

Dear Parents,

We are very excited about the upcoming school year. We know that it's going to be a great year! We have just a few reminders before our year begins.

When packing your child's bag for the day, it is always helpful if you include a change of clothes in case of an accident. A security item is always a plus and helps make the transition to a new environment easier for your child. Please do not send any other toys to class. Please send a lunch consisting of finger foods that your child can feed himself or herself. Make sure you label all belongings.

In order for our drop-off and pick-up times to go as smoothly as possible, with as little disruption to the class as possible, we request that you remain behind the gate in the hallway. One of the teachers will get your child from you and your child will be at the gate waiting for you at pick-up time. (They really do pick up our routines quickly. A few weeks into the year they can tell us what activity comes next. They always know when Mommy and Daddy are coming. They are truly amazing!)

We try to follow a class schedule as closely as possible each day. While it is very important to maintain structure for our class and the security of the children, it is also important to remain flexible with this schedule. Sometimes we just move slower than others. Our class schedule will be:

9:00- 9:30	Discovery time
9:30- 10:00	Snack (provided by MMO – your child will need his/her juice cup)
10:00-10:30	Play & Learn
10:30-11:00	Playground (weather permitting)
11:00-11:30	Diaper change
11:30-12:30	Lunch
12:30- 1:00	Clean-up/diaper change

Please begin to discuss your child's day with him/her now. Talking about the different parts of their day before they arrive helps prepare them for school. This is very important to your child. They are coming into unfamiliar surroundings and talking about it lets them know what to expect. It also assures them that you know about their day and that they are safe at school. **MOST IMPORTANTLY**, assure your child that school is FUN and that **YOU WILL BE THERE TO PICK THEM UP AT THE END OF THEIR DAY!**

Thank you for entrusting us with your children. We know that we will have a great time together this year. If you have questions or concerns, don't hesitate to ask.

In His Name,

One-year old teachers

What to Pack in My Lunchbox

Please pack my favorite finger foods.

My food needs to be something I can feed myself. My teachers will help me, but I have other classmates that also need help.

Leftovers are fine, but should still be finger foods that are cut for me (no rice, soup, spaghetti, etc.)

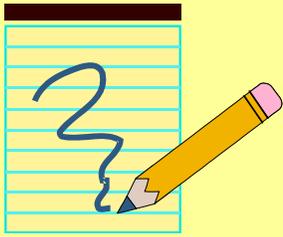
Hot dogs and grapes must be QUARTERED! Cut up pizza, ham, cheese, sandwiches, chicken fingers and veggies are great finger foods. (If my food is not cut properly, I have to wait until my teachers get my friends started with their lunches before they can stop to cut my food. I am hungry at lunchtime and I don't want to wait, but my teachers must follow the rules that are made for my safety!)

NO PEANUTS OR PEANUT BUTTER! Our school is peanut-free.

Small ice packs in fun shapes are available at Wal-Mart to keep my food cool.

I need a sippy cup each day because juice boxes make a big mess at school.

My lunch can be simple and nutritious without being messy. It's just one meal so make it my favorites and make it fun! (We can eat the yucky spinach at home when I am not looking at my friend's yummy lunches). I will look forward to my lunches at school in my big kid lunch box!



JUST A REMINDER NOTE

Parents:

Please remember to drop off your children at the door of your child's classroom. Please do not enter the room as this tends to upset the other children in the classroom.

Juice boxes and Capri Suns are not the "best" drinks to send with your little one. The children tend to practice their fine motor skills with these drinks, which is GREAT for the child, but very MESSY for the teacher!

Thanks for your understanding!

Tina Stephens
Weekday Director