

Loving Hands Preschool

October 2022

Wow! We are so excited to be back in school and spending our days with the kids again! Thank you for making the first couple weeks great for staff and the kids. We couldn't do it without all of your cooperation and support!

Thank you to all our families for filling out the health screening form each day. That little bit of extra time that you take to fill that out ahead of time saves us much time at drop off and throughout the day! I also appreciate the diligence our families have already shown with watching for symptoms and keeping their kids home as a precaution. We know that it is very typical for lots of runny noses and colds at the beginning of the year and into winter, but also appreciate the special circumstances going on this year and want to be extra cautious so that we keep everyone as healthy as possible! We will be discontinuing the health screening form in October, please remember:

If your child has any of the following symptoms, they are required to stay home for the 5 day isolation period and 48 hours fever free, or a doctor's release or negative covid-19 test before they may return:

- Fever of 100 degrees or more
- new onset and/or worsening cough
- difficulty breathing
- or new loss of taste or smell

We ask that you keep your child home for the 5 day period (from onset of symptoms) if your child has 2 or more of the less common symptoms and no alternative diagnosis as to why:

- sore throat
- vomiting
- diarrhea
- chills
- muscle pain
- excessive fatigue
- new onset of severe headache
- new onset of nasal congestion or runny nose



When your child isn't feeling well, please contact Miss Shannon either by phone (330)896-1936 or email, smiller1950@sbcglobal.net, or your child's teacher. If your child has been in close contact with someone who has Covid-19, the health department will do contact tracing and determine if your child has to follow a 5 day quarantine. We are taking safety measures to try to lessen the risks to our children, but also understand that our children are with us a short time of their day, are exposed to others here and other places, and we need to continue to take universal precautions to keep everyone as healthy as possible!

We are permitted to use Hand Sanitizer with children when a sink is not available, but they are not permitted to have access to it without adult assistance, so we ask families who have included sanitizer in backpacks, or snack boxes to please remove them. We hand wash when we arrive, before snack, after restroom, when we come in from outside, when we are in contact with bodily fluids (wiping noses), anytime our hands are visibly dirty and before we go home, and use sanitizer on the playground or muscle room when a sink is not immediately available. So sanitizer in backpacks or snack boxes, in addition to being a violation of our licensing rules, won't be necessary. It will be provided by teachers at any time needed.

Drop off has been going great! Wonder why we used the color cards? It helps us to know who is picking up, recognize family members easier, and to know ahead of time who has someone new picking up that we will need to ID. If we had to look up each child's pick up list, we would lose some of the efficiency of pick up time. And this helps us to plan ahead. It is not a big deal if plans change and the same person isn't picking up. We will keep the card with us and then we will know to have that release form handy. Thanks to everyone for taking and returning your card each day. Once the teachers are comfortable with recognizing our families,

they will begin to discontinue use of them. We will still continue to ID people that we haven't met before, or do not yet recognize. So please make sure you, or your pick up person has their ID on them at all times.

We are asking families to only park on the left side of the parking lot, from where you pull in to the parking lot, down to the playground, and leave the back of the parking lot, to the right of the playground, empty. We do this because there are other programs that take place in the back of the building at times during the week, and those programs have become a drive thru service. In order to make a habit of leaving that area free for their set up, we are limiting our parking there at all times. Thank you for your help!

Just a reminder, if you are a new student and haven't turned in your **medical statement**, they will be due NO LATER than October 12/13 (one month from their first day of school). Anyone who has not turned in their form by that date will not be able to attend until it has been turned in. These are ODJFS rules, so we must get these forms on file for your child. If you need a new form, stop in to the Information Station, outside of the Preschool office and pick up a new one! If you would like to have your physician fax it to us, our fax number is 330-899-9880. There is an updated list at the "Sanitation Station," where we do temps, to show if we are still in need of your medical statement or a part of it. Please double check to see if you are compliant. Please be sure that their immunization record is also attached.

Where do I return things? To help keep things organized and lessen the chance of something getting lost, please be sure to return items to the correct places.

***tuition payments:** there is a box inside of the sliding window of the MAIN office. It is labeled Loving Hands Preschool Tuition Payments. If you need a receipt, please make note on the envelope and Miss Brittney will put one in your child's mailbox as soon as payment is registered. Or if you need one sooner, you may ask the office secretary or Miss Shannon and we can provide you with one, as well.

***paperwork, medical statements, fundraiser items.** There is a basket on the desk (Information Station) outside of the preschool office. It is labeled "paperwork basket." Please return all of these items to my office. It is too hard for teachers to keep track of items left in the classrooms. Teachers may not always be able to go through backpacks during the day, so items that are left in the backpack may remain there. The basket makes it easy to drop it off as you are waiting in line to drop your child off at school each day.

As the **weather** begins to cool down, please be sure to send in a jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with your child daily. We will continue to go outside as weather permits. If you would like your child to wear sunscreen, please apply lotion before your child arrives at school. Unfortunately, we are limited on time to apply sunscreen on the children during class time.

Fall Picture Day will be on Wednesday, October 12 (Blue Room, Green Room, M/W 3's) & Thursday, October 13 (Purple Room, Yellow Room, TTH3's). Buckeye Photography of Canal Fulton will take the portraits. This will be our second year using them and we are so excited to continue this new partnership with BP! Buckeye does their ordering online AFTER picture day. So once pictures have been taken, you will be able to go on and view the pictures and order what you would like. This is new to many of you, so please don't hesitate to ask any questions that you may have as you begin the process. This will also allow ALL children to get their picture taken. The class picture will be taken in the fall, as well. The Picture day information is attached to this newsletter. More info will be sent home to show how to access our album when the pictures are available for viewing.

Enrichment is starting this month!!! Enrichment is an optional month-month program that extends your child's day by 1.5 hours on M-TH. The AM class will stay after class from 11:30-1:00 and the PM class will arrive at 11:00 and stay in enrichment until they head to preschool at 12:30. It's not too late to sign up for October! We would like to welcome back Miss Renee Cox to our staff as our Enrichment teacher and we are excited that Miss Missy will join our staff as an enrichment assistant on MW this year!! They have so many fun activities planned!!! The Stay-n-Play sign up is also now available. If you don't want your child to stay for Enrichment all month, you can choose individual days that you would like them to stay, space is limited for this option. Both sign-up sheets are available at the Information Station, outside the Preschool Office!

There will be **no school on Friday, October 14 or Monday, October 17**. We follow Green Schools calendar, and it is teacher inservice days for the teachers.

We are excited to see everyone at **Open House**, scheduled for Wednesday, October 26 from 5-6:30. This will be our first open house since the pandemic began, so we are looking forward to welcoming everyone for it! In order to still reduce the number of people in the rooms at a time, we are going to make a request for classes to come to their classrooms at particular times.

- Orange Room (MWam: 5:00-5:20, TTam 5:20-5:40, MWpm 5:40-6:00, and TTHpm 6:00-6:20)
- Blue Room open between 5:00-6:30
- Yellow, Green and Purple Rooms (AM classes 5:00-5:45 and PM classes 5:45-6:30)

We will be welcoming Stephanie Troyer, from Usborne Books to our Open House. She will be set up in our Gathering Area. Parents can stop and shop during the open house, as well. There is information attached to this newsletter for the book fair!

FIELD TRIPS ARE COMING! We are excited for our fall field trips for our 4 and 5 year old classes!!

Our **Green Room Pre-K** classes will be meeting at **Kingsway Farm** on Friday, October 21 for their first **field trip**. The first wagon ride will leave promptly at 9:30, so please arrive at 9:20 to give us time to check in. Please send in form/money by Wednesday, October 12.

Our **Yellow Room Pre-K** classes will be meeting at **Kingsway Farm** on Friday, October 21 for their first **field trip**. The first wagon ride will leave promptly at 9:30, so please arrive at 9:20 to give us time to check in. Please send in form/money by Thursday, October 13.

Kingsway Farm is located at 1555 Andrews St. NE, Hartville, OH 44632. The cost of the field trip is \$8 per child (siblings are welcome, ages 2 and under are free) and \$4 per adult (for the wagon ride only). Permission form/money (cash only) should be returned to your child's teacher. Field trips replace your child's class day, so there will be no class that day. A responsible adult must stay with their child at all times.

Our **Blue/Purple** Transitional-K classes will be meeting at **Arrowhead Orchard** on Monday, October 24 for their first **field trip**. Please arrive promptly by 9:30 to give us time to check in. Please send in form/money by Tuesday, October 18.

Arrowhead Orchard is located at 11724 Lisbon St NE, Paris, OH 44669. The cost of the field trip is \$8 per child (siblings are welcome, infants age 2 and under are free) and \$5 per adult.

Halloween Parties will be on Monday 10/31 (Green, Orange MW, Purple and Blue) and Tuesday 11/1 (Orange TTH, Yellow). This year, we are excited to have parent volunteers for the parties. Each classroom has volunteer signup sheets if you would like to help for the party. This year, we did limit the number of volunteers to no more than 4 adults (sorry, due to space limitations, we will not be able to invite siblings, or additional family members to the party. If the sign-up sheet is full, you are still welcome to put your name down to help with party planning. Our party chairpersons will contact the volunteers on their list to set up a meeting time to plan the party. This will take place about the first week in October. We are asking parents to plan: One Halloween story, One music/movement game, one craft, and snack (nut free, and other specific classroom restrictions will be shared at the planning meetings).

On each party day: children will come to school in their costume (**BLUE ROOM PARENTS, PLEASE SEE SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR YOUR CLASS**). We ask that costumes are not scary or contain weapons. Parents will drop their child off at their normal class time. Parents and other family members are then invited to join us for the Halloween Parade, which will begin as soon as all classes have arrived. The parade route will begin downstairs in the Gathering Area, down the Sunday School hallway and into the Muscle Room. Spectators are welcome to bring a treat/prize to pass out to the children as they pass. Please remember: **NO NUTS!!** We have several children with allergies this year, so passing out prizes instead of candy is also encouraged. The number of preschool children that we will have at each parade is:

Wednesday AM: 38
Wednesday PM: 52
Thursday AM: 28
Thursday PM: 28



At the conclusion of the parade, classes will meet in the Muscle Room for pictures. Parents who are helping will head up at this time and begin the party. At that time, children will proceed to their classrooms to set up for the party. If you are not planning to stay for the party, please plan on picking your child up at their early dismissal time (1/2 hour before their regular time). There is no Enrichment on EITHER of the party days. Check out our Facebook page for pictures of the day!!

BLUE ROOM: The morning will be a typical preschool class for your child. After lunch, they will begin preparing for the party. Please send in your child's costume in a labeled bag. Blue Room parents are welcome to come in at 12:15 if they would like to help their child dress in their costume. They will dismiss ½ hour early on their party day (2:30)

For members of our **Preschool Board**, our next meeting will be on Thursday, October 20 at 9:00am in the Library. Loving Hands Preschool is looking for parents who may be interested in volunteering on our preschool board if a spot would open up. We typically meet on a Thursday morning each month at 9:00am. If you would be interested in being considered for a seat on our board, please see Miss Shannon.

October Happenings

- 3: First day of Enrichment (openings still available for this month!!)
- 9: Happy Birthday Sophia F
- 14: NEOAEA Day-Green Schools closed- NO PRESCHOOL
- 16: November Tuition Due
- 17: Professional Development Day- Green Schools closed- NO PRESCHOOL
- 13: Picture Day for Orange MW, Green, Blue Rooms
- 14: Picture Day for Orange TTH, Yellow, Purple Rooms
- 15: Happy Birthday Cailin A
- 17: Happy Birthday Hunter L & Myla N
- 18: Happy Birthday Caleb K
- 20: Preschool Board Meeting 9:00
- 21: DAY TRIP to KINGSWAY FARMS for Green Room and Yellow Room 9:30am
- 21: Happy Birthday Jameson P & Scarlett C
- 24: DAY TRIP to ARROWHEAD ORCHARD for Blue and Purple Rooms 9:30am
- 22: Fall Assessment/Individual Learning Plans sent home
- 24: Storytime with Miss Brandie from the Green Library 1:00
- 25: Happy Birthday Annie W
- 26: Fall Open House 5:00-6:30 (recommended times: 5:00-5:45, AM classes; 5:45-6:30 PM classes)
(for Orange Room-recommended times are 5-5:20: MWam, 5:20-5:40:TTHam, 5:40-6:00: MWpm, 6-6:20: MWpm)
- 29: Happy Birthday Miss Jess (Green Room)
- 31: Halloween Parties for Orange MW, Green Rooms, Blue and Purple Rooms (dismiss ½ hour early, NO ENRICHMENT)
- Nov 1: Halloween Parties for Orange TTH and Yellow Rooms (dismiss ½ hour early, NO ENRICHMENT)
- 31: Happy Halloween



Preschool 3's- Orange Room
Miss Terri & Miss Shannon B

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Hello from the Orange Room! Miss Shannon and I are so excited for this new month to begin. We have several Fall activities and crafts planned. We will be working on social skills, as well as academic materials. We are working hard on getting acclimated to a scholastic setting filled with new friends and a new environment. With

the start of the new year we starting to learn about "Welcome procedures," "Rules," "All about me," and "Feelings." We will be introducing students to the shape triangle, the color orange, the numbers 5, 6, 7 and letters in a variety of ways. We will also familiarize students with the letters of their names. To help with what your child is learning in school, please help your child find triangles, the color orange and the first letter in their name.

We will also be starting art projects and crafts! We will be drawing our first preschool picture, painting, making handprints, and crafts according to our daily reading. We will dive into how students express their feelings, and we encourage your help! Questions to ask your little one during our first months of school will greatly help with how we interact, as well as how they interact with classmates. Some questions to consider:

- What is a feeling?
- What do you do with a feeling?
- What is your favorite color?

We are looking forward to an amazing and fun-filled school year!

Pre-Kindergarten MWF- Green Room

Miss Libby & Miss Jess

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The Green room is off to a fantastic start! We have been super busy already and it seems that we are all adjusting well to the classroom procedures and having fun while getting to know all our new friends.

The kids have loved sorting pretend bugs in the science center and making patterns by their shape and kind. We made our own very hungry caterpillar using a balloon to paint with! We have also enjoyed reading many books about different bugs and butterflies...the class favorite is *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle! The green room can now name the four stages of the butterfly life cycle in order, complete with hand motions! Our fine motor skills were put to use when we "adopted" our very own pretend caterpillar in the form of beads on a necklace! We also created the butterfly life cycle on a plate using pasta. The excitement about caterpillars and butterflies continued as we learned about bees and ants and other insects. Who knew these tiny, sometimes creepy, creatures would be so exciting and interesting!!

Another big focus for our class this first month has been on kindness and making friends. This will continue throughout the whole year, as we believe it is very important to show the importance of being kind to others. One book we read was *A Little Spot of Kindness* by Diane Alber, in which the main character shows us how to make good choices and show kindness. We each came home that day with our own "spot" of kindness on our hands, and have since learned that we don't need to have the "Spot" on our hands to remind us to make good choices.

The kids are practicing writing their first names, and we will continue to work on that daily! We will also continue weekly letter work - including recognizing the letter, writing the letter, and learning about the sound that the letter makes! The morning journals have been a great way for us to get some extra practice on the letters at the start of each new day! We also experiment with making the letters using a variety of items, like play-doh, sand, tiny erasers, fingers, blocks, legos, and many more during our learning center time in the classroom!

The green Friday folders may be returned to school each Monday, so we can organize them and fill them with important paperwork to return on Fridays! We will collect the "peek into our week" pages in the prongs and add a new one each Friday!

October will bring new themes as we continue our progress with the alphabet letters and sounds, and numbers. We will explore farms and farm animals this month, which is always exciting and fun! Our class field trip will be Friday, October 21st to Kingsway Pumpkin Farm. More information about this fun day will come home soon!

Thank you for letting us learn and grow with your children at school...we think they are each so special and can't wait to help them continue to grow this year!

Pre-Kindergarten THF- Yellow Room

Miss Kate & Miss Tina

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Hello Yellow Room families! What a fun September! It seemed like we waited forever for school to start and when it did, boy did it fly by! Miss Tina and I are so impressed with how well the children have adjusted to the school day! We are having a blast with them discussing what makes each of us unique, what makes up a family, and our feelings. As we move into this new month, we will learn about dinosaurs! This is sure to be a romp, stomping good time. We will then transition to discussing all things Fall - leaves, pumpkins, apples and cooler days! In the middle of this unit is our field trip to Kingsway farm. No matter the weather, it's guaranteed

to be a good time! More information will come home on that soon. We will celebrate the color Orange on Oct. 28th, right before our Halloween celebration. Don't forget, we will dismiss 1/2 hour early that day. We are so excited for all of the fun learning October brings!

Letters for October are D, E, F, G. Numbers are 4,5,6. And our shape is the triangle.

Transitional Kindergarten (Half Day)-Purple Room

Miss Alicia & Miss Stacey

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September has been a great month of learning about rules and expectations for school, as well as learning about our new friends. We have tons of things planned for October that will be a lot of fun! Our class Halloween party will be at the end of the month. An email will be sent out in advance before the party to those that have signed up to help. I will be sending home your child's Individual Learning Plan this month, which needs to be signed and returned. This will discuss how your goals for your child will be implemented into our learning plan. Please keep an eye out for that. October will also bring our first STAR OF THE WEEK. I will send a brown paper bag home, along with the instructions on what to fill it with for their special week. We will start the month with our Fall theme and talk about apples, pumpkins and all things Fall. The students will have fun picking apples in our classroom's own apple orchard, where they can weigh and sell at our market. The last couple weeks of October be all about Halloween. Our dramatic play area will be turned into a potion's lab and the students can create their own potions with some very interesting ingredients. We also have our first field trip planned to Arrowhead Orchard. A permission slip will be going out soon with all the details. We will use this month to continue reviewing all capital and lower-case letters, letter sounds and numbers, while also focusing on our writing skills. Practice makes progress, so please practice at home with your child. We are so excited to get October started!

Transitional Kindergarten (Full Day)- Blue Room

Miss Jessica & Miss Tara

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Oh, my what a great first month of school we have had. We have had so much fun getting to know everyone and learning about one another's families. We have worked on our classroom routine and classroom rules. We have started to work on our letters and numbers and shapes and colors. We will be doing two letters a week along with a number, shape and a color. I am going to start sending home a paper every Thursday to show you what is going to be going on the following week of school! I hope you have been checking out our classroom Facebook page to see pictures of our school days. We are going to keep focusing on recognizing our names by signing in every morning when the children come into the classroom.

For the month of October as the children begin to recognize their first name we are going to start slowly working on last names. We will begin working on fine motor skills such as cutting a line with scissors. We will continue working on letter recognition and letter sounds, along with number recognition. This month our themes will be Fall, Pumpkins and Halloween. This month we will also begin chapel time, which we will have once a month with Pastor Harlen or Miss Shannon. This month we will also start having a star student a week! I will send home an all about me poster for them to complete and on the Monday of their special week they can bring in a show and tell.

There are a lot of important dates to remember for the month of October so please keep an eye on remind and for important things we send home. October 12 is Picture Day!!! October 24th-28th is the Scholastic Book Fair which is open during preschool hours. October 26th is Fall Open House (more information to come) and last October 31 is the Halloween Party. There will be more information coming soon about the Halloween Party. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask or send us a remind at any time. Can't wait to see what this month has in store for the blue room.

Enrichment Class

Miss Renee & Miss Missy (M/W)

reneemcox@yahoo.com

I am excited for our first Enrichment class on October 3rd! We will start the first week with some fun stories on friendship, sharing and kindness. We will be using paints for a sponge painting project. The rest of the month we will be talking about pumpkins! A couple crafts include lego painting and working with beads to make our own pumpkins. I am looking forward to learning, playing and crafting with all the students who signed up for October! We do have room for more, this is a fun class to meet other friends from the 4's and TK rooms! We will start the class with some free play as friends arrive, eat lunch together, then move into our circle time and craft. I am looking forward to a great month and year in Enrichment!