



Small Talk

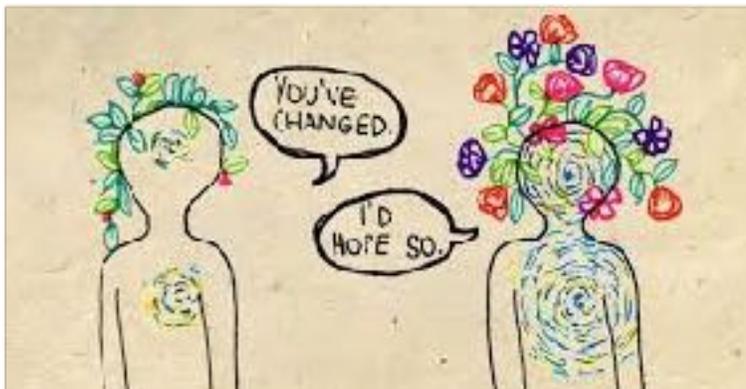
Volume 15, Issue 6

REGISTER

This year's registration form looks different because we are evolving to meet the ever changing needs of our community. We have been busting at the seams with long waiting lists for infants and toddlers while being under capacity in our Pre-K rooms. As a result, next year we will have only one Pre-K room in the White Room. Here are our new age groupings:

- Infants- less than 1 year old
- Younger Toddlers - 1 year olds
- Older Toddlers - ages 2-3 years
- Pre-Kindergarten - ages 4-5 years

In addition to the new age groupings, we also now offer a 12-month enrollment option for families who require consistent child care coverage year round. The 12 month period runs from May 29, 2018 to May 23, 2019. The purpose of this option is to streamline paperwork and guarantee enrollment for our year-round families. If you opt for the 9 month enrollment, you will still be able to register on a monthly basis for June, July, August, and Summer Camps just like in previous years. Keep in mind that the 12 month folks will have guaranteed summer spots and everyone else is then registered on a first come, first serve basis so you are strongly encouraged to fill out registration paperwork as soon as registration opens.



Thank you for continuing to partner with us as we grow and change!

Director's Corner

It's hard to believe that our school year is half over but wonderful to remember how much we have seen the children grow and change so far this year. It is great to see their enthusiasm for school. Thank you for sharing them with us each day.

I'm happy to report that we had a fabulous response to our pre-registration for next fall.

Several of the classes are full and we're scheduling tours daily to fill the few remaining openings. Thank you for all of your positive comments to your friends and neighbors – you are our best advertising!



What does it mean to be kindergarten ready?

No single factor determines whether a child is ready to start school. Kindergarten today is much different than the kindergarten we attended as children (if we even attended it - some schools just started right at first grade). While reminiscing on our first year of school may bring back memories of cut-and-paste and show-and-tell, today's kids will look back on their own first year and think of a much more intellectually challenging environment. Kindergarten was originally designed to help kids smoothly make the transition from being at home all day to attending school. These days, the vast majority of children have spent substantial amounts of time at preschools and day care centers before ever entering school, which means they already have experience in working and playing with other children. Therefore, the kindergarten experience has been rethought and revamped by public school systems. Now there's a bigger focus on academics and cognitive learning. Children are working with computers and learning programs. They have required reading and homework. And they're more likely to attend a full day, up to seven hours, rather than the half-day programs so common a few years ago. How can you tell if your child is ready?

Experts say a child's development needs to be evaluated on several fronts. His ability to think logically, speak clearly, and interact well with other children and adults are all critically important to success in school. A child's physical development also needs to be considered. In reality, very few children are equally competent in all these areas. Many children who are advanced mentally may lag behind emotionally, while children who are extremely adept physically may be slower in terms of language development.

While many people assume that if a child meets the age requirement, they are ready for kindergarten, the real test of kindergarten readiness isn't in chronological age. Most experts agree that a child's level of development (developmental age) is a much stronger indicator of kindergarten and later school success rather than his chronological age. While the chronological age requirement for kindergarten is 5, the skills being expected of kindergarten students are more appropriate for a child who is developmentally 5 1/2 to 6 years of age.

February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5 PRE-K VISION SCREENINGS	6 PARENT COMMITTEE MTG 7PM	7 PARENT COMMITTEE MTG 9:45AM	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 SCHOOL CLOSED	20 MARCO'S PIZZA FUNDRAISER	21 LITERACY DAY	22 VISIT FROM THE TOOTH FAIRY	23	24
25	26	27	28			



February Birthdays

Luna Mae D. and Elena K. 2/2

Emma M. 2/3

Lina R. 2/7

Bexley W. 2/78

Declan N. 2/11

Jack K. 2/15

Ms. Sarah 2/16

Elissa R. 2/20

Aubrie M. 2/22



GREEN ROOM

Welcome to the Green Room where Ms. Kim and I have the pleasure of teaching the eighteen month olds to the young two year olds, which means they are ready to explore the world and test their limits. They are just starting to learn how to control their actions, impulses, and feelings. We always try to reinforce the good behavior and give them examples of how they are doing well. Sharing is a hard concept at this age but we are all improving.





Green Room, continued...

They have all become accustomed to our routine. When we turn on the clean up song they know it is time to clean up and we have some friends who immediately start cleaning and some that need some help and redirection.

At the start of circle time they all start clapping and in some way participate in the song. Some friends even know and sing all the words. They know at snack time we wait for all of our friends to wash our hands and then we sing our "Dear God" song before we eat. During snack time we will talk about the different foods that we each have. This started as a way to learn each other's name. I would say "who has

blueberries?" and they would answer by calling out their friends name. We now use this time to review our shapes. I will ask who is eating circles or squares and they eagerly answer. We could use some more triangle shaped snacks. Our mode of transportation is a colorful rope that we call our train. Not only does it help us go up

and down the halls but is good for color recognition and review.

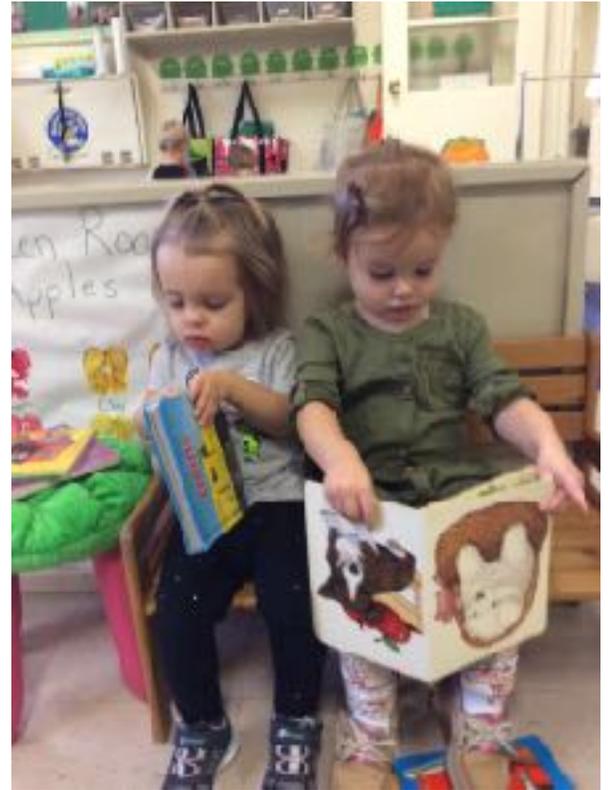


Green Room, continued...



In the classroom we have different centers set up to help the children use their imagination in different forms of play. There are different themes each week and we use those themes throughout

the day in our play, art projects, and circle time. Usually by the end of the week each child can tell you something about what we have learned that week. They love exploring in the sensory table and can't wait to see what we have for them inside. So far I believe water play and snow has been the favorites. Doing art projects are also popular and they can't wait for their name to be called to come to the table. They love to see their projects hanging in the window or down the hallways for all to enjoy. It's hard to believe that the year is halfway over. All the children have not only grown physically but amaze us every day with their new skills and expanding vocabulary. They are a sweet and energetic group that loves learning and playing with their friends. We look forward to watching them learn new skills and continuing our fun adventures.







Our Preschool and Child's Morning Out Programs are designed by our Preschool Committee to meet the unique needs of our parents and children. We offer a caring and positive atmosphere where the children can play and learn. In the preschool classes, we bridge the gap from home to school and we guide children to a continued good self-image while building social and academic skills in a school setting.

Our mission at Huguenot UMC Preschool is to prepare your child for a lifetime of successful learning. Our developmentally appropriate program supports your child's growth in a safe, nurturing, family-oriented environment.

Preschool Director: Debbi Mintz

Church Pastor: Rev. Gay Hall

10661 Duryea Dr.

Richmond, VA 23235

Phone: 804-272-1704

Email: office@humcpreschool.com

<http://www.humcpreschool.com>