

PRESCHOOL PRESS

Newsletter for RockPointe Weekday Preschool



January 2022



It's time to register for the coming school year—already! Children who are presently enrolled in our program and their siblings will be given priority before we open enrollment to the community. Here are the dates:

Thursday, January 20

Re-enrollment packets go out to students currently attending RWP. Packets will also be available for younger siblings.

Tuesday, February 1

Re-enrollment packets & payment due; last day for current students/siblings to register.

Monday, February 7

Open enrollment for the community at 10am
Tell your friends!

Tuition will continue to be \$210/mo. Enrollment fees include registration fee (\$100 per family, supply fee (\$250) and last month's tuition (May '23).

Current students who re-enroll do not have to pay all those fees at once; registration and supply fees will be due on February 1, but May 2023 tuition ("last month's tuition") can be paid

this coming May. Registration fees are non-refundable. All of this will be explained in detail in your re-enrollment packet. We love your children and hope they will back with us next fall. ☺



Dates for Your Spring Calendar

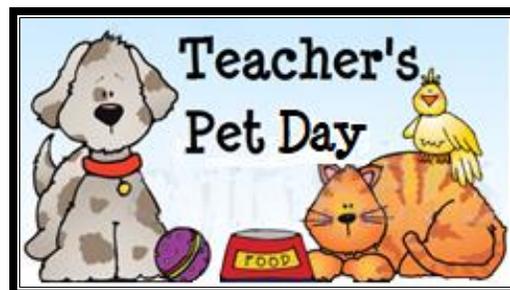
Spring Break.....T & Th, March 15 & 17

Easter Program...Thursday, April 14 9:15am

Last Day of Preschool.....Thursday, May 12

And for PreK parents:

PreK "Time to Shine" End-of-Year Program
Tuesday May 10 9:15am



This month all of the classes are discussing the responsibility required when a family owns a pet. On **Tuesday, Jan. 25th**, we will have "Teacher's Pet" Day, when some of our staff members will be bringing their own pets from home. We'll have dogs, a cat, turtles, as well as a lizard and other pets for the children to see. *If your child has an allergy to animal dander, please advise the classroom teacher.*

In conjunction with this unit, the 3's and 4's will have a unit titled "Prevent the Bite." This program provides children with information necessary to be safe from dog bites through instruction about appropriate behavior around unfamiliar dogs.



Inclement Weather

The recent cold weather prompts us to remind you of our weather policy: if the LISD schools are either **closed** or have a **delayed start** due to inclement weather, the preschool will be closed for the day. Tune in to local radio and TV stations for a list of school closings.

And another note about the cold weather: unless the temperatures are below freezing, we will always try to go out to the playground---even for a short while---to get some vitamin D and to "get the wiggles out." So please send a coat to preschool *every* day during the winter months, and make sure it's labeled with your child's name.

Spanish for 3's and PreK



On Thursday mornings, the 3's and PreK classes attend Spanish class with Ms. Kathy. The children are learning basic Spanish words that are appropriate for preschoolers: numbers 1-10, colors, shapes and simple phrases like "good morning," "good evening," "hello" and "goodbye." Most of the teaching is done through music.

The goal is not for fluency, but to introduce their ears to the concept of language that is different than English, and to learn simple words and phrases that can start a foundation for Spanish (or other languages) in later years. We also want to build a love and respect for other cultures at an early age. We'll have a *fiesta* at the end of the year, when the children will sample Mexican cuisine and do a version of the Mexican hat dance!

Fine Motor Fun!

Where we're headed!

As we prepare our students for kindergarten, the goal is to develop their fine motor skills so they can grow into the proper "tripod grip" for writing. This is the most efficient way to grasp a pencil or crayon. So as the children head



to elementary school, we want to prepare them to write—and scissor—with ease. At preschool, our teachers will work on fine motor skills that develop hand strength and finger dexterity with that goal in mind.

The tripod grip uses the "Busy Fingers" (Thumb, Pointer, and Middle Man), while the "Sleeping Fingers" (Ring Man and Pinky) rest. Pictured here is a cotton ball "pillow" that allows separation, so that you can see the function of both. The busy fingers hold and manipulate writing implements as well as tools such as clothespins, mini tongs and tweezers.



These are just some of the things we use at preschool to work on fine motor development. You can help your student practice at home, too. He can use clothespins to hang up school art projects OR use mini kitchen tongs to help serve foods at mealtime such as fruits, veggies, pasta and salad. Have fun with this while your child develops important skills!



Christmas DVD's

If you'd like to have a DVD of the Christmas program, it's not too late! We'll have some extras; cost is \$10 each.

A special "thank you" to the PreK parents who brought their children to the extra performance of the Nativity pageant at RockPointe Church on Dec. 5th. We're grateful that you spent your Sunday morning with us.

✝ Chapel Schedule ✝

Chapel is held on Tuesdays at 9:30. This month the children are learning that *Jesus told people about God*, and our Bible stories will be:

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| Jan | 11 | Boy Jesus at the Temple | Luke 2:41-51 |
| | 18 | Fishers of Men | Luke 5:1-11 |
| | 25 | The Good Samaritan | Luke 10:25-35 |

Our memory verse this month is:

"Jesus said, 'I must preach...about...God because that is what God sent me to do.'" Luke 4:43 GNT

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