

September 2018



*"While we try to teach our children all about life, our children teach us what life is all about." - Angela Schwindt*

Welcome to Asbury Preschool! We are excited to beginning our 32nd year with wonderful children, fantastic parents and the best teachers in the business! For those who are returning, and new families too of course, we will continue to provide the highest quality early childhood education for your child in a loving Christian environment. We appreciate all your support in helping us attain this desire for excellence.

Our Preschool entrances are secure while your children are at school. Doors will be open for drop off and pick up. There is a door bell located near the preschool office. If you need to pick up early or arrive late, please ring the bell by the preschool office entrance and we will let you in. The exterior doors in the lobby area adjacent to our sanctuary will remain open throughout the day. Early Birds should enter through the main church lobby doors.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Please call whenever your child is absent or you are planning a vacation. This is helpful for teachers especially when there are field trips or special activities involved. The number is **919-846-4773**. Be sure that all caregivers, family members, etc. have our number too. If you move, change jobs, or phone numbers, please let us know as soon as possible so that we can update your child's emergency information. Cell phone numbers are very helpful if you have one.

Please remember that you are responsible for keeping yourself informed about what goes on in your child's class, dates that are mentioned in the Newsletter, Parent Handbook, and other announcements and classroom notices. Our website is [www.asburyraleigh.org/preschool](http://www.asburyraleigh.org/preschool). The large hallway bulletin boards will contain your snack menus as well as other school and community news.

If you are looking for a church home, please visit Asbury. A 9:30 contemporary and 11:00 a.m. traditional and contemporary services are offered each Sunday as well as a wonderful children's programming. Nursery care is also available at both services.

Teachers are ready to receive children at 9:15. The staff gather at 9 a.m. to have a morning prayer time and then will proceed to their classrooms. You need to make sure your child's hands are washed upon entering the classroom. For classrooms without sinks, there are bathrooms located at the end of the hallway or adjacent to the main entrance to the church. *Hand washing is a health department regulation* and we are required to follow this procedure. We will also be washing hands several times throughout the day.

Goodbyes during the first few weeks of school may be unpredictable. You can help your child by saying a loving but casual "Goodbye - see you later" at the door and leave. **Do not use your cell phone while dropping off or picking up your child.** Your child wants and needs your full attention and supervision. Also, when parents linger in the class, the day cannot begin as it should. This is not an appropriate time for parents to visit together or chat with teachers. Teachers need to be greeting children and getting the morning started for them, helping make the transition from home to preschool. If your teacher needs information, such as Sally did not sleep well last night, or our Grandmother is ill and Tommy is concerned about her, please WRITE A NOTE to hand to the teacher. Our policy is to avoid talking about a child in the presence of the child or other adults. Thanks for helping. I hope you understand that this comes from wanting the best for your child and his or her days at preschool. It will also help your child adjust quickly to the new routine of coming to preschool.

Your child needs to be dressed in play clothes and tennis shoes. They will paint, play in the sand, spill their drink, and do all sorts of things that are hard on dress clothes. As for the shoes; sandals, Crocs, and dress shoes, even "old" dress shoes, are unsafe on the playground and not made for play. Tennis shoes are best for active play. We will get messy as we learn about the world around us.

We do not refrigerate lunch boxes. Lunch boxes must be insulated and an ice pack must be included. Only food items that do not require refrigeration can be brought in uninsulated lunchboxes without ice packs. All hazardous foods not properly packed cannot be served to your child. Children must have either milk or plain water (not flavored, sparkling, etc.) and a protein for their lunches. These are licensing and sanitation rules by the state of North Carolina

Health Dept. and the Division of Child Development and Early Education. We cannot serve food that is stored in a dirty or moldy lunch box. Daily cleaning after each use will keep the box safe and sanitary for your child.

Bring your child's tote bag every day and be sure that a change of clothing is in a labeled ziploc bag. Children who are still in diapers should include labeled diapers too.

## **REMEMBER! LABEL EVERYTHING!**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

\* We continue to save General Mills box tops for education. Parents and relatives and friends far and wide have done a great job in the past, and I know this will be another banner label year. Look for future articles in upcoming Newsletters. Drop off your General Mills box tops in the big can in the office. All money raised goes to our Teel Padgett Scholarship fund. Each box top is worth ten cents. Our *Harris Teeter VIC* number is **5751**. Don't forget to link or relink your VIC card online at [www.harristeeter.com](http://www.harristeeter.com). Each card can be linked to up to 5 schools so you don't have to choose between your elementary school and preschool. You can also link at the checkout.

\* Please adhere to seatbelt regulations. The rule of thumb is if your child needs the shoulder restraint placed behind him because it doesn't fit properly, your child needs to be in a child restraint system. We will not be allowed to transport your child on field trips unless they have a safety seat. Children must be in a child restraint system until they are eight and 80 pounds. We do not want your children or parent volunteers in jeopardy.

\* Fours and Transitional K always need drivers for field trips. Teachers will have sign-up sheets for trips posted on their door well in advance of any trips taken as well as permission slips. Volunteer drivers and chaperones will be listed at the classroom door. All trips are announced in advance.

\* We love celebrating birthdays at school. Talk to your child's teacher if you'd like to bring a snack for your child's birthday. Please remember that licensing regulations require that we serve only healthy snacks. Your preschool handbook has lots of suggestions. Please check with your child's teacher to make sure there aren't any food allergies in the class. Teachers can also help if you are stumped for ideas. Please also keep in mind that all foods brought for the class need to have a list of ingredients as well. Store bought foods are recommended. *Please do not bring toys, goody bags, or balloons. They are not allowed.*

\* If you'd like to be on our substitute list, there is an orientation handout and a health questionnaire required. This is a paid position. Stop by the office to pick up substitute information.

### **MEET THE STAFF**

**Toddler TF: Susanne Martin, Lead Teacher and Mika Scarlett, Assistant.**

**Twos, TWF: Suzanne Bass, Lead Teacher and Maxine Della Fave, Assistant.**

**Twos, MTh: Suzanne Bass, Lead Teacher and Maxine Della Fave, Assistant.**

**Twos, MTh: Chris Reese, Lead Teacher and Courtney Smith, Assistant.**

**Threes, TWF: Alison Rhodes, Lead Teacher and Marty Fort, Assistant.**

**Threes Flex: Erin Gutebier-Salley, Lead Teacher and Katie Pleitez, Assistant.**

**Fours Flex: Jill Barnes, Lead Teacher, Emily Mallick, Assistant.**

**Fours Flex: Corene Allen, Lead Teacher, Renee Garcia and Sherri Mercer, Assistants**

**Fours, TWF: Monica DiPilato, Lead Teacher and Sherri Mercer, Assistant.**

**Transitional K, M-F: Carolyn Brownlow, Lead Teacher and Christi Melton, Assistant**

**Music Teacher: Susanne Martin.**

**Supply Manager: Alison Rhodes.**

**Business Manager: Becky Green.**

**Preschool Director: Stephanie Tarrats.**

**Pastor: Rev. Tom Newman.**

### ***SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS***

September plans for our classrooms reflect goals for getting accustomed to school routine, renewing acquaintances and making new friends, learning about living together in a group. We want children to realize right away that they are loved by all grownups at school. We hope that this helps them understand that God loves them. A unit might be entitled "Who lives at my house." Younger children will begin to identify colors by name; older children will review colors and explore new and exciting units. It's fun to have everyone wear red one day, even when you already know what "red" means.

Beginning in October, the Newsletter will feature class-by-class paragraphs to give you a brief overview of the month ahead. We will send all newsletters via email. You may subscribe/unsubscribe at any time. These will be available online at [www.asburyraleigh.org/preschool](http://www.asburyraleigh.org/preschool).

**PARENT-TEACHER OPEN HOUSE.** You won't want to miss this opportunity to learn more about Asbury Preschool, and what goes on in your child's classroom. You will meet parents of the children who share your child's preschool experience. Again, this is a time for adults only. Mark your calendars for Tuesday, September 17 from 7 to 8:30 P.M. Read your parent handbook for more about open house.

**A note regarding payments:** Your tuition check should be placed in the tuition box in the preschool office. **PLEASE** place your child's name and class in the memo blank on your checks. *Tuition is due on the first of each month and must be paid by the 7th to avoid a late payment fee.* If you have any questions, please see Valerie in the office or read the payment policy in your parent handbook. The annual supply fee (\$35 for two and three day students, and \$50 for four and five day students) is due with September tuition. Checks should be made out to Asbury Preschool.

**EARLY BIRDS:** Tuition for early birds may be included in your tuition check and is due by the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month. Drop off is in room 103 beginning at 8:15.

Playgrounds will be open to families after preschool each day. Adult supervision by sight and sound is required at all times. If safety issues arise due to lack of supervision, the playground will be closed to protect the children.

## **CALENDAR**

### **SEPTEMBER**

- 1: Preschool tuition plus annual supply fee due.
- 3: Labor Day. No Preschool.
- 4: Meet Your Teacher Day (for children and parents to visit their classroom and meet teachers)
- 5: First Regular Schedule Day of Preschool and Early Birds.
- 7: Last day to pay September tuition without a late fee.
- 11 or 13: 9:30 a.m. A brief, informal question/answer information session for new preschool parents.
- 17: Parent-Teacher Open House 7:00-8:30p.m.
- 19: No preschool. WCPSS workday.

**READ YOUR PARENT HANDBOOK FOR YEARLY CALENDAR AND SPECIAL DATES**  
or at [WWW.ASBURYRALEIGH.ORG/PRESCHOOL](http://WWW.ASBURYRALEIGH.ORG/PRESCHOOL) or our Facebook Page.

