



Loving Hands Preschool
September 2023

WELCOME FAMILIES!!! We are so excited to begin this school year!! We hope everyone is enjoying their summer and continue to enjoy what is left of it. Each month, we will send a school-wide newsletter home with your child. This will give you a glimpse of what will be going on in your child's class, and around the school. Please keep the **newsletter and class calendars** in a "safe" place so you can refer to them, as needed. If you misplace your copy or need an additional for other family members, additional copies can be found at the "Information Station" outside of the Preschool Office, or online at www.loving-hands.org

Our first days of class will be Monday, September 11 & Tuesday, September 12. This will allow us to have a **Meet the Teacher** week during the week of September 4-8. Teachers will have a sign-up sheet available at Parent Orientation, for each family to sign up for a 15-minute time slot. This is the opportunity to spend a few minutes in the classroom with your child and help them explore before their BIG day!! We offer day and a few evening times for your convenience. Please be sure to bring: any paperwork that you still need to turn in, a set of extra clothing for your child in a labeled Ziploc bag, any school supply items that you haven't already turned in, and items that you purchased to donate to the classrooms. If you didn't attend Parent Orientation, the sign-up sheets will be available M-TH 9-2 outside of the preschool office. Paperwork/supplies/tuition, etc. can also be dropped off at that time.

Enrichment classes will begin for our 4- and 5-year-old students on October 2.

- PM students will attend 11:00-12:30; AM students will attend 11:30-1:00.
- The class is offered Monday-Thursday
- Pre-K classes can attend 2 days/week; TK classes can attend 2 days or 4 days.
- We offer a full year option, so you don't have to sign up each month for any family who makes tuition payments through AFT; but we will still offer the month-to-month option, with sign-up sheets at the Communication Station (outside of the preschool office); we will also offer stay-n-play option, which is a daily option (these options are based on space availability). This sign-up sheet will come out at the end of the preceding month. For October, the sign-up sheet will be out during Parent Orientation/Meet the Teacher week.

Our staggered drop off and pick schedule will look like this:

- 8:45-11:15 or 12:15-2:45: Orange Room classes
- 8:50-11:20 or 12:20-2:50: Purple Room classes
- 8:55-11:25 or 12:25-2:55: Green or Yellow Room
- 9:00-3:00: Blue Room

****PLEASE DO NOT ENTER THE BUILDING ANY EARLIER THAN 5 MINUTES BEFORE YOUR CHILD'S START TIME.** This will help to reduce the long lines or mixing in with another class's arrival. Upon entering the building, our parents will continue down the tile hallway to the double doors, where their teachers will be waiting for them. This will be our **drop off** area. Parents will be able to exit the next set of double doors to the parking lot. This will reduce parents from having to pass each other in the entrance areas. During the first weeks of school, if the same parent is dropping off and picking up, we will give you a pick up card. This will help speed up the pick up process. Please bring the card back with you

at pick up. If someone different is picking up, simply let the teacher know and we will hold onto the card and that will help us know who we will be IDing before dismissal. We are attempting to eliminate temp checks at drop off for this school year. Over the past 3 school years, we haven't had to send children home, who came to school with a temp. We hope parents continue to be diligent in their health screening prior to dropping your child off. We reserve the right to reinstate temp checks, if needed.

Pick up will take place at the same entrance. The outside door will be locked until it is time for pick up to begin. To decrease the waiting time and long lines prior, we will ask that you do not enter the building at your pick up time. Children will wash their hands before dismissal, they will come down and wait outside of the muscle room area and then we will dismiss the kids, individually, to go home.

Our preschool does not offer a "carpool" option, so a responsible adult will need to walk your child in to school each day and pick them up at the end of each day. For an adult to pick up your child, their name must be present on the **Child Release Form**. Teachers will check ID of any adult that they do not recognize. Please bear with us at the beginning of the school year, and bring your ID, as well. We are learning to put names to faces and may not recognize you right away. If at any time during the year you would like to add or remove someone from your child's pick-up list, please do so in the preschool office with Miss Shannon. I will be sure to update the information with the teachers.

We follow **Green Local Schools school year calendar**, as well as any snow days. If Green Schools has a Delay Start, preschool will be closed for that day. It will be considered a snow day. This also applies if the entire school district is mandated to close down or begin to meet virtually. There are a few days throughout the year that Loving Hands is closed, while Green Schools are open. Please check your school year calendar for those dates.

Please remember to pack a **snack** (and a lunch for our full day/enrichment classes) for your child each day. You may choose what you would like to send for your child, but we do ask that it contain nutritional value and that is NUT FREE! Their snack box/bag may be placed in their backpack, so it is easier for our little ones as they head upstairs.

Every child must have a **Medical Statement** on file that has been signed by a physician. ODJFS requires that this be on file within 30 days of any new student's enrollment, and every 13 months thereafter. The Preschool Office will send out reminders to families at 90 days. We will ask that you return the form with the date of your child's appointment. If we do not receive that back, we will send another reminder 60 days before the expiration and then again at 30 days. If a child's Medical Statement expires and we have not received an updated form, your child may not return to school until that has been updated. *This is a state rule, and exceptions can't be made.*

In the beginning and end weeks of school, as weather permits, we will be using the playground and outdoor play areas. Please be sure to **sunscreen** your child before school. Loving Hands Preschool will not be responsible for sunscreen. We have a short time frame to enjoy the playground, so there is not time to apply/reapply sunscreen throughout the day. We also recommend that your child wear tennis shoes. The playground has rubber mulch, and it makes wearing sandals or crocs uncomfortable.

Families have been given **Preschool Payment** Envelopes. We request that these be used each month to simplify the payment process for Brittney Hurley, our Administrative Coordinator. If you forget your envelope, please be sure to write your child's name on the memo line of your check, or there are blank envelopes next to the tuition box. Payments are due BY the 16th of the month. Payments are made one month in advance (i.e., September payment is due on August 16, In April, you will make your last payment for May). Please note: sometimes the due date is going to fall on a weekend or

day that the school is not open, please be sure to pay ahead of time in these cases to avoid late fees. Paying in full? Using AFT? Don't need your envelopes? We would love to re-use them. Simply drop them in the paperwork basket at the Preschool Information Station. Just a reminder that all payments are non-refundable. This applies in the case that the school would need to shut down. If at any time a family decides to withdraw from the program, they will need to do so in writing to smiller1950@sbcglobal.net

JOIN US ON **FACEBOOK!!!** In addition to classroom FB pages, Loving Hands Preschool has a Facebook Page. We post reminders, updates, and other exciting info on the page. Look for us at www.facebook.com/LovingHandsPreschool Returning Parents: We would appreciate your help. Please take a few minutes to write a review on our Facebook page. We would like some updated reviews on our page when prospective parents visit us on Facebook!

Be sure to sign up for your child's class on the **REMIND** app!! This is a way for the teachers to communicate with you about activities going on in class, send pictures and reminders. They are able to send mass texts to all families or communicate individually with a family. The best part is that you can also send private texts back to them! If you have a grandparent or babysitter that is responsible for your child during school time, they are also welcome to sign up for the app. This will allow them to get the reminders, as well.



For our **September mission project**, we would like to collect food for Green's own **Blessings in a Backpack**. This program makes sure that students will have meals for the weekend. As we start the school year, the following items are needed:

heartly soups and stews	ramen noodles
individual oatmeal	mac and cheese (cups or boxes)
canned fruit and vegetables	breakfast bars
pudding cups	peanut butter or cheese crackers
canned pasta	

There will be a collection box outside of the preschool office. Please drop off items by September 29th.

SEPTEMBER DATES

- 4: Labor Day- NO SCHOOL
- 5-8: Meet the Teacher Week (be sure to sign up for a time!!)
- 6: Happy Birthday Mariam S
- 9: Happy Birthday Austin H/Tatum H
- 11: First day of school for the Orange Room MW, Green, Blue and Purple Rooms
- 12: First day of school for Orange Room TTH and Yellow Rooms
- 13: Happy Birthday Cooper P
- 16: October Tuition due; Happy Birthday Quinn S
- 17: Happy Birthday Hazel R
- 19: Happy Birthday Kaia F
- 21: Happy Birthday Oaklynn S & Layla D
- 21: Preschool Board Meeting 9:00 in Library



What's Happening

In our classrooms...

Preschool 3's- Orange Room

Miss Tara & Miss Shannon B

biedentm@gmail.com

csbelaney@gmail.com

Welcome to the Orange Room! We are so excited for this new adventure with you and your child! We have an entire school year of learning, playing and exploring planned. We will be working on social skills, as well as academic materials. During our first month of school, we will be working hard on getting acclimated to a classroom setting, filled with new friends and a new environment. Our themes will be "Welcome," "All About Me," and "Feelings." We will be introducing students to shapes, colors, numbers and letters in a variety of ways, including familiarizing students with the letters of their names. To help with what your child is learning at school, you can work on identifying circles, the color yellow and the first letter in their name.

We will also be introducing centers, starting fine motor journals, self-portraits, and art projects! This month we will be drawing our FIRST preschool picture, painting, along with other activities that coincide with our daily reading. Questions to ask your little one during our first months of school will greatly encourage how we interact, as well as how they interact with classmates. Some questions to consider:

- What letter did you learn about today?
- What do you like to play during centers?
- What song did you sing today?
- What new friend did you meet?

We are looking forward to an amazing and fun-filled school year! It is truly amazing how much our little Orange Room friends grow throughout the year! We can't wait to be a part of it all!

Pre-Kindergarten MWF- Green Room

Miss Libby & Miss Jess

Libbyway4@hotmail.com

Welcome to the beginning of an exciting year of Pre-Kindergarten! This first month of school, we will be focusing on getting to know each other and becoming familiar with the classroom routines. Our learning center time will include many fun games, songs, and activities to help everyone become familiar with the Green room and all our new friends! We will also be learning about the ocean, including the different layers and many animals, and diving right into the alphabet letters and sounds, beginning with the letter Aa! We should be able to have our large muscle time on the playground outdoors this month, and will have Chapel time with Miss Shannon. Don't forget to look for the first Friday Green Folder, including a "Peek into our Week" form! After looking it over with your child, please remember to return the folder, with the pages still in the prongs, on Mondays! We will use the Remind app to send information and announcements, so if you haven't already, be sure to get the invite code and join! You can also use this App to ask any questions, as your message will go directly to Miss Libby.

And lastly, join the class Facebook page to see your little one in action during our days together!

We are so excited for this year and can't wait to watch your children grow and learn together!

Pre-Kindergarten TTHF- Yellow Room

Miss Kate & Miss Tina

misskate.lhp@gmail.com

Hello and welcome to the Yellow Room! Miss Tina and I are so excited to begin this school year! Preschool is such a fun and magical place. It is truly amazing to see how much your child will learn and grow this year, and we are so grateful to be a part of it! There are so many great activities planned for this year. We are going to start off getting to know each other and figuring out our class rules, through some fun learning activities. We will

work on spelling first names and discussing why they are unique. Additionally, we will also do some creative "all about me" projects using our math skills!

Each month we will focus on a few letters and numbers, a shape and a color. This month we will focus on letters A, B, C and numbers 1, 2, 3. Our shape is the Circle and our color is Yellow.

It is our mission to create a warm and positive learning environment for your child. We hope this is an inviting place to be with friends, hear fantastic stories, explore artistic abilities, and come home every day with excitement in their voices. We can't wait to get started!

Transitional Kindergarten (Half Day)-Purple Room

Miss Alicia & Miss Stacey

aliciasobieski27@gmail.com

Welcome to the Purple Room! We have so many fun and exciting activities planned, and we cannot wait to get back in the swing of things. We will use the month of September to get to know our classmates through activities that are designed so that we can learn about each other's interests. Miss Stacey and I will also be participating in most of these activities so the children can become more comfortable and familiar with us. Our first theme of the school year is "All About Me". This will help me plan for the upcoming months by observing what their likes and dislikes are. We will also use this month to review our letters, numbers, colors and shapes. I'm sure most of the children are familiar with these, however its always good for a review after a long summer vacation. This will also give us the opportunity to see where each student is at academically and where some strengths and weaknesses may lie.

Miss Stacey and I are ready to meet all your wonderful children and begin this amazing school year! Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you for joining our Purple Room family!

Transitional Kindergarten (Full Day)- Blue Room

Miss Jessica & Miss Renee

jfulmer0805@gmail.com

Welcome to the Blue Room!! Miss Renee and I are so excited to have you in our classroom this year! Our classroom is packed full with lots of amazing things to learn, new friends to meet, and fun games to play. We will be learning all about numbers, shapes, colors and our letters as well as making lots of fun crafts!! We also have lots of fun and exciting science experiments to do.

For our first month of school, we are going to be working on our classroom routine, which will include songs that will be incorporated into our daily schedule throughout the school year. We will learn about our classroom rules and jobs.

Our themes to kick off our school year will be back to school, all about me and apples. With these themes come lots of fun activities such as our all about me bags to learn all about our friends and their families and trying different kinds of apples and meeting all our new friends on our first day of school. Miss Renee and I look forward to an amazing school year with all out new friends in the blue room and all our fun activities we have planned.

Enrichment Class

Miss Terri (MW) & Miss Libby (TTH)

tneffleton316@gmail.com

libbyway4@hotmail.com

Enrichment will begin on Monday, October 2!! Don't forget to check out the sign up sheet at the Information Station, outside of the preschool office, to sign your child up for October's Enrichment Program!! Miss Terri and Miss Libby are excited to spend the days with your child! If you would like to sign your child up for the entire year, you can do so by enrolling in AFT (or paying for Enrichment in full for the school year. To pay in full, the cost would be \$540 for 2 days and \$1020 for 4 days). Otherwise, the sign up sheet will be put out on the 1st of the preceding month. Classes are limited to 14 students. Our enrichment program is a class that combines children from the Yellow, Green or Purple Rooms. It extends your child's day from 2.5 hours to a 4 hour day (Monday-Thursday. No enrichment on Fridays). The children will bring their lunches and do additional kindergarten prep activities. It is also a great way to help them transition to the longer day that Kindergarten is going to bring!!