

The Play Schools

November 2017 Newsletter

Hours of Operation:
6:30 am - 6:00 pm M-F

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Director: Megan McIlwain

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facebook

We're on the Web!
Theplayschools.com

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

HAPPY Thanksgiving

November evokes memories of family gatherings, precious time spent together, and homemade cooking in the kitchen. Plans are readily being made to celebrate what this holiday season represents: family and friends, sharing of precious time, and a meal together. Whatever your plans for Thanksgiving, may they include gratitude for what you have and often for what you don't have.

It is a time for us to simply state "thank you" for your loyalty and trust that you have given to us at The Play School. Some of you have been a part of The Play School for a multitude of years. We hope you understand how much we appreciate your faith in us and the support you have given to the teachers at the school over the years. Thank you for backing them; they need you and appreciate this more than you know. We must never take you for granted and continue to serve your family in a high-quality manner.

There are those that are still familiarizing themselves with The Play School family. We know it is not an easy decision to leave your precious child. That never gets old. Please know we are trying very, very hard to assist you as your family gets acclimated to our school.

Our deepest gratitude to all Play School families.

Special Events

UPCOMING HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS



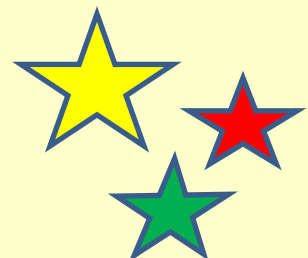
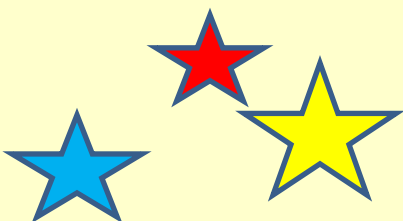
Mark your calendars for the festive holiday celebrations we have coming up at The Play Schools!



- Thankful Friendship Feasts (in-class parties). Please watch for a sign-up sheet on your child's classroom door in weeks leading up to this holiday party for ways you can help make the theme more exciting for the children. Each class will ask for donations of either fruit or vegetables. They will work together as a class in the morning to wash and prepare their food and then enjoy either a fruit salad or vegetable tray for their afternoon snack. ~ Tuesday, November 21st, 3:00-4:00pm.
- Throughout the winter, we will be collecting winter coats and delivering to less fortunate families throughout Hamilton County. There will be a donation box in the front office and we will accept child and adult coats! Clean out your hallway closet for a good cause!
- Holiday Parties with Santa! Please join us in this family-friendly celebration! There will be games, arts & crafts, a picture with Santa Clause, and some tasty goodies. All siblings of enrolled Play School children are welcome so bring the whole family. If you can't make it to your specific school's date, please consider joining us at a different Play School.
 - Saxony ~ Saturday, December 9th, 9:00 - 11:00 am
 - Legacy ~ Sunday, December 10th, 1:00 - 3:00 pm
 - Arbor Village ~ Saturday, December 16th, 9:00 - 11:00 am



**Please RSVP to your Director no later than Monday, November 27th. We hope to see you there!*



Housekeeping Items

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 in the front entry.

The two weeks of annual vacation time started over on 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. We can accept your vacation week notices for the holidays now so get them into your director before you get busy with the holiday season and forget!

We are most grateful for any absence notifications as this may lead to some additional time off for our teachers to spend with their loved ones. If your child will be out for even a day or two, please notify the office in advance. We appreciate you taking the time to keep us in the loop regarding your child's attendance.

THANK YOU

We wish to thank all our amazing parents who donated items to our classroom parties in October. Without your help and support, our annual Boo Bash class parties would not have been quite the hit that they were. The children and faculty both very much enjoyed this day!

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

Let's get reading! Go to Scholastic.com, find "The Reading Club" under the parent link, create an account, and happy reading! Here are your school codes you will enter:

Arbor Village: P4WBB

Saxony Village: L6Z9Y

Legacy: NZWYC

**Please make sure you are only ordering under your *Director's name* and NOT a teacher in the school. Thanks in advance for your orders as it helps our schools' libraries



THE PLAY SCHOOL 2017/2018 CLOSURES

- Thursday, November 23 ~ Thanksgiving Day
- Friday, November 24 ~ Friday after Thanksgiving
- Monday, December 25 ~ Christmas Day
- Monday, January 1 ~ New Year's Day
- Monday, February 19 ~ President's Day (Professional Development Day)
- Monday, May 28 ~ In observance of Memorial Day
- Wednesday, July 4 ~ In observance of Independence Day
- Friday, August 31 ~ Staff Professional Development Day
- Monday, September 3 ~ In observance of Labor Day
- Thursday, November 22 ~ In observance of Thanksgiving
- Friday, November 23 ~ In observance of Thanksgiving
- Monday, December 24th - Closing early at 3:00 pm for Christmas Eve
- Tuesday, December 25 ~ In observance of Christmas
- Monday, December 31 ~ Closing early at 3:00 pm for New Year's Eve
- Tuesday, January 1 ~ In observance of New Year's Day



(All tuition remains the same)

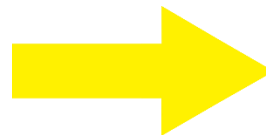
Housekeeping Items (continued)

HSE / NOBLESVILLE / CARMEL CLAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLOSURES

**Hamilton Southeastern*: No School: November 22, 23, 24

**Noblesville*: No School: November 22, 23, 24

**Carmel Clay*: No School: November 22, 23, 24



BE SURE TO STOP BY THE FRONT OFFICE IF YOUR SCHOOL-AGER WILL NEED FULL-DAY CARE DURING THE LISTED SCHOOL CLOSURES! ALSO, DON'T FORGET ABOUT WINTER BREAK THAT IS APPROACHING SOON!

INCLEMENT WEATHER

It is The Play School's policy to remain open during winter weather. We do NOT close when the local elementary schools close. We will close if local government officials deem the roads too unsafe to travel. This winter we will notify parents and faculty of The Play School's decision to close if that situation arises through:

- PreciouStatus
- Our Facebook Fan Page (The Play School)
- WTHR Channel 13



CHILDREN'S CUBBIES/EXTRA CLOTHES

Fall is here! We are still going outside. Many classrooms have earlier playground times so please make sure that hats, gloves/mittens, and appropriate coats are being sent to school with your child. We will try to take advantage of the warmer fall temperatures and continue to get outside as much as possible until we get hit with that first big snow and frigid winter temperatures. Please help us to beat the inevitable "cabin fever" that will one-day set in and dress your child appropriately so they are comfortable outside.

Also, please check your child's "extra clothes bin" here at school. Please take home any shorts, t-shirts, sunscreen, water bottles, and any items that may be too small now. We need extra clothes for every child; we simply want to make sure it is size and season appropriate. Thank you for your help in this matter.

VETERAN'S DAY

Saturday, November 11th is Veteran's Day. Please take a moment to thank a veteran for the service and sacrifice they have made to protect our freedom. Thank you!



DIETARY NEEDS / SUPPLEMENTAL MEALS

If your child has a diagnosed allergy and cannot have all the meals provided by the Play School, we would ask for a note from your child's pediatrician detailing the allergy and then we would have you provide supplemental meals on the days that we are serving an item your child is allergic to. Our licensing guidelines require us to serve what is posted on the approved menus so we must have written documentation anytime we are altering a meal. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Announcements

Potty Training Tips


Potty Training Tip #2: Here is another important point to consider as your child is practicing on the potty at home: potty vs. toilet. At school, we have child sized porcelain toilets that flush with a typical, loud sound. At home, your child may have a separate little potty or a padded toilet seat insert. (Those are not sanitary enough for our setting so we do not utilize those at school.) Since you have more flexibility at home, take advantage of it. Toilets are big and loud. Some children are frightened by them; others know the small potty is not what adults use, and may give it a snub. So, have both a seat insert and a small potty available. Use the one your child prefers without making a fuss or trying to talk your child into the option most convenient for you. Take a bold step and try underwear at school. Send lots of changes of underwear, pants, and socks for accidents when they happen. If your child has been potty training at school, it doesn't hurt to check their supply of spare clothes. We play hard at school and often times get messy. Spare clothes in your child's backpack are always in need.


Potty Training Tip #3: When a child, that has already been potty trained, suddenly has an accident in their underwear, the teachers see it as a natural part of the process. They do a quick cleanup, put the child in fresh clothes, and simply move on. At the same time, when accidents are ongoing, staff will try to figure out if they're triggered by something: the child is not feeling well, there's a big change at home, returning from a vacation, etc. Small circumstances can cause a series of setbacks. Keep in mind that this is a temporary phase and your child will go back to using the toilet. Try not to get upset for backsliding. If you think the relapse may be the result of something else, talk to your child about it and see how you can make it easier.

Potty Training Tip #4: Kids go crazy for stickers, prizes or a treat! At school, we make a big deal when a child uses (or even sits on) the toilet by praising him or her and sharing the news with the other kids. Each teacher puts their own spin on reward systems, but many classrooms utilize a sticker chart of some sort. At home, establish your own reward system to keep the momentum from school going in the right direction. Make it motivational for your child and simple for you to sustain. Also consider making your reaction the big motivator. Sometimes the biggest reward is mom or dad saying, 'Great job,' with a big smile and a hug!

Potty Training Tip #5: Timing is everything! Each classroom has their own approach to scheduling the trek to the toilet. Some classrooms routinely go four times a day, others go every half-hour, and most go before EVERY classroom transition time (i.e., before going outside, after a meal, before nap, etc.). The challenge with schedules is getting kids to leave what they're doing, so we give children lots of reminders that a bathroom break is coming, reassuring them that their toys will still be there when they come back. Try this at home: set your potty schedule at home according to the one your child follows at daycare. Let your child know in advance that it's almost potty time and reassure them that playtime will continue afterward. Don't forget the rewards and praise to make it a fun addition to your day!

What's Cooking? Our Lunch Menu



Monday, Oct. 30: Chicken Tenders, green beans, diced melon WG bread slice, milk
Tuesday, Oct 31: Chicken Casserole, WG noodles, peas/carrots, bananas, milk
Wednesday, Nov. 1: Homemade Chicken Teriyaki, stir fry veggies, brown rice, mandarin oranges, milk
Thursday, Nov. 2: Homemade Macaroni and Cheese, baked beans, broccoli, milk
Friday, Nov. 3: Burrito Supreme, beef, beans, cheese, WG tortilla, salad with ranch, applesauce, milk
Monday, Nov. 6: Homemade Cheese Pizza, carrots with ranch dip, applesauce, milk
Tuesday, Nov. 7: Baked Cod, sweet potatoes, fresh orange slices, WG roll, milk
Wednesday, Nov. 8: Chicken Drumstick, broccoli, peas, cornbread, milk
Thursday, Nov. 9: Homemade meatloaf, green beans, peaches, WG roll, milk
Friday, Nov. 10: Soft Chicken Taco, WT tortilla, fresh fiesta salad, corn, cherry tomatoes, black beans, fresh fruit salad, milk
Monday, Nov. 13: Chicken Casserole, WG brown rice, green beans, fresh orange slices, milk
Tuesday, Nov. 14: Homemade Sloppy Joe's, hamburger/sauce, carrots, applesauce, WG bun, milk
Wednesday, Nov. 15: Homemade Sub Sandwich, turkey, cheese, lettuce, tomato, WG bread, mandarin oranges, milk
Thursday, Nov. 16: Spaghetti, hamburger/homemade sauce, WG noodles, salad, fruit cocktail, garlic toast, milk
Friday, Nov. 17: Chicken Breast Patty, WG bun, romaine salad, cherry tomatoes, ranch dressing, milk
Monday, Nov. 20: Scrambled eggs, sausage link, pancake/waffle, green beans, applesauce, milk
Tuesday, Nov. 21: Homemade chicken alfredo, WG noodles, peas, fresh diced grapes, WG roll, milk
Wednesday, Nov. 22: Turkey Burger, cheese slice, baked beans, WG bun, apple slices, milk
Thursday, Nov. 23: CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING ~ Gobble, Gobble! 
Friday, Nov. 24: CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING
Monday, Nov. 27: Chicken Tenders, green beans, diced melon WG bread slice, milk
Tuesday, Nov. 28: Chicken Casserole, WG noodles, peas/carrots, bananas, milk
Wednesday, Nov. 29: Homemade Chicken Teriyaki, stir fry veggies, brown rice, mandarin oranges, milk
Thursday, Nov. 30: Homemade Macaroni and Cheese, baked beans, broccoli, milk
Friday, Dec. 1: Burrito Supreme, beef, beans, cheese, WG tortilla, salad with ranch, applesauce, 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



Charitable Giving

HURRICANE RELIEF FUNDRAISER

We are continuing our BABY SUPPLIES drive to help the most vulnerable ones who have been devastated by Hurricane Harvey in Houston, TX. The donations you've dropped off have been taken to the Grace Care Center in Noblesville, as they already have a distribution channel to get the supplies to those in need.

The truck deliveries have not ceased so we welcome your donations through the month of November.

Our assistance will be focused on infant needs like diapers, wipes, formula, feminine hygiene products, infant clothing, and baby bottles (new, unopened). Those items can be dropped off in the pink/blue box in your school's front lobby.

With trucks from Grace Church making weekly drives, we'll be able to boost their contributions to families who have lost so much.



GRACE CHURCH

The Grace Church is partnering with Midwest Food Bank to help with hurricane relief efforts in Houston. The Church's goal is to fill up 10,000 Green Bags of crucial items to supply relief efforts and resupply the Care Center pantry. You can drop green bags off at any Grace Church campus. Every Monday & Tuesday, beginning at 5:30 p.m., you can help by serving in the Care Center. This serving opportunity is open to anyone ages 9+.

List of Items to Donate:

- Diapers (size 4, 5 & 6)
- Toilet Paper
- Deodorant
- Canned Pasta Meals
- Cereal
- Pasta
- Rice
- Shampoo
- Bar Soap
- Razors
- Peanut Butter
- Fruit Juice
- Dried Beans
- Toothbrushes & Toothpaste
- Laundry Detergent
- Boxed Potatoes
- Canned Meat
- Feminine Hygiene Products

https://gracechurchin.formstack.com/forms/run_to_it_care_centerGrace

Other Administrative Contacts

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Katie Guerra

Fiscal Director/Owner

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Rita Hafner

Administrator/Founder

