

WINFREE PRESCHOOL NEWS

JANUARY 2010



Samantha Fleury examines a beetle

HAPPY NEW YEAR

All the faculty and staff of Winfree Preschool wish you a wonderful new year. We are glad to have your little ones back after our much needed Christmas holiday. The children and teachers will be looking forward to seeing some snow as we learn about how animals and people keep warm in the winter. It will be fun to watch the squirrels and birds come to our feeders on the playground. **The only school holiday in January, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, falls on the 18th.** Have a joyous new year!

INCLEMENT WEATHER DAYS

Winfree follows the inclement weather closings declared by Chesterfield County Public Schools. If Chesterfield County Schools are opening on a late schedule, Winfree will open at 9:15 (no early extended care). If public schools are closing early, we will phone parents of afternoon children and extended care children to arrange for early dismissal. One week of inclement weather days are built into the preschool calendar. If inclement weather days are used, we will follow the calendar changes of Chesterfield County Schools. Winfree Preschool will make up as many extra snow days as possible without continuing school in June.

JANUARY DATES

Jan. 4-15 **Re-Registration** forms and payments may be brought to the school office at any time during these weeks.

Jan. 5 **Mother's Video Series, "The Parent Adventure"** 10:00 AM, Chapel Building

Jan. 11 **Winter Parent Meeting**, Janice Nelivocke, 7 PM, Preschool Connection Fellowship Hall, **School Readiness**

Jan. 14, 15 **Animals in Winter, What's Underfoot?** A biology presentation for 3's, 4's and 5's

Jan. 11-15 **Church Members Register**

Jan. 18 **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**, School Closed

Jan. 19 **Special registration day for children recommended for JK** (must have a Gesell and/or teacher recommendation)

Jan. 19 **Preschool Chapel**, 9:30, 11:45, 3:30

Jan. 20 **Preschool Chapel**, 9:30, 11:45

2010

Page 2

WINTER WEATHER CLOTHING

Cold weather does not keep us indoors unless it is raining. Please see that your child is equipped with warm clothing including: boots, hats and mittens. Now is also a good time to be certain that extra clothes kept at school are warm enough and large enough for your child. Vigorous outdoor play is an important part of the curriculum. Children exercise large and small muscles and gain socially, emotionally and cognitively through outdoor play. Each teacher will try to take her class outdoors for 15 minutes or longer daily. Note: Lost mittens, scarves and hats may be found in the lost and found box placed inside the door of the teacher work room.

SCHOOL READINESS: SETTING CHILDREN UP FOR SUCCESS

On Monday, January 11 at 7:00 PM, we will have a nationally renowned speaker from the Ron McGuckin and Associates National Lecture Staff, Janice Nelivocke, speak to us about school readiness. If you have been wondering about public or private school readiness and how to determine where your child will have the best chance for a successful school career, please join us at this important meeting in the Preschool Connections Fellowship Hall. Janice will emphasize the importance of **whole child development** to include social, emotional, language, physical and cognitive development, when considering each child's developmental readiness for success during their school years. A "question and answer" period will follow her presentation. This presentation is free and open to anyone in the community.

GESELL SCHOOL READINESS SCREENING

If you are uncertain about your child's readiness for Kindergarten, Ginny Brenner is available to screen your child using the Gesell School Readiness Assessment. The assessment looks at a child's developmental age or behavioral age rather than his or her chronological age or IQ. The test is used by many school systems around the county and is highly respected. At least one local private school uses the Gesell Screening as an admission test. The cost of the screening is \$30.00 for Wifree students and \$75.00 for other children.

HEALTH NOTES

Your child's health is important to us. Please keep your child home if he/she has any of the following symptoms: a green or yellow discharge from the nose or eyes, severe cough, sore throat, ear infection, fever, vomiting, diarrhea or unexplained rash. At these times your child's resistance is low and he/she needs to rest. If your child has been seen by a doctor, please allow 24 hours on an antibiotic before returning your child to school.

We are teaching children to use tissues, throw them away, wash their hands frequently and cough or sneeze into the inside of their arm. We visually check each child's health daily and isolate ill children until parents can come for them. In addition, classrooms, bathrooms and rest mats are cleaned and sanitized daily. If we all cooperate, we will keep the spread of colds and flu to a minimum.

January 2010

Page 3

2010-2011 RE-REGISTRATION BEGINS IN JANUARY

Registration forms for currently enrolled children are included in this newsletter. Your child and younger siblings as well as church members will have priority until late January. After that date, new children will be accepted on a first come basis. A large number of applications for these new children have been received in the school office already. These applications will not be considered until late January. If you plan to register your child next year, we will be offering guaranteed registration for children who have been recommended for JK on Tuesday, January 19. All other registration forms and payments may be delivered to the school office any time during the weeks of January 4-15. We will issue acceptance letters as soon as we are able. For any classes that overflow, we will hold a traditional re-registration with families able to take numbers and wait indoors sometime during the week of January 18. Further details will be sent in your child's communication folder as soon as we are able to see demand for individual classes. Tell your friends, now is the time to get an application if they want their child to have a Winfree start!

SCHOLARSHIPS

Limited scholarship assistance will be available for 2010-2011. Applications may be picked up in the preschool office, or from a member of the preschool committee chaired by Jeni O'Neill. If you know of a deserving child in need of scholarship assistance, please let us know.

TAX TIME IS COMING

If you take the child care tax deduction, you will need to have the preschool tax ID number. **The Federal Tax ID number for Winfree is 54-1070190.**

JANUARY LUCKY LUNCH

Beginning in January, Lucky Lunch will return to the original format (12:15 – 1:15) for \$35.00 per month. IF your child is enrolled in Lucky Lunch in January, we will leave your child on the roster for the balance of the school year unless you stop by or phone the school office to cancel. The time to sign up for January Lucky Lunch begins Monday, December 7. If your child has not been in the Lucky Lunch Bunch, but would like to give it a try, you may call or see Ginny about availability.

EXTENDED CARE AVAILABLE ON A DROP IN BASIS

Winfree Preschool's extended care program is a wonderful success story for busy parents. You may not know that care is available for any potty trained child in a three, four or five year-old class on a drop-in basis most days. Simply call the school (794-1388) to let us know. Ginny will call to confirm or to let you know if the class is already filled. The extended care class takes a maximum of 15 children per day. We normally have drop in openings for your child if you have unusual obligations and find yourself in need of longer care for your child. The extended care program is staffed by excellent Winfree teachers. We keep the afternoon relaxed and fun, providing quality care for children and flexible services for families.

CALLING ALL MOMS: NEW VIDEO SERIES "PARENT ADVENTURE" BEGINS JANUARY 5

Kick off the New Year with our new video series, "The Parent Adventure" on Tuesdays at 10 AM in the Chapel building. Join us for prayer at 9:30 upstairs, then the video series will address preparing your child for a life with God. Topics include: How to look for blessings of God and celebrate His work, How to deal with the inevitable pain in life, How to let your child go to experience their own adventure with God, and more. The book costs \$10.00. Call Lucy (794-5031) to reserve your book and childcare for January 5.

Winfree Memorial Preschool Re-Registration

Child's Name: _____

Gender: _____ Date of birth: _____

Parent(s) name(s): _____

Full address: _____

Home telephone: _____ Cellular phone: _____

Indicate preference: _____ Tuition Rates: 2010-2011

Toddlers (must turn 1 by May 1, 2010) 1 day classes: \$105/month

Wed. _____ 2 day classes: \$160/month

Thur. _____

3 day classes:

\$225/month

Two year-olds (must turn 2 by Sept. 1, 2010)

5 day 4's:

\$285/month

Fri. _____

JK1 (5 day AM)

\$300/month

Two ½ year-olds (must turn 2 by April 30, 2010)

JK2 (4 day PM)

\$265/month

Mn., Wed. _____

Tues., Thurs. _____

Three year-olds (must turn 3 by Sept. 30, 2010)

Tues., Thurs. _____

Mn. Wed. Fri. _____

Three and Four year-olds Mixed (must turn 3 or 4 by Sept. 30, 2010)

Tues. Wed. Thurs. (PM) _____

Four year-olds (must turn 4 by Sept. 30, 2010)

Mn. Wed. Fri. _____

Mn. (PM) Tues. Thurs. _____

Mn. – Fri. (5 days) _____

Junior Kindergarten (JK1 must turn 5 by Sept. 30, 2010)

JK1 (5 days AM) _____

JK2 (must turn 5 by Jan. 31, 2011) (4 days PM) _____

Registration Fee: (a discount of \$10 per family applies when more than one child registers)

Preschool: \$80.00

Junior Kindergarten: \$100.00

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Office only: Registration paid _____ Acceptance letter sent _____