



A Great Start Preschool November 2023 ~ Newsletter



Important Dates to Remember:

(F) November 10th (6:30pm) Preschool Prom FUNdraiser (RSVP by Nov 1st)

(M) Nov 6: Kindergarten Parent-Teacher Conferences (No Kindergarten- all other classes meet as scheduled)

(T) Nov 7: Kindergarten Staff Inservice Day (No Kindergarten- All other classes meet as scheduled)

(F) Nov 10: Tuition Due

(F) Nov 17: Book Orders Due (last order before the holidays!)

November 20-24 AGSP CLOSED for Thanksgiving Break

(F) December 1 (6:00-9:00pm) Late Night Date Night (RSVP by Nov 17)

Mark Your Calendar:

December 14 (Thurs)- (Times TBD)

Winter Program Recital for Tues/Thurs
Little Learners & Tues/Thurs Smart Start Classes

Dec 19 & 20 (Tues/Wed) Classroom Winter Parties

Dec 21 – January 3 AGSP CLOSED (Winter Break)

**Other special events already scheduled for the school year are available on our website

<http://www.agreatstartpreschool.com/calendar/>

Fall Skills Overview:

Fall Skills Overviews (our version of a “fall progress report”) were sent home at the end of October to all preschool students (not Kindergarten) This is a brief overview of some of the skills our teachers have observed so far this school year. The list is not all inclusive, but focuses on a few skills in each area of development. On this form, there is also an opportunity for the teacher or family to request a conference. If you would like to request a conference, or if the teacher has requested a conference, please return the bottom part of the form by November 8th.

Need to drop your preschooler off a little early for morning classes or pick up a little late from afternoon classes? Ask about our Early Care (8:15-8:45) and After Care (2:45-3:15). We also still have openings in a few of our Extra Curricular Classes: Spanish, Dance, Creative Development, Spiritual Nurture, and Music Jamboree/Kids Beats still have openings if you are interested in joining!

Arrival and Dismissal: Teachers will open doors 5 minutes prior to the scheduled class start time (8:40/12:10- this is also when we start curbside arrival). If you arrive early, please take your child to the restroom. This helps to make your child comfortable with our potties, and also avoids class interruptions for the first few minutes of our day. Classes will be dismissed promptly at 11:15/2:45 (3:15 Kindergarten/After Care). When you arrive for dismissal, please line up along the colored tape designated for your child’s class, and stand against the wall. This helps reduce traffic congestion in the hallways. Although there is only one way in (Door 10), there are several exits you can use (Door 9 and Door 8 are at opposite ends of the playground and may be easier for those in the back hallway to exit).

Curbside Services: We will continue to offer optional Curbside drop off/pick up service for those who have difficulty bringing their student in/out of the building (such as handicap or disability, multiple young children in the car, immunocompromised, etc). This service will be at the back of the building, door 6. You will need to park and walk the child to/from the sidewalk where our staff will be waiting. If you know in advance that curbside will be needed, please let us know so we are prepared. Please do not park in the fire lanes.

Communication: We strive to maintain efficient communication with all of our families, from the office and from the classroom. We encourage you to email the office or speak with your child’s teacher at dismissal if you have any questions at any time! Each class also has a class Facebook page, so make sure to join that if you haven’t already! I will continue to send emails weekly or bi-weekly to all enrolled families. If others would like to be added to our email distribution list (parents, grandparents, babysitters, etc), please let me know. Also, if you haven’t been receiving my emails recently, please let me know so I can update my distribution list. Don’t forget to read the Monthly Activity Calendar to see some of the awesome things we have planned for your child’s class each month.

Reminders:

* If your child will be absent or significantly late, please let us know by calling 312-1621 or email christina@agreatstartpreschool.com
* To reach your child’s teacher by email, please email the office at christina@agreatstartpreschool.com with your teacher’s name in the memo.
* Please check the main compartment of your child’s backpack daily for notes from the office or teacher, artwork, etc.
*Have something to send into the preschool? You can put it in the drop box to the right of the preschool office, or the drop box outside door 10 above the keypad, or send it in the main compartment of your child’s backpack, which our Aides will check daily. There is also a basket for paperwork on my desk.
*We will continue to follow the Covid Protocols put in place last school year, per Montgomery County recommendations. For our policy, visit <http://www.agreatstartpreschool.com/forms> If your child is exposed to covid or tests positive or develops covid symptoms, please contact us to discuss your child’s safe return to class. In most cases, the child will miss 5 days of school, but be able to return on day 6 with a mask for 5 more days, so long as there are no symptoms. If someone in your household tests positive for covid, please contact us to determine your child’s best course of action. We will continue the Daily cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting by our staff, nightly professional cleaning service, monthly Germ Stop treatments, air purifiers in each classroom, and strict adherence to our illness policy. Thank you for keeping your sick students at home, to prevent the spread of germs and illness, Covid or otherwise.

*Key- MW = Mon/Wed F= Fri
MWF= Mon/Wed/Fri TR= Tues/Thurs

If you have any comments, questions, or concerns at any time, please speak directly to me or to your child’s teacher.

Happy Thanksgiving!

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