

Preschool News

September 2021

Hello Families and Welcome to the 2021 – 2022 school year! My name is Diane Fuchs, and I am the director here at Wesley Learning Center. My staff and I have been hard at work getting ready for a fun year of learning and look forward to seeing the children back in our rooms!

We are excited to welcome everyone back with our enhanced safety protocols as the pandemic doesn't want to leave us. By now you should have received our updated policies and procedures related to COVID. Please know that the staff takes very seriously the health and well-being of all our students and families. We will do this by wearing masks, doing daily health checks, lots of hand washing, limiting parents and visitors in our building and following all guidelines put out by the CDC, Department of Public Health, and our local health department.

We know this is an exciting time for you and your children, but it can also be a stressful time. We are here to help with the transition and know that a big hug and smile at drop off can go a long way in ensuring your child has a great day at school.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please let me or your child's teachers know. My office hours are from 7:30 am to 1:30 pm Monday through Friday. My office number is

(203) 426-6149 and my email address is wesleyfuchs@gmail.com

All of us at Wesley thank you for entrusting us with your children and consider ourselves partners with you in the caring and education of your children.

Let the school year begin !!!



NAEYC Message: Helping Your Child Through Change from Message in a Backpack.

To all those families out there trying to keep it together and juggle work life and family life, remember this: it's okay to feel overwhelmed. To get through these times, remember the "3 Rs" to guide you: recognize, reframe, and recover.

Recognize your child's feelings. Tantrums, sleep inconsistencies, and a constant need for attention may be behaviors stemming from adjusting to change (such as the start of a new school year). Take the time to recognize what's happening so that you're able to respond to and comfort your child.

Reframe the behavior in a more positive direction. Take your child out for a walk, pause what you're doing to build a structure out of cardboard boxes, engage in a planting activity or just dance!

Recover *Self-care and giving yourself time to breathe are two basic actions you as the caregiver can do to be able to keep going. Stay positive and safe. And don't forget: we are all in this together!!*



The Philosophy of Our Program.....

is centered on play. Everyone loves to play. Our program is designed so that your children will be learning important concepts while having fun. This will set the stage for their learning experiences. Teaching young children looks different than teaching older children. Young children are active. They do not listen well. They are learning to get along in a group. They are figuring out how to channel their energies, control their behavior, take care of themselves, and use their language to get what they need. They are dependent on caring adults to establish a safe and supportive atmosphere for them where they can learn more about relating with others and feel comfortable taking risks and trying new things. It is the “how” that makes early care and education distinctive from the education of the later grades. It is important to maintain the uniqueness of curriculum. If they haven't been given the time to play, they won't have explored objects enough to know what words like hard, harder, or hardest mean. If they don't string beads and buttons, cut, paste, pour, and draw, they won't develop the muscles they need for handwriting. Without concrete experiences children may give correct

answers but probably won't understand what they are doing and why. Because play is one of the most important things that your child can do, we incorporate academics and standards into play with purpose and intent. This insures that your child will get what they need as a solid foundation for higher learning. The guiding principles of these standards are that early learning and development are multi-dimensional and highly interrelated. Connecticut has a set of standards for children from birth to kindergarten. They are called CTELDS (Connecticut Early Learning Development Standards). They are organized in 8 domains:

Social/Emotional Development, Physical Health Development, Language and Literacy, Creative Arts, Mathematics, Science, Cognition, and Social Studies. There are (70) indicators that go with these domains that the teachers will introduce to your child as the year progresses. These standards are now integrated with the Kindergarten Common Core used in the state.

We have a special handwriting program called LEARNING WITHOUT TEARS. This is a program that was designed by an Occupational Therapist to give children a strong foundation in which to learn to write. This program is used at our 3 and 4 year old levels.

All activities will be presented in a way that children will have fun with and be able to be successful at their own pace. In conclusion, our program's curriculum is developmentally appropriate because it is child centered, it embraces children's active learning and promotes understanding. We are able to

individualize all of our students' goals so that they will get the most out of their preschool years. One final thought; we hope you know the important role that you play in supporting your child's learning. The key to a successful learning experience is to figure out what interests your child and use those interests to engage him / her in actively exploring and learning about the environment. Every place is a learning environment. Here's to a fun and very exciting year.



S A F E T Y
ABSOLUTELY NO
RUNNING ON THE RAMP
OR
IN THE PARKING LOT



Please make sure that you have your child's hand when entering or leaving the school. Please be prompt when dropping off and picking up

your children. If your child has to wait more than 5 minutes for you after class, they become upset. Call us if you know that you are going to be late. This will help us to explain your delay to your child. It is especially important this year to be on time because of our staggered class times and social distancing.

Lunch Boxes should have your child's name on them as well as water bottle, thermos, and cold packs. Please send a small amount of food for snack time. Snack and bathroom time should only be 15 minutes of the children's routine here.



Please make sure you pack a spoon or fork in your child's lunchbox if they will be needing one to eat their food.

Please put your child's name in their coats or sweaters. We do try to go outside even when it's cool. Please dress your child the day's weather.



Illness: If your child becomes ill while at school, we will call you. It is imperative that we have a number to reach you – cell phone – or an emergency local person who can pick up your child. If your child is sick, and will not be attending school, please call us and let us know. Please check the handbook for illnesses that requires your child to remain home.

Physicals: *If we do not have a current physical on file or a physical date, your child cannot start school. This is a state law. See me if you have any doubts about your child's physical being current.*

Parking

There is absolutely NO PARKING under the bridge or directly behind the school building. The black top area behind the school will be used during the day for the children to ride bikes or other organized games. You may park directly behind the church, on the side of the church, or in front of the church and school. Please do not

leave your car idling while in the school. Also, please obey the STOP signs on each side of the church. Safety of our children and families is of the utmost importance.



TUITION PAYMENTS - are due on the first day of the month that your child's class meets. Your next (2nd) tuition payment is due on September 8th. Subsequent payments are due on the first of each month. You will be billed a \$50.00 late fee after the above due date. If you have extenuating circumstances, please call me or let me know. **We do not send monthly bills.** If you are paying for something other than tuition, please make out separate checks. Include your child's name in the memo section of the check. If you need a receipt for tax purposes or employee reimbursement, we will be glad to provide you with one if you give us advance notice.