



# Play and Prep Preschool Newsletter

## September 2020

### News from the Directors

Welcome Back! After quite a time away, we are very excited for a new school year! First of all, we would like to welcome all the new families to Play and Prep. We hope you enjoy having your children at our school as much as we enjoy teaching them. We are pleased to be able to open this year with the implementation of our new safety practices and emphasis on spending time outdoors. We have created multiple learning spaces in addition to our garden including a shaded hay bale area, tents in our grassy meadows, and a storywalk on our nature trail. We have made additions to our playground and will wheel out a loose parts station, art centers, and have specials all outside to start the year.

We are also welcoming new staff members this year - lead teacher Mrs. Patti Mauldin in the Beech classroom and assistant teacher Ms. Emily Harrigan in the Willow and Oak classrooms!

Finally, never hesitate to contact us with your questions or concerns. It is going to be a great year!

Jody Halley & Emily Johnson

### Important Dates

Sept.1-3 Meet the teacher days  
Sept. 8 - first day for Willow, Oak, Pine, Maple Sweetgum  
Sept. 9 - first day for Beech  
Sept. 14 - first day for Messy Monday  
Sept. 28- No School- Yom Kippur

We have added a drop box on the playground fence to the left of the entrance doors for you to submit monthly tuition.

Check out our fundraising page at **Mabel's labels** at [www.mabelslabels.com](http://www.mabelslabels.com) and click on Support a Fundraiser then find Play and Prep Preschool in the school listing. Play and Prep will receive a percentage from your order. **Giant Eagle Apples for Students** Register your Giant Eagle Advantage Card at [GiantEagle.com/AFTS](http://GiantEagle.com/AFTS) Enter Play and Prep's School ID # 5977. **Heinen's Tasteful Rewards School Program.** Register Play and Prep with your Tasteful Reward Card at [heinens.com/schools](http://heinens.com/schools), In-store at the Customer Service Desk, or call Customer Relations Department at 1-855-475-2300 ext. 2337. Past participants must **RE-SELECT** Play and Prep by logging in to their Tasteful Rewards profile.

### Pre K Class- Oak



Welcome to Pre K! We are going to have so much fun learning through play! This month we will learn about one another and what makes us unique. We will explore back to school activities, what makes a good friend, and finish our month with all things transportation. Halfway through the month we will start our letter journals and number studies. We are so lucky that we can be outside as much as possible to explore and learn. Looking forward to a great year!

Margie Balog

### **Pre K Class - Willow**



Welcome to Pre-K! We are so excited to start our year off exploring the school setting, learning about ourselves, and discovering what it means to be a good friend. We will spend time getting to know our classmates through play and sharing as well as beginning our alphabet exploration and math concepts! Art, literature, music, and movement will all be incorporated into our daily routines both in the classroom and during our outside learning time! We look forward to a fantastic year of learning!

Kaitlyn Pecherkiewicz

### **3's Class- Beech**



Welcome to the 3's class! In addition to becoming accustomed to coming to school, we are very excited to begin our year getting to know each other through activities, songs, and play. We will also learn about our senses while exploring our outdoor learning spaces.

Patti Mauldin

### **3's Class - Maple**



Welcome to Preschool! We are so excited to start our year off exploring our classroom (both indoors and outdoors), learning about ourselves and our new friends. As we are getting to know each other, we will begin introducing letters, numbers, and shapes. Art, literature, music and movement, and STEM will all be incorporated into our daily routines both in the classroom and during our outside exploration time! As we start the year, we will be spending as much time as possible in our outdoor learning spaces including the playground, bikes and our nature garden. We look forward to a great year learning through play!

Lesley Perlberg

### **Outdoor Class - Pine**



Welcome back to school! The Pine classroom will spend the month of September getting to know each other and our school routines. We will learn about names and what makes our names special. We will also begin to learn the names of some plants and animals we may see while exploring the Learning Garden.

Laurel Cline

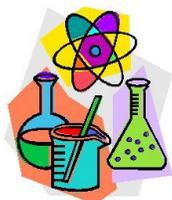
### Messy Monday and Sweetgum Classes



We are excited to be back at school and will spend the month getting to know one another! Messy Monday friends will have lots of time to explore the garden. There are carrots to be picked and sunflowers to be measured! We will focus on our senses starting with hearing and touch. Sweetgum friends will be learning about one another's families, favorite colors, and foods. **HINT:** Please make sure to look at the class calendar on Thursday to see what your child needs for Friday! We will learn to name our feelings and create our classroom community. Students staying for the afternoon will be thinking about things that fly from dandelion seeds to hot air balloons. Lots of learning and lots of fun!

Carol Juergemeier

### STEM



Science, technology, engineering, and math in a box! This year we will have fun, hands-on experiences that incorporate STEM learning delivered to your child's class. Each month the STEM box focus will change. This month students will investigate some physics concepts such as buoyancy and density with a sink or float experiment.

Emily Johnson

### Music



We will be starting off the new year exploring sound effects. Students will read a story with sound effect words then use instruments to recreate the story. Each month students will be making beautiful music together as we enjoy the drums, bells, cymbals, maracas and more!

Lesley Perlberg

### Creative Movement



I am looking forward to getting your child moving this year in Creative Movement! We will be using fun games to practice balance, coordination, and gross motor skills. Be sure to check your classroom calendar for Creative Movement day so that your child has athletic shoes and is ready to move!

Emily Johnson

### Healthy Habits



According to the Centers for Disease Control up to 80% of all infections are transmitted by hands. Teaching proper hand washing techniques is important to prevent the spread of germs and keep our students healthy. What's the proper technique? It is recommended that you thoroughly wash your hands with warm running water and soap for at least 20 seconds. If clean water is not available, an alcohol-based hand sanitizer can be substituted. Some quick tips to help your preschooler become a better hand washer:

- **Talk about when:** Explain when your child should wash their hands including before you eat, after the bathroom, and after playing outside.
- **Talk about why and how long:** You can explain how hand washing removes germs that make us sick. Show your child the difference between hot and cold water and how much soap to use. To help understand the concept of time, you can sing Happy Birthday or the alphabet song twice while washing hands.
- **Make it fun:** You can buy brightly colored or fruity scented soap that may entice your child to wash their hands more thoroughly.

At Play and Prep Preschool, we wash our hands as a class at the beginning of the day before entering the classroom as well as before snack, after playing outside, and using the bathroom. We will work with your children to be better hand washers so that we can have a healthy school year!