



Where learning
and fun become one.

Small Talk

Volume 15, Issue 2

Director's Corner

Welcome to preschool or, for returning families, welcome back! It is always so exciting to get back to school and begin learning faces and personalities to go with the names that I have been organizing over the summer. I anticipate that the transition to a new school year will go very smoothly as the teachers have spent weeks organizing their classrooms and preparing lesson plans. Although we'll probably have a few tears, before we know it the children will be playing and enjoying their class and classmates.

As you probably know, we are continuing with our electronic communication this year, You should have gotten an email about activating your account with Life Cubby. Please let me know if you need any assistance with using this system, because we hope you will take advantage of all the information the teacher's post about your child and their classroom.

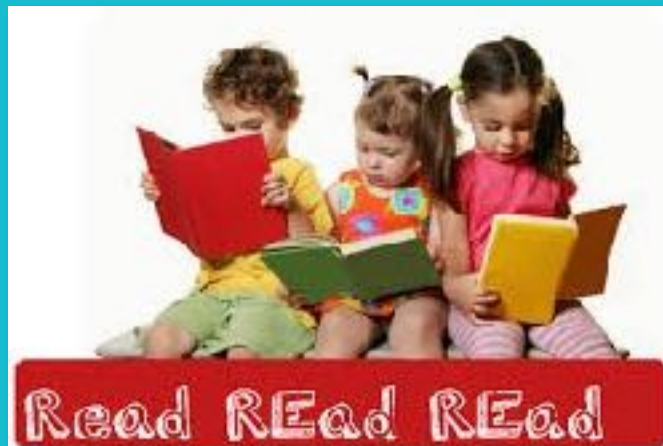
You will continue to receive an electronic copy of this newsletter monthly, though please note, the format has been altered so as not to duplicate the information you will be receiving from the teachers through Life Cubby.

Please know that my door/phone/inbox is always open to questions or concerns, so don't hesitate to contact me for any reason.

- Debbi Mintz

BOOKS ABOUT STARTING SCHOOL

The Kissing Hand by Audrey Penn
 David Goes to School by David Shannon
 Will I Have a Friend? by Miriam Cohen
 First Day of School by Anne Rockwell
 When I Miss You by Cornelia Maude Spelman
 Take a Kiss to School by Angela McAllister
 It's Time for Preschool by Esme Raj Codell
 A Pocketful of Kisses by Audrey Penn



Shoe Guide

Think Safety!

Please send your child to school in safe, secure shoes. Crocs, flip flops, sandals, and boots are not compatible with safe, active play. Rain boots are acceptable as long as an extra pair of shoes is sent in your child's bag.

School shoes should:

- Fit snugly and securely
- Have a covered heel
- Have covered toes
- Allow the foot and ankle to flex naturally



Tote Bag Order Form

We are happy to offer school tote bags for sale while supplies last. You can order them with your August, September or October tuition payment and the attached order form. We request that the children use a tote bag versus a backpack to carry their snack, etc. as it is easier for the teachers to load notes and art projects.

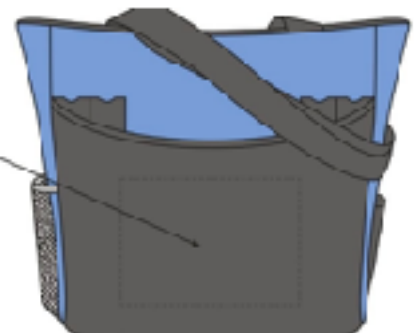
Size: 17x14x5 with a zip top and front and side pockets

Cost: **\$9.00** without personalization/**\$19.00** with personalized embroidery

Name: _____ Amount Enclosed: _____

of bags: _____

Personalization: _____
(will be printed EXACTLY as written)



Goodbye Without Tears

*excerpts from an article by Ronnie Koenig on
Parents.com*

The start of preschool is a milestone that's often anticipated with great excitement and joy, but also with lots of crying, uncertainty, and heel digging -- from both kids and parents!



Be Consistent

- Keep the child's schedule simple and predictable.
- Never sneak away. Instead establish a quick goodbye ritual: a high five, secret handshake
- Make your goodbyes short and sweet. Prolonging it makes the child's anxiety worse.
- At pick-up, reinforce the idea that you came back, just like you promised you would.

Get The Teacher Involved

- Building new relationships takes time. Your child's teacher is warm and caring. With time, your child will learn that he can trust her.
- Let the teacher know of any techniques the family uses to calm the child when he is upset.
- Ask your teacher if photos of family members or comfort objects would be helpful during this transition period.

Avoid Comparing Your Child (or yourself) to Others

- All children transition to school in their own way and in their own time. The process can take several weeks or several months. It's all normal!
- A child's ability to transition is no reflection on your parenting skills.

When YOU Are the One With Separation Anxiety

- Resist the urge to go back and check on your child. If you need a reassuring text from the teacher about how your child is doing, please ask.
- Trust that your child is being well cared for.
- Be calm and positive at drop off. Kids pick up on your mood.
- Remember that starting preschool is a positive step for both you and your child.



September 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Last day of summer program	2
3	4 Labor Day School Closed	5 Staff Workday School Closed	6 Staff Workday School Closed	7 Staff Workday School Closed Parent Night 7pm	8 Open House 10am-noon	9
10	11 First Day of School	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23 Back-to-School Picnic 5-7pm
24	25	26 PM Parent Committee 7-8pm @ school	27 AM Parent Committee 10-11am Bon Air Library	28	29	30



Congratulations to the Dodge Family
on the birth of a beautiful baby boy.
Welcome, Baby Oliver!

Congratulations to the Hardy Family
on the birth of a beautiful baby girl, who decided to
come so fast that Mom and Dad ended up delivering
her all on their own at home, all 11lbs, 6oz. of her!
Welcome, Baby Bryce!

Congratulations to the Nolan Family
on the birth of a beautiful baby girl.
Welcome, Baby Aubrey!



Adrian Szczotka - September 3

Charlie Fisher - September 5

Ms. Abby - September 10

Piper Wilmer - September 13

Lincoln Dodge - September 28



**When you come to Parent Night on Thursday, September 7,
say “hello” to your child’s teachers.**

MORNING CHILDCARE TEACHERS (8:00AM–9:30AM)

- *Infant Room:* Ms. Rebecca
- *Rainbow Room:* Ms. Kelly & Ms. Robin
- *Music Room:* Ms. Manisha, Ms. Angela, & Ms. Penny

CORE TEACHERS (9:30AM–12:30PM)

- *Infant Room:* Ms. Rebecca & Ms. Kim Hippchen
- *Rainbow Room:* Ms. Kelly & Ms. Fran
- *Green Room:* Ms. Angela & Ms. Kim Willis
- *Blue Room:* Ms. Robin & Ms. Manisha
- *Red Room:* Ms. Jennifer Dotson & Ms. Sarah Hammond
- *Yellow Room:* Ms. Kim Whaley & Ms. Sarah Baird
- *White Room:* Ms. Carrie-Lynn & Ms. Penny
- *Music & Movement:* Ms. Ashley
- *Floater:* Ms. Christina

AFTERNOON CHILDCARE TEACHERS (12:30PM–5:30PM)

- *Infant Room:* Ms. Christina & Ms. Abby
- *Rainbow Room:* Ms. Pamela, Ms. Robin, Ms. Rebecca & Ms. Kim Willis
- *Blue Room:* Ms. Kelly, Ms. Angela, Ms. Manisha, Ms. Ashley & Ms. Kim Willis
- *White Room:* Ms. Penny, Ms. Jennifer Montano & Ms. Fran

Parent Night is on Thursday, September 7 at 7:00pm.



Learning through Everyday Activities

PBS KIDS and the READY TO LEARN INITIATIVE

Explore the wonder of learning with your children anytime, anywhere! As your children head back to school, do these simple everyday activities together to reinforce their learning.



At mealtimes

Have fun with food words while you eat. For example, if you serve potatoes, chicken, and peas for dinner, talk about which of the foods begin with the same /p/ sound. Look for other items on the table that begin with /p/ sounds, like *plate* or *pepper*. You can also take turns coming up with words that rhyme with something you or your child is eating. For example, *cheese* rhymes with *peas*.

In the kitchen

Create new recipes or follow favorite ones with your child. Count ingredients together. You can count the number of apples for a pie or the number of carrots to add to a stew. Show your child the recipe so he can see what a written recipe looks like.

At the grocery store

Look for letters everywhere—on food labels, signs in the store, and magazines on the racks at checkout. Give your

child a packaged food item, like a box of cereal. Point out different letters (start with the first letter in your child's name) on the food item and ask your child to find more of those letters on other foods in the store.

On a walk around the neighborhood

Hunt for shapes with your child by looking for them in your community. You can find rectangles in buildings (windows and bricks), circles in cars (wheels), and triangles in signs (yield signs). Take pictures and create a shape book at home.

At the playground

Build your child's position vocabulary by talking with her about what she's doing—going *up* and *down* a slide, crawling *across* a bridge, standing *under* a tree, or sitting *on* a bench. **TYC**

This message is meant to be cut out, photocopied, and sent home with children as a resource for parents! It is also available online at NAEYC.org/tyc.

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*Did you know that Huguenot United Methodist Church is home to a community theater group?
Below is the flyer for their upcoming production.*

River City Community Players

Formerly Huguenot Community Players

PRESENT A COMEDY



8:00 pm on 29 & 30 Sep AND 6, 7, 13 & 14 Oct.

2:30 pm on 8 & 15 Oct.

All Tickets \$12.00.

Call 804.554.0595

Or go to

rivercitycommunityplayers.com



Back-to-School Family Picnic

Date: Saturday 9/23/17

Time: 5:00pm - 7:00pm

Location: HUMC Preschool

Join us for food, fun, and fellowship. The playground and Bounce House will be available for the children. Check your email for a Signup Genius link to bring a dish.



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.

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Church Pastor: Rev. Gay Hall

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