small trinket (not edible) to put in each child's cubby.

Conferences - We will have parent teacher conferences twice during the year in October and February. **SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED FOR CONFERENCE DAYS!** We will have sign-up sheets on the bulletin board prior to those days for you to schedule with your small-group teacher.

Donations: Art Materials/Paper/Envelopes/Used Clothing (sizes 3-5)/ **Money to purchase Pet Food** (we need to purchase it ourselves to make sure it is nut-free).

Email (nbccexplorers@gmail.com) – please only use this for non-emergency information. If your child will be absent or you need to talk to a teacher that day, please call the school at 262-6222. We will use these emails to give you weekly updates on what we are doing, our lesson plans for the coming week, to remind you of field trips, upcoming events or other general information.

Explorers' Gym – We have set up an area in the room to encourage exercise. The children use it often during the day. If you would be interested in coming in at some time to teach them some specific exercises, we'd love to have you join us. Just see one of the teachers to schedule a time.

Extended Care – Additional care is available from 8am-9am and/or 11:30am-12:30pm for the morning group and 12:00-1:00pm and/or 3:30-4pm for the afternoon group for an additional fee. Stickers are purchased in the office and then placed on the clipboards next to our bulletin board. You do not need to tell us before that day, but you do need a sticker on the board. If your child is using the lunch-time hours, it is imperative that you **meet the government food guidelines** (copy included) for every packed meal and that you **check all labels to make certain that your foods are not only nut free, but have not been manufactured in a plant with nuts.** (If you are sending soy butter or another peanut butter substitute, please put a note in the lunch box so that we know it is not peanut butter.) **Extended care will not start until Monday, Sept 8th.** ****Please see notes about Late Pick-Up.**

Extra Clothes – Please bring a spare outfit to school each day. Accidents of all kinds happen at school and children are most comfortable in their own clothing. (We do not have a place to store extra clothing for each child, so a backpack is best.)

Field Trips - We will be going on several field trips throughout the year. On field trip days, the busses will be parked in front of the school. We will need 1 or 2 parent volunteers to ride in the busses with us for each trip, but anyone is welcome to join us. There will permission forms on the bulletin board – each child must have a parent’s dated signature in order to go on the trip. There will be minor costs associated with some of the field trips.

Fresh Fruit/Vegetables Thursdays/Fridays – We started asking our families to take turns bringing in some sort of fresh fruit or vegetables for our snack on Thursdays and Fridays. The center provides oranges and bananas, but we would like to be able to offer a broader variety. There is a calendar on the bulletin board so that you can sign up for a time convenient for you. If everyone participates, it should only be one time per year.

Hand washing – Please help us keep germs to a minimum by you and your child (and anyone accompanying you to school) washing your hands prior to entering the room – both at drop off and pick up. There are also hand sanitizer stations throughout the building, including outside of our room, **but these do not substitute for hand washing!**

Late Pick-Ups – Please be respectful of our ending times - for regular class times and extended care. Even though the teachers are in the room, they have responsibilities that need to be completed. Repeated late pick-ups will be charged according to the center’s policy (\$1 per minute for the first offense, \$2 per minute for the second offense, etc).

Literacy Bear Project – Somewhere around the beginning of October, we will begin our Bear project. Each class has a bear, the children will vote on the name of the bear, and then each week, one of the children will take home the bear. They can play with him all week and then the child can write or dictate their story of their adventures in the book provided. You can add

photos or drawings. The story will then be shared with the whole group before sending it on to the next child. This is a super-exciting event for the children, and it is really hard for some of them to wait, but you can assure them they will have a turn.

Parent Folders - Our Parent Folders are located on the far right side of the teacher counter. Information from the classroom teachers, the office and other parents can be found there.

Please check you folder and your child's cubby daily.

Safety in the building and in front of the building – Please do not allow your children to run up and down the ramps by our room and at the entrance to the church. The church and administration has asked this of us repeatedly and we need to comply, not only for the children's safety, but also for that of church members and visitors. Also, it is imperative that your children be within your sight at all times while in and around the building. **If you choose to visit with other parents in front of the building, please have your children play away from the church plants, and again, they must be in your sight at all times. * Please only use the Church entrance if you have a stroller or other reason to need the elevator otherwise use only the Children's Center Entrance.**

Small Groups/Communication – AM classes: your child's small group teacher is listed on the bulletin board outside the room. That teacher will be doing your home visit, all parent conferences and working with your child in their small-group group-times. You are welcome to talk with any of us at any time, but your small-group teacher is your go-to person. Since the afternoon classes are much smaller, there will not be small groups.

******At the parent meeting on Sept 2nd, you will be asked to make a picture for your child.** Within the first few days of school, we will laminate them and hang them in the room for your child to look for. If you would like to make it up ahead of time and bring it with you, please use a regular sheet of computer paper (or the like).