



The Play Schools

Dear Parents,

It is with a heavy heart that we must announce that Ms. Rita, Founder of The Play Schools, is beginning her transition into retirement. After almost 30 years of lovingly serving the children and families of The Play School, she recently sold our Noblesville Stoney Creek location in an effort to begin to slow down a bit. Ms. Rita will deeply miss the smiling faces of the children as well as the extraordinary teachers who have made The Play School at Stoney Creek the wonderful school environment that many families have grown to love over the years.

Ms. Rita writes, "My life's work has been devoted to offering families in Hamilton County quality early childhood education. From the bottom of my heart I thank you for the opportunity to serve your family and care for your children over the years. It has been an honor to instill a love for learning in children at The Play School at Stoney Creek for almost three decades. I can think of no greater privilege than to be entrusted with the care and education of one's child and I thank you for that opportunity."

Please be reassured that absolutely nothing is changing at our Fishers or Carmel Play Schools. All the values and traditions that you have come to know and expect from The Play School are forever present. Co-owners Katie and Amanda, Rita's daughters, are deeply committed to carrying on Rita's legacy and vision for The Play Schools into the future. One of our many goals will always include offering a top quality, well-rounded early childhood educational program for children in Fishers and Carmel. Ms. Rita will still be present at Saxony, Arbor Village, and Legacy as she is not fully retiring at this time. Our talented group of Center Directors help comprise our administrative team, all of whom are here to best serve the needs of your children and family.

Please help us wish Ms. Rita all the very best! The transition of ownership at Stoney Creek allows her to simply breathe a bit more, something she has certainly earned after dedicating her entire life's work to young children and their families.

Sincerely,

Amanda and Katie, Co-Owners
On behalf of our beautiful mother, Ms. Rita

Hours of Operation:
6:30a-6:00p M-F



August 2017 Newsletter

The Play School at Arbor Village
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Fishers, IN 46037

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Director: Krista Roberts

The Play School at Legacy
14454 Community Drive
Carmel, IN 46033

Phone:
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Director: Megan McIlwain

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WELCOME

Although The Play Schools are open year round, we consider the first full of week of August as the beginning of our calendar school year. We wish to take this opportunity to welcome back any returning Play School families for the 2017/2018 school year, in addition to welcoming any new families joining us. As you get settled into our schools, please never hesitate to touch base with your Center Director if you have questions or concerns.

We are always grateful to our families that choose The Play School, as we respect and understand you have a lot of quality programs in our area to choose from. That is why your family's decision to be a part of The Play School family is genuinely appreciated. Again, thank you for your continued loyalty and here is to another great year with The Play School.



We're on the Web!
Theplayschools.com

Be sure to 'like'
The Play School
on Facebook!

facebook

IT TAKES A VILLAGE...IT TAKES A TEAM!

The Play School is proud to announce its teaching team! We humbly believe that you are only as good as your faculty and we are fortunate to be surrounded by a team of well-educated, seasoned, and loving teachers.

THE PLAY SCHOOL AT LEGACY

INFANTS:

Sharyn Shepherd - CDA in progress
 Anna Brooks - HS Diploma
 Ana Amaro- B.S. in Nursing
 Janis Snyder - B.S. in Early Childhood Education in progress
 Elizabeth Halsell- B.S. in Psychology
 Melinda Painter- B.S. in Early Childhood Education

TODDLERS:

Liz Davis- CDA
 Annette Kamps- Associate degree in Early Childhood Education
 Whitney Grimes- B.S. in Special Education and Deaf Education
 Rachelle Brobst- HS Diploma
 Candice Tyler- CDA in progress
 Susan Matheny- M.S. in Counseling, B.S. in Elementary Education

TWOS:

Kimberly Caldwell - HS Diploma
 Cindi Grigesby - HS Diploma
 Jess Lendman- B.S. in Early Childhood Education
 Jackie Dolce- B.S. in Elementary Education
 Taylor Cesnik- CDA
 Ashley Weatherspoon- CDA

PRESCHOOL 3'S:

Carissa Cook- B.S. in Elementary Education and Early Childhood Education
 Emily Moore- B.S. in Elementary Education

PRE-K 4'S:

Kim Ford - B.S. in Elementary Education
 A.J. Schleitwiler - B.S. in progress

K + 5'S:

Annastasia Halajcsik - B.S. in Elementary Education
 Rafael Quintero - B.S. in Philosophy

SUPPORT STAFF:

Diane Plesha - HS Diploma
 Amanda Patterson- CDA in progress

CHEF:

Becca Sears - HS Diploma

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR:

Sarah Ritter - B.S. in Elementary Education

CENTER DIRECTOR:

Megan McIlwain - B.S. in Social & Behavioral Science

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THE PLAY SCHOOL AT SAXONY

INFANTS:

Barb Woodring - HS Diploma, Nanny Certificate

Melissa Bailey - B.S. in Elementary Education

Peggy Schuster - HS Diploma

TODDLERS:

Kathy Couch - HS Diploma

Beth Scheible - HS Diploma

Marcela Vergara - Associate degree in Early Childhood Education

Amy Williams - HS Diploma

TWOS:

Edi Putelis - HS Diploma

Heather Matthews - HS Diploma

Mallissa Cooper - B.A. in Family/Children Science

Ranae Raquet - Associate degree in Early Childhood Education

Meghan Knuckles - B.S. in Early Childhood Education

PRESCHOOL 3'S:

Gail Palmer - Associate degree in Early Childhood Education

Anne Lacy - Associate degree in Early Childhood Education

PRE-K 4/5'S:

Jill Lair - CDA

PRE-K 4/5'S:

Kara Spencer - B.S. in Elementary Education

Jenna McCosky - B.A. in Elementary Education in Progress

SUPPORT STAFF:

Bobbie Todd - HS Diploma

Kourtney Beumel - B.S. in Child Life Specialist

Tyler Blaskow - B.A. in Elementary Education in Progress

Tami Licquia - CDA in progress

CHEF:

Tyler Wiczorek

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR:

Sarah Ritter - B.S. in Elementary Education

CENTER DIRECTOR:

Krista Roberts - Associate degree in Early Childhood Education

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THE PLAY SCHOOL AT ARBOR VILLAGE

INFANTS:

Pam Smith - CDA
 Carol Ice - B.S. in Elementary Education
 Jodie Chambers - CDA
 Amanda Lewis - CDA

TODDLERS:

Emily Ackerman - B.S. in Social Work
 Shae Campbell - HS Diploma
 Eyvette Bacon - HS Diploma
 Nicole LeFevr - HS Diploma

TWOS:

Sanje Rajapakse - Associate degree in Early Childhood Education
 Chelsea Harman - HS Diploma
 Sarah Sutton - Certificate in Baking and Pastry; CDA in progress
 Marcia Scartezini - B.S. in Psychology; Specialty in Cognitive Behavior

PRESCHOOL 3'S:

Kelsey Seiler - B.S. in Early Childhood Education
 Veleta Grey - Associate degree in Criminal Justice

PRE-K 4'S:

Sharon Becker - HS Diploma
 Amy Martin - B.S. in Child Development; Master's degree in Education in progress

K + 5'S:

Abby Wietbrock - B.A. in Elementary Education
 Andy Turpen - B.S. in Early Childhood Education

SUPPORT STAFF:

Rachael Olson - B.S. in Early Childhood Education in progress
 Esbeida Flores Vargas - B.A. in Illustration in progress
 Joshua Diggs - B.S. in Elementary Education in progress
 Katie Strange - PT Certification in progress

CHEF:

Don Sneed: Certified Restaurant Manager; Certified General Manager; Cert Food Service

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR:

Sarah Ritter - B.S. in Elementary Education

CENTER DIRECTOR:

Monique Sharifi - B.A. in Psychology

Housekeeping Items

2017/2018 SUPPLY FEES

Although The Play Schools are open year round, our calendar school year is from August to August. Each August, which marks the beginning of a new school year, we collect a Supply fee for each child enrolled at The Play School. This money is 100% allocated back into the school to cover the replenishment of classroom supplies, school projects and building improvements, technology goals, teachers' salaries/benefits/education, and more. *Supply fees are due Monday, August 7th*. These can be included along with your regular weekly tuition payment. Should you need a payment plan, please see your center director to make arrangements. Thank you again for your support of our schools. We are incredibly grateful to have you a part of The Play School family.

VACATION POLICY

The Play Schools generously offer our families two weeks of "tuition free vacation time" annually from August to August. You must notify your director of your child's absence in advance and it must be a full week at a time (no split weeks). Vacation weeks cannot be used toward your required two-week notice if withdrawing from our school. Vacation slips are located in the front entry. The two weeks of annual vacation time starts over Monday, August 7th for all enrolled children. Therefore, all children have two weeks to use for the 2017/2018 year. Unused weeks from 2016/2017 do not roll over.

THE PLAY SCHOOL 2017 CLOSURES

Please mark your calendars for the following 2017 Play School closures:

*Friday, September 1 ~ Staff Professional Development Day

*Monday, September 4 ~ Labor Day 2016

*Thursday, November 23 ~ Thanksgiving Day

*Friday, November 24 ~ Friday after Thanksgiving 2016

*Monday, December 25 ~ Christmas Day

(All tuition remains the same)

2017/2018 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION:

Back To School The first day of school for Noblesville is Tuesday, August 1st. Carmel Clay's first day is Tuesday, August 15th and HSE's first day is Wednesday, August 9th. We had a fantastic summer and appreciate having your school-ager join us this year in our 4 Kidz Only Club.

Did you know that we offer before/after care and transportation to most Noblesville, Carmel and Fishers Elementary schools? Contact your center director today to find out if we offer transportation to your child's specific local elementary school for the 2017/2018 school year. We would love to have your child stay on with us and we always help with delays, early dismissals, no school days, and breaks such as fall/winter/spring/summer.

For those children who will stay at our schools for before/after care: Parents...PLEASE REMEMBER TO ALWAYS CALL YOUR DIRECTOR IF YOUR CHILD WILL NOT BE RETURNING AFTER SCHOOL. Please do not email as our Directors are not always available to check their email. It is incredibly scary and stressful for us if we are expecting your child to return to school and he/she does not arrive. Please make sure you have spoken to your Director and she knows each time a change is made to your child's aftercare plans. Thank you for helping us keep your children safe.

What's Cooking? Our Lunch Menu



Tuesday, Aug 1: Chicken & Rice Casserole, chicken, brown rice, peas/carrots, peaches, milk

Wednesday, Aug 2: Soft Taco, chicken/cheese, corn, banana, soft shell, milk

Thursday, Aug 3: Homemade Sausage Pizza, carrot sticks, diced grapes, milk

Friday, Aug 4: Grilled Quesadilla, chicken/cheese, salsa/diced tomato, fresh fruit, soft shell, milk



Monday, Aug 7: Hamburger, green beans, peaches, bun, milk

Tuesday, Aug 8: Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwich, diced carrots, banana, bread, milk

Wednesday, Aug 9: Chicken Alfredo, linguini/sauce, salad, fruit cocktail, milk

Thursday, Aug 10: Turkey/Cheese Roll Up, lettuce/tomato, pears, soft shell, milk

Friday, Aug 11: Chicken Parmesan with Cheese, peas, diced grapes, buttered noodles, milk



Monday, Aug 14: Chicken Patty Sandwich, peas/carrots, applesauce, bun, milk

Tuesday, Aug 15: Homemade Cheese Pizza, carrot sticks, fruit cocktail, ranch dressing, milk

Wednesday, Aug 16: Fish Sticks, mac & cheese, broccoli, diced grapes, milk

Thursday, Aug 17: Chicken Tenders, green beans, pears, bread slice, milk

Friday, Aug 18: Pizza Burger, hamburger, cheese slice, corn, fresh fruit, English muffin, milk



Monday, Aug 21: Chicken Drumstick, green beans, pears, mashed potatoes, bread slice, milk

Tuesday, Aug 22: Burrito, beef/cheese, lettuce/tomato, applesauce, soft shell, milk

Wednesday, Aug 23: Casserole, hamburger, tater tots, corn, banana, bread slice, milk

Thursday, Aug 24: Chicken & Noodles, peas/carrots, peaches, milk

Friday, Aug 25: Sub Sandwich, ham/turkey/cheese, lettuce/tomato, diced grapes, hoagie bun, milk



Monday, Aug 28: Sloppy Joe Sandwich, green beans, mandarin oranges, milk

Tuesday, Aug 29: Chicken & Rice Casserole, chicken, brown rice, peas/carrots, peaches, milk

Wednesday, Aug 30: Soft Taco, chicken/cheese, corn, banana, soft shell, milk

Thursday, Aug 31: Homemade Sausage Pizza, carrot sticks, diced grapes, milk



**WG = Whole Grain (where seen above)

**Whole grains are served for breads, pastas, cereals, waffles, crackers, etc.

**Canned fruits and vegetables are served at a minimum, replaced as much as possible with fresh fruits and vegetables



COMMUNITY CALENDAR: ST. JUDE HOSPITAL

For the month of August, we are focusing our efforts on St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. St. Jude is unlike any other pediatric treatment and research facility. Discoveries made here have completely changed how the world treats children with cancer and other catastrophic diseases. With research and patient care under one roof, St. Jude is where some of today's most gifted researchers are able to do science more quickly.

The Play School will be making a monetary donation this month. We ask that you consider making a donation along with us. We pledge to match any monetary contributions you make to St. Jude in the month of August. You can drop off a check payable to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital to your center director.

You can also donate online at <https://www.stjude.org/give.html#give>. Your director also has access to a printable form for you to fill out with your credit card information. If you make a donation online, please provide your director with a receipt so we can keep track of donation totals for matching purposes.

To learn more about St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, and their incredible work they do for children and their families, please go to <https://www.stjude.org/>.

Thank you so much in advance for any donations you consider making.



Other Administrative Contacts

Amanda McKeon

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Sarah Ritter

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Rita Hafner

Administrator/Founder