



A Great Start Preschool September 2023 ~ Newsletter



Important Dates to Remember:

September 5 (Tues) "First Day Orientation" for TR Classes
September 6 (Wed) "First Day Orientation" for all MWF Classes: MW Little Learners, F Little Learners, 5 day Preschool Plus, ALL KinderStart (2, 3, and 5 day KinderStart) sessions, and all Kindergarten
September 7 (Thurs) First "Drop and Go" day for Tues/Thurs sessions and 5 day classes (8:45-11:15 and 12:15-2:45 for preschool classes and 12:15-3:15 for kindergarten)
September 8 (Fri) First "Drop and Go" day for Mon/Wed/Fri sessions and Fri only Little Learners (8:45-11:15 and 12:15-2:45)
September 11th (Mon) First "Drop and Go" day for Mon/Wed only Little Learners (8:45-11:15 and 12:15-2:45)
September 11th (Mon) Tuition Payment Due
September 11th (Mon) Lump Sum Payments Due
September 15th (Fri) Book Orders Due
September 17th (4-6pm) Back to School Cookout (RSVP By Sept 10)
September 26th (Tues) 6:30pm: Parent Group Meeting
September 30th: Spirit Wear Orders Due
[Agreatstartpreschool2023.spiritsale.com](http://www.agreatstartpreschool2023.spiritsale.com)

Mark Your Calendar:

*Fall Picture Days Oct 4-6th (more details to come)
 *Wednesday, October 11th 5:15pm Windmill Farms Outing (RSVP by Oct 4)
 **Other special events already scheduled for the school year are available on our website
<http://www.agreatstartpreschool.com/calendar/>

If you haven't turned in every required form for your child's file, it is important to do so asap so that your child's enrollment is not interrupted. If something is missing from their file, you will receive an email from me soon. Please complete any required paperwork and return to the preschool office on your child's next preschool day. Thank you for your prompt attention!

Thank you for choosing to enroll your child at AGSP this school year! We are pleased to have your family with us.

Parking Lot Safety: Did you notice the new speedbump located placed at the existing stop bar near the red fence bollard by the playground? This is just one extra measure the Church has put in place to help keep our families safe. Please refer to the Parking Lot Safety Policy and Map to see our parking lot policy, rules, and safe traffic flow/pattern. Also, please remember to not leave valuables in your car (including children!) and to lock your vehicles even if only coming into the building for a minute. Please be aware in the lot, drive slowly and alert, and always be looking for people crossing (and the Pastor's dog, Cody). Please hold your child's hand and watch for moving traffic at all times!

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. CURBSIDE SERVICES WILL BEGIN ON SEPTEMBER 11th.

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) for a small fee, starting September 18th.

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 will also have a class facebook page, so watch for a link to join the class page. I usually 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.

Our next **Parent Group Meeting** of the school year is September 26th at 6:30pm. Sign up in the front hallway or email me if you plan to attend. This is our version of a PTO and a great opportunity to meet a few other preschool parents who want to help behind the scenes! Participation is optional.

We are partnering with Easter Seals again this school year to conduct free developmental screenings for our preschoolers.

This is especially helpful for those who are in their first year of preschool, those students whose family may have concerns about their growth and development in a specific area (speech or fine motor skills, for example) and even for those who just want reassurance that their child is right on track. There are two steps in this process. 1) Complete the Permission to Screen form by September 25 and 2) Complete your child's pre-screening form online <https://www.asqonline.com/family/13865b>. A letter with more information will be sent home during the first week of school.

Show your AGSP Spirit! Again this year, our tshirt sales will be online! Place your order online. Updated design, new colors!. Tshirts, long sleeved tshirts, hoodies, and crew neck sweatshirts are available this year. Orders will be delivered to the school within a few weeks after the due date.

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Fundraisers: We hope you'll consider supporting some of our Fundraiser Programs this year. Refer to the Fundraiser Flyer for more details about how to support our school through Kroger Community Rewards, Box Tops for Education, Staples Recycle for Education, and Scholastic Books. We also look forward to Preschool Prom (November) and Art Show (April) this school year, as well as a couple of Restaurant Fundraisers! Some of these dates are already scheduled and posted to our online calendar!

Extra-Curricular Classes will begin the week of October 2nd. Paperwork will go home with each child soon. We will also offer Early Care (8:15-8:45) and After Care (2:45-3:10) starting September 18th for a small fee.

MONDAYS:

- * **Spanish with Katie Acosta** Ages 4 and up
- * **Soccer with Coach Lauren** (ages 3 and up)

TUESDAYS:

- * **Webby Dance** (*Ongoing Class for potty-trained kids 3 and up*)
<http://www.webbydancedayton.com>

WEDNESDAYS:

- * **Creative Development with Ms. Regina Educational Kinesiology/Brain Gyms** (*Ongoing Class*)
- * **Webby Gymnastics** (*Ongoing Class for potty-trained kids 3 & up*)

THURSDAYS:

- * **Soccer with Coach Lauren** (ages 3 and up)
- * **Creative Development with Ms. Regina Educational Kinesiology/Brain Gyms** (*Ongoing Class*) Try a free trial class!
- * **Spiritual Nurture** Ages 3 and up

FRIDAYS:

- * **Music Jamboree/Kids Beats Combo Class with Dorie Phillips** (begins October 27)
 - * **Ninja Fitness** (*Potty-trained kids 3 and up*)
<http://www.webbydancedayton.com>
- **We are looking to add another class on Tuesdays, if you know anyone who might be interested, please send them my way!*

Meet our Staff:

*Get to know our staff by checking out the hallway bulletin board displays and reading a brief bio on our website,
<http://www.agreatstartpreschool.com/our-staff/>*

- Ms. Keri-** KinderStart 5s Teacher (Room 103, M-F AM and all PM)
- Ms. Beth-** KinderStart Teacher and Floater (Room 106, MWF AM and TR PM)
- Ms. Sharon-** Kindergarten Teacher (Room 106, M-F PM)
- Ms. Erika-** Little Learners 2s Teacher (Room 107 M-F AM & PM)
- Ms. Tracey-** Smart Start 3s Teacher (Room 122 M-F AM & PM)
- Ms. Moriah-** Preschool Plus 4s Teacher (Room 124 MWF AM & M-F PM)
- Ms. Chris** Smart Start (Room 124 TR AM)
- Ms. Erica-** Smart Start 3s Teacher (Room 127 TR AM & PM)
- Ms. PJ-** Preschool Plus Teacher (MWF AM & PM, Room 127)
- Ms. Mandy** Preschool Plus 4s Teacher (Room 121, MWF AM & PM, TR AM & PM)
- Ms. Jenny-** Teacher's Aide (Mon-Fri AM & PM)
- Ms. Ginny-** Floater (Mon/Wed/Fri AM & PM)
- Ms. Peggy-** Floater (Tues/Thurs PM)
- * **We also have a great group of Subs:** Ms. Lauren B. (who plans to sub while on Maternity Leave, Ms. Amy (I'm sure retirement is soooo boring we will see her here a bunch!), Ms. Raeleen, Ms. Lauren M. (when she isn't busy coaching our new Soccer Class!) and Ms. Grace!

Snack Policy: The Preschool will continue to provide snack daily (included in tuition costs). If you would like to celebrate your child's birthday with a special treat to be sent home with classmates, please stop in the office or speak to your child's teacher. Some suggestions include: goody bags or individually wrapped treats which can be sent home.

Facebook: Throughout the school year, I will communicate fun school happenings and post pictures of our school in action on A Great Start Preschool's Facebook page. Make sure to "Like" and Follow our page! <http://www.facebook.com/pages/A-Great-Start-Preschool-Inc/97685210068> Each class will also have a class Facebook Group that we hope you can join. This is one way to help our teachers stay connected with you, and to connect with other families in your child's class throughout the year.

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.

We currently have limited openings for 3's, 4's and 5's. If you know anyone interested in enrolling for in-person classes, please send them our way! If they list your name on the registration form as referral, you will receive one \$10 tuition discount! Refer multiple new families for multiple discounts!

We are looking forward to a GREAT school year!

Christina Miller ~ 937-312-1621
christina@agreatstartpreschool.com