

# The Play Schools

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

December 2018 Newsletter

## 30 Years of Early Childhood Education in Hamilton County

The Play School at  
Arbor Village  
11501 E 116<sup>th</sup> Street  
Fishers, IN 46037  
Phone:  
(317) 841-0647  
Fax:  
(317) 841-0754

The Play School at Legacy  
14454 Community Drive  
Carmel, IN 46033  
Phone:  
(317) 810-1760  
Fax:  
(317) 810-1759

The Play School at  
Saxony Village  
13149 E 131<sup>st</sup> Street  
Fishers, IN 46037  
Phone:  
(317) 776-3330  
Fax:  
(317) 776-3390

### Family Owned ~ Family Focused

Rita Hafner, Founder

Amanda McKeon, Director of Operations/Owner, [amanda@theplayschools.com](mailto:amanda@theplayschools.com);

Katie Guerra, Fiscal Director/Owner, [katie@theplayschools.com](mailto:katie@theplayschools.com)

Directors: Krista, [krista@theplayschools.com](mailto:krista@theplayschools.com); Sarah, [sarah@theplayschools.com](mailto:sarah@theplayschools.com);

Monique, [Monique@theplayschools.com](mailto:Monique@theplayschools.com); Brooklyn, [brooklyn@theplayschools.com](mailto:brooklyn@theplayschools.com)

#### Contents

Season's Greetings	1
Santa's Workshops	2
Housekeeping Items	3
Housekeeping Continued	4
Lunch Menu	5
Inclement Weather	6
School Closures	6
Other Admins	6

#### UPCOMING DATES!

\* Monday, December 24<sup>th</sup> CLOSED in observance of Christmas Eve

\* Tuesday, December 25<sup>th</sup> CLOSED in observance of Christmas Day

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

We want to wish all our Play School families and faculty a very happy holiday season! As we bring 2018 to a close, we want to thank all of you for being a part of our schools and making this a special place to be.

From our family to yours, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

~Ms. Rita, Ms. Amanda, Ms. Katie / Owners



# BREAKFAST WITH SANTA!



HO HO HO...it's that time of year for our annual after-hours, family-friendly celebration!

We will be hosting our annual *Breakfast with Santa* at our schools for our Play School families and staff. All siblings of enrolled Play School children are welcome so bring the whole family. There will be games, prizes, arts & crafts, light refreshments, and a photo opportunity with Santa. Be sure to bring your cameras!

We hope everyone can join us for this celebration! As a friendly reminder, our Breakfast with Santa parties are our way of showing our thanks for your family being part of our Play School family. Due to the spaces in our buildings, we ask that you please limit your group to your immediate family only.

Santa's Workshops will be held:

- Arbor Village ~ Thank you to all of our families who joined us!!
- Saxony Village - Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am - 11:00 am
- Legacy ~ Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am - 11:00 am

*To ensure we have enough refreshments, prizes, and crafts, please RSVP to your Center Director. 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 5th for all enrolled children. Therefore, all children have two weeks to use for the 2018/2019 year. Unused weeks from 2017/2018 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.



### Winter Clothing

It’s safe to say that winter is here! With extra indoor activities planned for the winter, children can be seen painting and having fun with new sensory materials. With that being said, your child might get “messed”. Please check your child’s cubby to make sure we have an extra set (or two) of winter clothing here. It’s time to swap out the t-shirts and shorts for long sleeves and pants. Of course, we always want to make sure extra underwear is in their cubby too! Thank you so much for your help!

### THE PLAY SCHOOL 2018/2019 CLOSURES

- Monday, December 24 ~ In observance of Christmas Eve
- Tuesday, December 25 ~ Christmas Day
- Monday, December 31 ~ Closing early at 3:00 pm for New Year’s Eve
- Tuesday, January 1 ~ New Year’s Day
- Monday, February 19 ~ President’s Day (Professional Development Day)
- Monday, May 27 ~ In observance of Memorial Day
- Thursday, July 4 ~ In observance of Independence Day
- Monday, September 2 ~ In observance of Labor Day
- Thursday, November 28 ~ In observance of Thanksgiving
- Friday, November 29 ~ In observance of Thanksgiving
- Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> - Closing early at 3:00 pm for Christmas Eve
- Wednesday, December 25 ~ In observance of Christmas
- Tuesday, December 31 ~ Closing early at 3:00 pm for New Year’s Eve
- Wednesday, January 1 ~ In observance of New Year’s Day



(All tuition remains the same)

## HOUSEKEEPING ITEMS (continued)

### COATS FOR KIDS

We will continue to collect child and adult coats for our Coat Drive. These are delivered to LOCAL FAMILIES in need. Clean out your hallway closet for a good cause!



*Warm Coats from Warm Hearts*

**COAT DRIVE**

### CLASSROOM DONATIONS

Are you doing an end of the year purge at your home or office?

We are ALWAYS looking for donations of:

- Scrap paper
- Sports equipment (balls, bats, Frisbees, cones, bean bags, scarves, etc.!) )
- Anything arts and crafts related (popsicle sticks, sequins, buttons, newspapers, magazines)

Thank you in advance for your donations!

### WINTER BLAST PARTIES

Our Winter Blast parties will be held on Thursday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm. This is such a fun event for the kids! All the classrooms from Toddlers to Pre-K 5 will participate. There will be a sign-up sheet on the classroom doors soon so keep an eye out if you would like to bring something to share. As always, donations are not required, but are appreciated. Thank you all so much for everything you do as parents to support the classrooms!

### KANS FOR KIDS

Thank you so much for being so generous this year during the canned food drive. We have been able to donate multiple car loads of food for families in need here in Hamilton County!

*Thank You!*

### PJ's For Diabetes

Another HUGE thank you to all the kids who donated a dollar (or more) last month to wear PJ's to school. Our friend, Eden, was able to collect \$1,000 to help fight childhood diabetes!

### REFERRAL PROGRAM

There is no bigger compliment than when a family joins The Play School because of your support and kind words about us. For every family that enrolls due to your referral you will receive a \$100.00 tuition credit on your account after the new family's 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive week with one of our schools. This applies to new families only and must be mentioned at time of enrollment. Thank you again for supporting our schools!

facebook

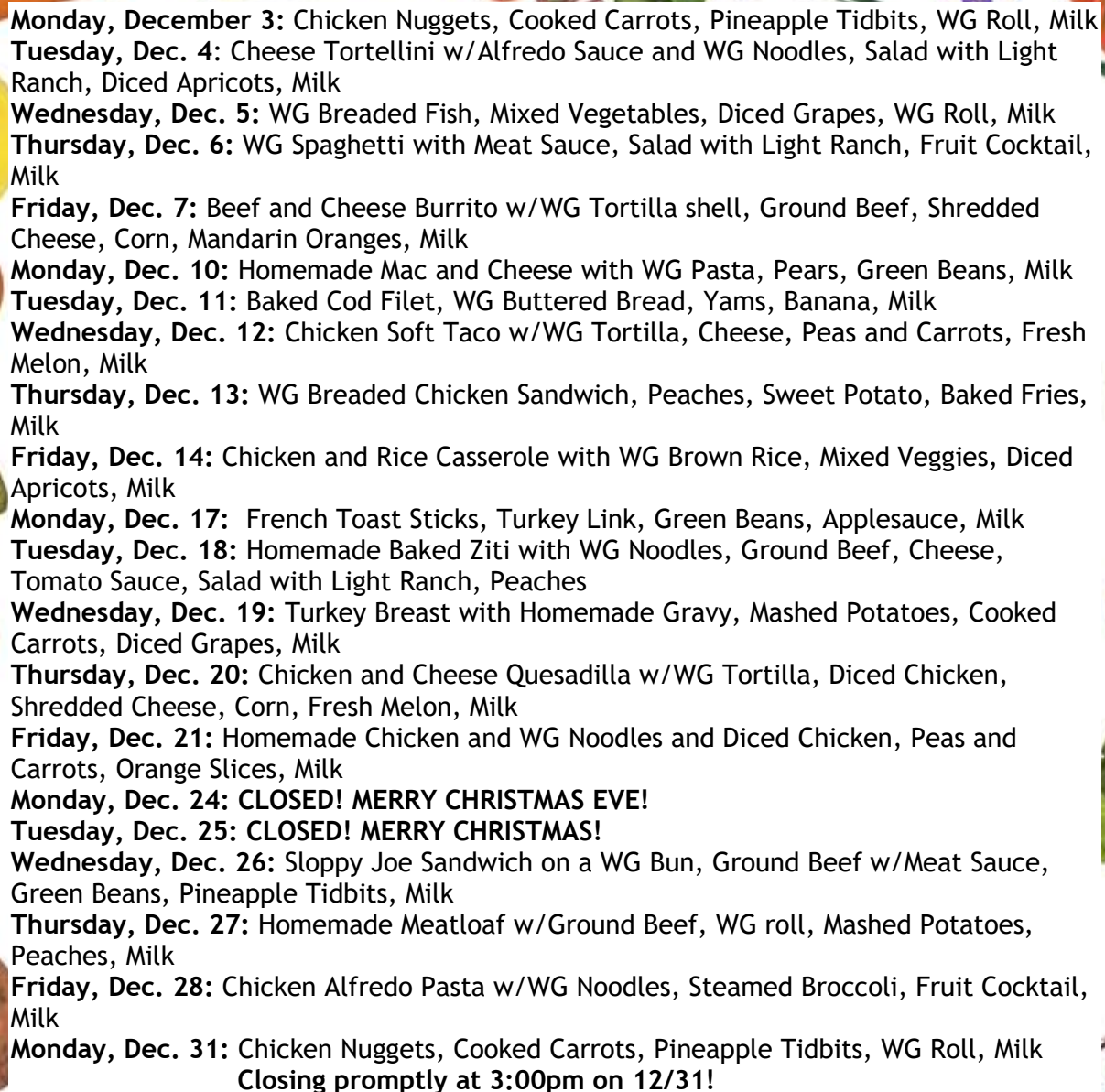


We're on the Web!  
Theplayschools.com

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



## What's Cooking? Our Lunch Menu



**Monday, December 3:** Chicken Nuggets, Cooked Carrots, Pineapple Tidbits, WG Roll, Milk

**Tuesday, Dec. 4:** Cheese Tortellini w/Alfredo Sauce and WG Noodles, Salad with Light Ranch, Diced Apricots, Milk

**Wednesday, Dec. 5:** WG Breaded Fish, Mixed Vegetables, Diced Grapes, WG Roll, Milk

**Thursday, Dec. 6:** WG Spaghetti with Meat Sauce, Salad with Light Ranch, Fruit Cocktail, Milk

**Friday, Dec. 7:** Beef and Cheese Burrito w/WG Tortilla shell, Ground Beef, Shredded Cheese, Corn, Mandarin Oranges, Milk

**Monday, Dec. 10:** Homemade Mac and Cheese with WG Pasta, Pears, Green Beans, Milk

**Tuesday, Dec. 11:** Baked Cod Filet, WG Buttered Bread, Yams, Banana, Milk

**Wednesday, Dec. 12:** Chicken Soft Taco w/WG Tortilla, Cheese, Peas and Carrots, Fresh Melon, Milk

**Thursday, Dec. 13:** WG Breaded Chicken Sandwich, Peaches, Sweet Potato, Baked Fries, Milk

**Friday, Dec. 14:** Chicken and Rice Casserole with WG Brown Rice, Mixed Veggies, Diced Apricots, Milk

**Monday, Dec. 17:** French Toast Sticks, Turkey Link, Green Beans, Applesauce, Milk

**Tuesday, Dec. 18:** Homemade Baked Ziti with WG Noodles, Ground Beef, Cheese, Tomato Sauce, Salad with Light Ranch, Peaches

**Wednesday, Dec. 19:** Turkey Breast with Homemade Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Cooked Carrots, Diced Grapes, Milk

**Thursday, Dec. 20:** Chicken and Cheese Quesadilla w/WG Tortilla, Diced Chicken, Shredded Cheese, Corn, Fresh Melon, Milk

**Friday, Dec. 21:** Homemade Chicken and WG Noodles and Diced Chicken, Peas and Carrots, Orange Slices, Milk

**Monday, Dec. 24:** **CLOSED! MERRY CHRISTMAS EVE!**

**Tuesday, Dec. 25:** **CLOSED! MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

**Wednesday, Dec. 26:** Sloppy Joe Sandwich on a WG Bun, Ground Beef w/Meat Sauce, Green Beans, Pineapple Tidbits, Milk

**Thursday, Dec. 27:** Homemade Meatloaf w/Ground Beef, WG roll, Mashed Potatoes, Peaches, Milk

**Friday, Dec. 28:** Chicken Alfredo Pasta w/WG Noodles, Steamed Broccoli, Fruit Cocktail, Milk

**Monday, Dec. 31:** Chicken Nuggets, Cooked Carrots, Pineapple Tidbits, WG Roll, Milk  
Closing promptly at 3:00pm on 12/31!

\*\*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

## Learning Through Play

Did you know when kids are engaged in play, they are not only playing, but learning too? Research shows that when children are playing with their peers, they are learning three or more valuable life-long skills. One of the top skills children learn through play is communication. Play allows children the opportunity to develop speech and language skills as well listening skills. Children talk and listen while they play. Even if a child is playing alone, they are typically self-talking and using vocabulary to add purpose to their play. Children who engage in pretend play also tend to have long-term capabilities related to problem solving, social skills and academic areas. The complexity of these skills demonstrate that many areas of the brain are most likely involved during play. A third skill that children learn while playing is relationship building. Children who play with their parents and peers learn how relationships work through their play experiences. As play becomes more important in a child's life, an increase in the number and quality of friendships has been seen.

## Inclement Weather and School Closures

### 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:

- Smartcare
- WTHR Channel 13

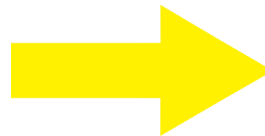


### HSE / NOBLESVILLE / CARMEL CLAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLOSURES

\**Hamilton Southeastern*: No School: December 24 - January 7

\**Noblesville*: No School: December 24 - January 7

\**Carmel Clay*: No School: December 24 - January 7



**BE SURE TO STOP BY THE FRONT OFFICE IF YOUR SCHOOL-AGER WILL NEED FULL-DAY CARE DURING THE LISTED SCHOOL CLOSURES! WINTER BREAK IS APPROACHING SOON!**

