

August 15, 2019

Dear Westminster Nature Preschool Families-

We hope you had a wonderful summer with many opportunities to play outdoors. We cannot wait to see your children, and hear about their summers. Our first day of school this year will be **Monday, September 9th**. School starts at 9:15, not 9:00. Please be mindful that the teachers are setting up the classrooms and discussing the days events before the children arrive in the morning. Hourly care is available before and after school with advance notice.

We will have (optional) visiting days on Thursday, September 5th and Friday, September 6th from 10:00 to 11:00. This is a time for your child to meet the teachers, and spend a little time getting familiar with the classroom with you present.

The visitation schedule is:

Thursday: M-W 3s, and 4s whose last name begins with A-L

Friday: T, Th 3s, 2 1/2s, 4s whose last name begins with M-Z, and Kindergarten

If the day you are assigned does not work for you, you can come the other day. And if you cannot make it at all, just let us know, but don't worry about it.

Our **Back to School Night** will be held on Monday October 7th at 6:30PM. It is very important that you attend this meeting. Prior to that we will be distributing emergency forms, medical forms and other paperwork that we need back asap.

Enclosed you will find an index card. This is for emergency phone numbers. Write your child's name on the top line and then write the names and numbers of your emergency contacts in the order in which we should call them starting with your name and number if you are the first person we should call. Also list any allergies or other medical information we should have in case of an emergency. Please hand this in on the first day of school!

As always, hourly childcare will be available before and after school. **Please let us know as soon as possible if you will be needing hourly childcare on a regular basis.**

Each child will bring his/her own snack. Please send in a healthful snack, and don't send in too many items. Lots of choices often overwhelms the children, and they end up eating very little. We do have a refrigerator and microwave if necessary. If your

child is staying for lunch please send the lunch and snack in a **separate labeled** containers. **We are a nut free school.** (Peanut butter is not allowed, seed butter is fine.)

Please send in a labeled water bottle especially during these beginning weeks of school when it can be quite warm.

Please let us know if your child has any allergies!

We do celebrate birthdays at the school. Please just let your child's teacher when you would like to bring in special treat. The teacher will make sure that any child with an allergy has a special snack for that day as well.

We need all of your child's medical records by the first day of school. This includes the Universal Health Care Form as well as the immunization record. Please note that it is mandatory for your child to get this year's flu vaccine by December 13th. Please let us know if your child has any allergies, and fill out an allergy action plan form. We cannot let your child attend school if we do not have the medical records.

At this point you should have paid one tuition payment, the second payment is due on September 1st and on the first of each month going forward. Please let us know if you need an extension; late payments (after the 15th of the month) without prior agreement will incur a \$15 fine.

Our first trip of the year will be held on Wednesday October 2nd. We will meet at Eastmont Orchards in Colts Neck at 9:30 AM. (Details to follow) This is a schoolwide event, all classes are invited to attend, and please feel free to bring siblings and extended family. It is a fun morning to pick apples and get to know the other families.

A few reminders:

1. We get messy; please dress your child appropriately. Also we hike every day so please have your child wear sneakers. Sandals and flip flops are not suitable for the outdoors.
2. Please **label all** of your child's belongings! This is very important.
3. If possible, leave a pair of rainboots at school. Make sure to label them with your child's name!

4. Please bring a change of clothes for your child that we can keep at school. Please label all the items and place them in a bag with your child's name on them. Don't forget socks!
5. If your child is still in diapers or pull ups, please leave extras at school with a box of wipes. And don't forget to label them!
6. Please put sunscreen on your child in the morning if the weather requires it. Please feel free to leave extra sunscreen and insect repellent here for the teachers to use for your child. Please check your child for ticks every day.
7. Donations of paper towels, tissues and wipes are always welcome!

We would like your child to bring a photo of his/her family to school the first week. We will be making a poster with the photos. If your child needs to bring a toy, blanket, or stuffed animal to school for the first few weeks to help with the transition that is perfectly fine, but after that we ask that toys be left at home except for special occasions.

If you have any questions please feel free to call us at 732 671-9011 or e-mail us at wmpreschool@gmail.com . We have a lot of fun activities planned, and we look forward to seeing you and your children soon!

Stacy McGann and Jil Persons