

Concordia Preschool



August 19, 2022

Dear Parents,

Summer is flying by. In less than a month, we will be back in the classroom. Our staff is so excited to welcome your children! We have lots of plans to help your children learn and grow in a safe and healthy environment. Many of them are listed below, and others can be found in the Parent Handbook you will receive on Parent Night. As always, please contact me if you have any questions.

In the summer of 2020, Concordia church and preschool installed Reme Halo units in the AC ducts. These are Ultra Violet lights that clean and filter air and also send advanced oxidants through the room to kill microbials at the source. This technology works at the bulb and beyond to kill bacteria, mold and viruses in the air and on surfaces. We run the fan feature on our AC units year round so the air is constantly filtering through the system. This ensures that we breathe clean/purified air and will therefore stay healthier. In the areas of the building that don't have the central AC, we added air purifiers that also have excellent filtration systems. This continues to be a significant and vital investment in the health of all. The systems are serviced and checked every 3 months and filters are changed then as well.

In 2020, we also upgraded our security cameras at both door entrances and in hallways in the school building. We are in the process of adding cameras in the parking lot and at the playground. The cameras give school and church leaders the ability to see live feed and bring up recordings on our computers and phones. The cameras, along with our walkie-talkies, help to ensure the safety of our students and staff. Our doors are locked during school hours, and safety cones are used to limit vehicle traffic in our parking lot as well.

We have recently reviewed our cleaning protocols. We will continue to be vigilant with our sanitizing and disinfecting of toys, hard surfaces and touch points throughout our classrooms and school building. Frequent hand washing and sanitizing is always a priority as well.

Parent Night

This year, Parent Night will occur on Tuesday, Sept 6 at 7 pm. The event will last approximately 45 minutes. Please enter through the upstairs doors, and we will meet in the Sanctuary. I will begin the evening with some important information for the upcoming school year. You will also have the opportunity to visit the classroom and listen to a brief presentation from your child's teacher.

Classroom Visitation

Soon, your teacher will contact you with a day and time to bring your child to the classroom for a brief visit. She will also send you an invitation to join the private Facebook class group where we will share photos and other classroom specific news.

Drop off and Pick up Procedures

Our drop off in the morning will be a two car line system. We have found this helps us to start our day in a calm and timely manner. The upstairs classrooms will use the church entrance, and the downstairs classrooms will use the preschool entrance by the big rock. Your teacher will let you know which to use in her welcome email. We will begin the car line at 8:50 each morning. You should follow the car line and pull up to the entrance. You should get out of your car and get your child out of his/her car seat.

Give a brief hug/kiss and good bye. We will welcome him/her to school and give a dollop of hand sanitizer. Staff members will assist the children to the classrooms.

At pick up, you will park and walk into the building. Please park in the lower lot. The doors will be unlocked at 11:55. Everyone should enter in the downstairs door and walk to your child's classroom. The teacher will only dismiss your child to you or someone you have on your child information form. If you need to add or remove someone from your list, please provide this in writing or contact the preschool office. We are very excited to welcome parents back into the building!

Items to send in

Each child should have a change of clothes in a zip lock bag labeled with his/her name. Make sure to update the clothes with the seasons and as your child grows. If children are in diapers, we ask that you send in a supply and some wipes, so we can use your same products when changing at school. We will be going outside to learn and play daily. Please make sure to check the weather and dress your child appropriately.

We are asking that each family please contribute the following:

2 rolls of paper towels, 1 large tub of Clorox or Lysol disinfecting wipes, 1 bottle of Lysol spray, 1 large box of tissues and a bottle of hand sanitizer. We do a lot of cleaning/disinfecting and appreciate your help.

Covid Protocols

Masks are optional for our healthy students and staff. If your child does wear a mask, you should attach it to a break-a-way lanyard. This enables it to always stay with your child even when they remove it to eat or play outside.

Whether at home or a participating facility, covid tests are accessible and free. If your child, or anyone else in your home, is exhibiting any of the many covid signs/symptoms, please test before sending your child to school. Don't just assume the illness is a cold or allergies. Test to be sure!

While mandatory quarantine for close contacts has been lifted, you are still required to mask for 10 days after a confirmed or suspected exposure. The day you are exposed is day 0. Asymptomatic individuals should test on day 5 or more. You can test sooner if you develop symptoms. Attendance at school is dependent on a student's ability to reliably wear a well fitting mask.

A child who tests positive for Covid must isolate at home. Although the CDC allows isolation to end after day 5, our policy is that they stay home until after day 7 and return with a well fitting mask for the next 3 days if they are symptom free. The reason is that young children are not typically good mask wearers and do not tend to distance themselves from others. If your child is not mask compliant, please keep him/her home for the full 10 days. You should report any positive tests to the preschool office asap.

Again, we are getting excited and ready to welcome your child to Concordia Preschool. We have lots of great activities planned and protocols in place to help keep everyone safe and healthy. We ask for your patience as we continue to navigate this new normal. You should be receiving a welcome email from your child's teacher any day!

Yours in crayons and glue sticks,
Helen Spillan