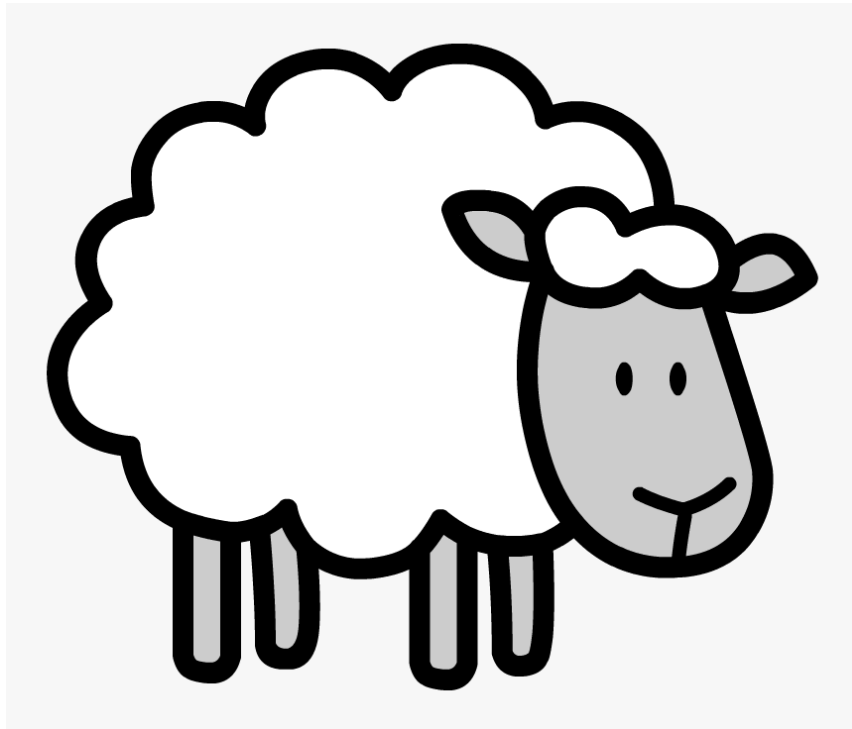


# SOTH PRESCHOOL



"WHERE LITTLE LAMBS LOVE TO LEARN"

*JESUS SAID, "LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME TO ME, AND DO NOT HINDER THEM, FOR THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN BELONGS TO SUCH AS THESE."*

*-MATTHEW 19:14*

# PARENT HANDBOOK

THIS HANDBOOK IS DESIGNED TO GIVE YOU MOST OF THE INFORMATION YOU WILL NEED THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL YEAR. THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO READ THIS INFORMATION.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS HANDBOOK, FEEL FREE TO EMAIL ME AT [APIETTESOTHPRESCHOOL@GMAIL.COM](mailto:APIETTESOTHPRESCHOOL@GMAIL.COM).

## WELCOME

WELCOME TO SOTH PRESCHOOL! WE ARE A CHRISTIAN/LUTHERAN AND ACADEMIC BASED PRESCHOOL THAT IS FOCUSED ON PROVIDING A RELIGIOUS FOUNDATION ON BASIC CHRISTIAN TEACHING AND LUTHERAN DOCTRINE ALONG WITH A COMPREHENSIVE FOUNDATION OF MATH AND LITERACY SKILLS THROUGH RESEARCH-BASED CURRICULA, IMPLEMENTED BY A LICENSED EDUCATOR. I BRING EXPERIENCE FROM THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO ADEQUATELY PREPARE YOUR CHILD FOR THE SOCIAL AND ACADEMIC RIGOR OF KINDERGARTEN!

## PHILOSOPHY

SOTH PRESCHOOL STRIVES TO PROVIDE QUALITY EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES IN A CHRIST-CENTERED ENVIRONMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE IDAHO EARLY LEARNING GUIDELINES AND TEACHINGS OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH-MISSOURI SYNOD. AT SOTH WE STRIVE TO ENSURE STUDENTS ARE PREPARED FOR THE ACADEMIC RIGOR OF SCHOOL. TO ENSURE YOUR CHILD IS PROVIDED THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION, I HOLD A CURRENT IDAHO TEACHING LICENSE AND PARTICIPATE IN CONTINUED EDUCATION/PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENTS. I ALSO BELIEVE IN IMPLEMENTING DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE, RESEARCHED-BASED CURRICULA AND USE CURRENT BEST PRACTICES IN EDUCATION. THESE INCLUDE:

OFFERING AMPLE OPPORTUNITY FOR PLAY AND SOCIALIZATION.

KEEPING CLASS SIZES SMALL.

PROVIDING SHORT (15 MINUTES OR LESS) DIRECT INSTRUCTION LESSONS.

MAINTAINING STRUCTURED CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENTS AND PROMOTING INDEPENDENT BEHAVIORS.

UTILIZING POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT TECHNIQUES THAT CREATE AN ENVIRONMENT WHERE STUDENTS FEEL VALUED AND LOVED.

PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES TO ENRICH ALL CURRICULAR AREAS, INCLUDING LANGUAGE, LITERACY, MATHEMATICS, ART, MUSIC, PHYSICAL HEALTH, AND FIELD TRIPS.

## PROGRAMS

PRESCHOOL

TUESDAY - WEDNESDAY-THURSDAY

3-5 YEAR OLD STUDENTS

\*ALL PRESCHOOL STUDENTS MUST BE FULLY TOILET TRAINED.\*

DROP-OFF 8:45 AM / INSTRUCTION 9AM-12:00PM

\*SNACK PROVIDED

PRESCHOOL DEPOSIT | \$100

THERE WILL BE A ONE TIME ENROLLMENT FEE OF \$100.00. DEPOSITS ARE DUE IN FULL AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION TO SECURE A SPOT FOR THE UPCOMING FALL.

## PRESCHOOL PRICING | \*PLEASE CONTACT FOR PRICING\*

PRESCHOOL CLASS IS FROM 8:45AM (DROP OFF) 9AM-12:00PM - 3 DAYS A WEEK - TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY.

I ACCEPT PAYMENT IN THE FORM OF CASH, CHECK, OR VENMO: @ANNA-PIETTE

## CURRICULUM

EACH CURRICULUM IS RESEARCH BASED AND DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE FOR EARLY LEARNERS. THESE LESSONS ARE ALL DIRECTLY TAUGHT BUT ALSO SUPPORTED AND ENRICHED THROUGH HANDS-ON AND SMALL GROUP ACTIVITIES. THE CURRICULUM IS ALIGNED WITH THE IDAHO EARLY LEARNING GUIDELINES TO ENSURE OUR STUDENTS ARE PREPARED FOR KINDERGARTEN.

**READING - ZOO PHONICS**- THIS PROGRAM GIVES STUDENTS PURPOSEFUL MOVEMENT AND INCORPORATES A KINESTHETIC APPROACH FOR LEARNERS WHO ARE MORE ACTIVE.

THEMATIC UNITS/WEEKLY BIBLE STORY/ DAILY READ ALOUDS/BOOK EXPLORATION/READING WORKSHOP.

**PHONEMIC AWARENESS - HEGGERTY PHONEMIC AWARENESS** THIS PROGRAM TEACHES RHYMING, SYLLABLES, INITIAL, MEDIAL, AND FINAL SOUNDS AND MUCH MORE THROUGH ENGAGING SONGS, NURSERY RHYMES, WORD AND FINGERPLAYS.

**HANDWRITING - HANDWRITING WITHOUT TEARS**

TEACHES STUDENTS HOW TO PROPERLY FORM LETTERS USING A VISUAL AND TACTILE APPROACH WHILE CORRECTLY DEVELOPING THE SKILLS THEY NEED TO SUCCEED IN THEIR FINE MOTOR AND HANDWRITING SKILLS.

**MATH** -BASIC NUMBER SENSE WILL BE TAUGHT USING THE LEARNING WITHOUT TEARS PROGRAM AND HANDS ON MANIPULATIVES. UNDERSTANDING SIZE, SHAPES, PATTERNS, COUNTING (ONE-TO-ONE CORRESPONDENCE), SORTING/MATCHING/CLASSIFYING, IDENTIFYING MORE OR LESS OF A QUANTITY, ETC. ARE ALSO A BIG PART OF EARLY CHILDHOOD MATHEMATICS AND WILL BE TAUGHT DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR.

**SOCIAL SKILLS/CHARACTER EDUCATION/COOPERATIVE LEARNING**-AN IMPORTANT COMPONENT OF EARLY SCHOOL READINESS AND HEALTHY CHILD DEVELOPMENT IS MEETING A CHILD'S SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL NEEDS.

PRESCHOOL SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL SKILLS INCLUDE BEING ABLE TO GET ALONG AND COOPERATE WITH OTHERS, MANAGE STRONG FEELINGS, FOCUS ATTENTION, AND PERSIST AT CHALLENGING TASKS. "A LITTLE SPOT OF FEELINGS" BY DIANE ALBER AND OTHER BOOKS WILL BE USED TO SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF THESE SKILLS IN OUR PRESCHOOL CLASSROOM. WE WILL ALSO FOCUS ON "ZONES OF REGULATION". THIS IS A PROGRAM USED IN MANY PUBLIC SCHOOLS DESIGNED TO FOSTER SELF-REGULATION AND EMOTIONAL CONTROL. EXAMPLES OF BIBLICAL CHARACTER TRAITS WE WILL FOCUS ON INCLUDE: KINDNESS/RESPECT/LOVE/EMPATHY, CONTENTMENT, SELF-CONTROL, FORGIVENESS, COURAGE, PERSEVERANCE, AND HONESTY. THESE TRAITS WILL BE TAUGHT AND PRESENTED USING SPECIFIC STORIES AND INDIVIDUALS FROM THE BIBLE.

### **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION- LITTLE LAMBS AND ENDURING FAITH BY CONCORDIA PUBLISHING HOUSE**

LUTHERAN BELIEF: LEARN MORE ABOUT THIS DENOMINATION, AS WELL AS OUR BELIEFS AND PRACTICES, AT THE OFFICIAL LCMS WEBSITE: [HTTPS://WWW.LCMS.ORG/ABOUT/BELIEFS](https://www.lcms.org/about/beliefs)

THROUGH TEACHER AND PASTOR, CURRICULUM , CHAPEL, BIBLE STORIES, SONG AND PRAYER, AND DAILY DEVOTION/ROUTINE, THE WORD OF GOD AND BIBLICAL TEACHINGS ARE PRESENTED IN A MANNER THAT IS AGE APPROPRIATE AND RELEVANT. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT LUTHERAN BELIEFS OR SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS, PLEASE CONTACT 208-687-1809 OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE [HTTPS://WWW.SHEPHERDOFTHEHILLS-RATHDRUM.ORG/HOME](https://www.shepherdofthehills-rathdrum.org/home).

## **OUR SCHEDULE**

SOTH PRESCHOOL WILL BE OPERATING AS A SCHOOL, AND THEREFORE WE WILL GENERALLY FOLLOW THE LAKELAND SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL SCHEDULE (INCLUDING SNOW DAYS). . THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL WILL BEGIN ON SEPTEMBER 12TH. THE WEEK PRIOR, SEPTEMBER 5TH-8TH, WILL BE RESERVED FOR ONE ON ONE MEET AND GREET WITH EACH STUDENT AND FAMILY AND AN OPEN HOUSE THE EVENING OF THE 8TH (MORE INFO TO COME). SCHOOL WILL BE OPEN FROM 9AM-12PM , TUESDAY-THURSDAY, FROM SEPTEMBER 12TH TO MAY 30TH (LAST DAY AND GRADUATION CEREMONY).

**TEACHER CONTACT HOURS:** TUESDAY-THURSDAY 8AM-8:45 AM, NOON-4PM

\* PLEASE FEEL FREE TO EMAIL ME ANY DAY OF THE WEEK AND I WILL DO MY BEST TO GET BACK TO YOU

IN A TIMELY MANNER.

## DAILY SCHEDULE

DROP-OFF/FREE PLAY: 8:45-9:00

MORNING MEETING/DEVOTION/CIRCLE/SONGS: 9:00-9:15

BRAIN BREAK/TRANSITION: 9:15-9:20

WHOLE GROUP LESSON/READ ALOUD/GO OVER WORK CYCLE: 9:20-9:45

OUTSIDE PLAY/MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM (WEATHER DEPENDENT): 9:45-10:00

SNACK/STORY OR SONG: 10:00-10:15

WORK CYCLE/SMALL GROUP (DAILY ART LESSON): 10:15-10:55

FOCUS:FINE MOTOR, READING, WRITING, MATH, ART, WORK WITH TEACHER

MUSIC/PE/ART/CHAPEL: 10:55-11:15

BIBLE STORY FOCUS: 11:15-11:30

FREE PLAY: 11:30-11:45

STACK AND PACK/CLOSING CIRCLE: 11:45-12:00

PICK-UP: 12:00

\*ONCE A MONTH-SPECIAL ART ACTIVITY/ POSSIBLE LIBRARY VISIT

## DAILY SCHEDULE:

- CIRCLE/WHOLE GROUP/READ ALOUD

WHEN A LESSON IS TAUGHT TO THE ENTIRE GROUP WHILE SITTING ON THE RUG. THESE ARE DIRECT INSTRUCTION LESSONS WHERE TEACHERS USE A VARIETY OF MATERIALS TO ENGAGE ALL LEARNERS.

- WORK CYCLE/CENTERS

THESE ARE SMALL GROUP CHOICE BASED ACTIVITIES THAT SUPPORT OUR WEEKLY THEMES AND LESSONS. THESE CENTERS ARE STUDENT LED.

- SMALL GROUP/ONE-ON-ONE LESSON WITH THE TEACHER

WHEN A LESSON OR ACTIVITY IS DONE AT THE TABLE WITH A SMALL GROUP OR INDIVIDUALLY WITH THE TEACHER DEPENDING ON THE SKILL TAUGHT. THIS PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE TEACHER TO PROVIDE MORE FOCUSED LESSONS AND ASSESS EACH STUDENT'S PROGRESS.

- BRAIN BREAKS

THESE ARE FUN 2-3 MINUTE BREAKS FROM INSTRUCTION TIME. THERE IS RESEARCH SHOWING THAT PERIODICAL MOVEMENT THROUGHOUT THE DAY HELPS STUDENTS LEARN!

## SPECIALS:

INCORPORATING CHAPEL, MUSIC AND ART INTO OUR WEEK IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT! YOUR CHILD WILL PARTICIPATE IN CHAPEL, MUSIC, AND ART LESSONS. WE WILL ALSO PROVIDE DAILY OPPORTUNITIES FOR PHYSICAL FITNESS AND GROSS/FINE MOTOR SKILL DEVELOPMENT.

## ENROLLMENT

WE ARE HAPPY TO ENROLL ALL 3-5 YEAR OLDS IN THE RATHDRUM AREA THAT ARE TOILET TRAINED AND ABLE TO USE THE RESTROOM INDEPENDENTLY. ENROLLMENT WILL BE HELD FROM APRIL 1ST – JUNE EACH YEAR. PRIORITY ENROLLMENT WILL BE GIVEN TO PRIOR STUDENTS AND THEIR SIBLINGS, FOLLOWED BY THOSE STUDENTS ON OUR WAITING LIST. THE PRESCHOOL CLASS WILL BE LIMITED TO 12 STUDENTS.

## HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

PER IDAHO CODE, CHILD CARE AND SCHOOL FACILITIES ARE REQUIRED TO OBTAIN CURRENT IMMUNIZATION RECORDS FOR EACH CHILD IN ATTENDANCE. THESE RECORDS MUST BE PROVIDED BEFORE YOUR CHILD MAY ATTEND CLASS AND WILL THEN BE KEPT IN YOUR CHILD'S FILE. YOUR CHILD'S IMMUNIZATION RECORD MUST BE UPDATED AS ADDITIONAL IMMUNIZATIONS ARE RECEIVED. PLEASE PROVIDE A CURRENT RECORD AS THIS HAPPENS.

\*THE LAW ALLOWS THE FOLLOWING EXEMPTIONS: LIFE OR HEALTH-ENDANGERING CIRCUMSTANCES, RELIGIOUS BELIEF OR PERSONAL REASONS. AN EXEMPTION FORM MUST BE FILLED OUT AND SIGNED BY THE STUDENT'S PARENT/GUARDIAN BEFORE YOUR CHILD MAY ATTEND CLASS. THIS WILL BE KEPT IN YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL FILE.

IF YOUR CHILD IS DIAGNOSED WITH ANY OF THE FOLLOWING ILLNESSES, THEY ARE REQUIRED TO BE ON ANTIBIOTICS FOR A 24 HOUR PERIOD BEFORE ATTENDING SCHOOL.

- STREP THROAT
- SCARLET FEVER
- IMPETIGO
- PINK EYE
- SKIN INFECTIONS

ALL OTHER ILLNESSES THAT OCCUR AT SCHOOL WILL BE ASSESSED BY THE TEACHER TO DETERMINE IF THE CHILD NEEDS TO BE PICKED UP. IF YOUR CHILD DISPLAYS ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SYMPTOMS, THEY WILL NEED TO BE PICKED UP IMMEDIATELY.

- FEVER OF 100
- VOMITING
- DIARRHEA
- RASH
- UNCONTROLLED COUGHING



## ATTENDANCE

WHEN DROPPING YOUR CHILD OFF YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO SIGN YOUR CHILD IN AND OUT OF SCHOOL. PLEASE NOTIFY ME IF YOUR CHILD WILL BE ABSENT FROM CLASS SO I CAN PREPARE ACCORDINGLY. YOUR MONTHLY TUITION WILL REMAIN THE SAME REGARDLESS OF THE NUMBER OF ABSENCES.

## LATE FEES

TUITION WILL BE DUE THE 1<sup>ST</sup> OF EVERY MONTH, WITH A 5 DAY GRACE PERIOD. IF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> FALLS ON A WEEKEND OR HOLIDAY, TUITION WILL BE DUE THE FOLLOWING SCHOOL DAY, THEREFORE EXTENDING THE GRACE PERIOD. A LATE FEE OF \$25.00 WILL BE ASSESSED AFTER THE 5TH. IF PAYMENT IS NOT RECEIVED AFTER THE GRACE PERIOD, AND PROVISIONS HAVE NOT BEEN MADE TO PAY THE PAST DUE BALANCE, YOUR CHILD MAY LOSE THEIR SPACE IN OUR PROGRAM.

## PARENT INVOLVEMENT

THE PARENT IS THE CHILD'S FIRST TEACHER, SO I KNOW HOW IMPORTANT FOSTERING FAMILY SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGING FAMILY INVOLVEMENT IS! I LOVE TO INVITE PARENT VOLUNTEERS INTO THE CLASSROOM DURING PROJECTS, HOLIDAYS OR OTHER SPECIAL EVENTS! I WILL BE SENDING HOME INFORMATION ABOUT THESE OPPORTUNITIES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. A PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCE WILL ALSO BE HELD, WHERE WE WILL CELEBRATE YOUR CHILD'S PROGRESS! THIS CONFERENCE WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR IN MAY, UNLESS THERE ARE CONCERNS OR NEEDS TO DISCUSS PRIOR. PARENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO SCHEDULE A MEETING AT ANY TIME SHOULD YOU HAVE CONCERNS OR QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S PROGRESS.

## SOME IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO START OFF THE YEAR

\*\*\*THE FIRST WEEKS OF SCHOOL WE WILL BE GETTING TO KNOW ONE ANOTHER AND BUILDING OUR ROUTINES FOR THE SCHOOL DAY. CREATING COMMUNITY IS A LARGE PART OF THE BEGINNING OF A NEW SCHOOL YEAR. EACH WEEK WE WILL HAVE A COMMUNITY LEADER. I AM STARTING OFF THE YEAR BY BEING THE FIRST COMMUNITY LEADER. EACH WEEK, I WILL PICK A NEW STUDENT TO BE OUR COMMUNITY LEADER OR "SPECIAL PERSON". MORE INFO TO COME HOME ON THIS.

### \*\*\* COMMUNICATION

PLEASE CHECK THE FOLLOWING DAILY:

\*OUR BULLETIN BOARD OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM FOR UPDATES

\*STUDENT MAILBOXES: THIS IS WHERE I PUT INFORMATION THAT IS JUST FOR YOU. CHECK YOUR CHILD'S MAILBOX FOR ARTWORK AND OTHER CLASS RELATED PAPERS.

\*MASS TEXTING: (REMIN.D.COM): YOU CAN ADD THIS APP TO YOUR PHONE- SEND A TEXT TO 81010 AND TEXT THIS MESSAGE: @SOTHPR OR USE THE FOLLOWING LINK TO JOIN: [HTTPS://WWW.REMIND.COM/JOIN/SOTHPR](https://www.remind.com/join/sothpr). I USE THIS MASS TEXTING ALERT SYSTEM FOR REMINDERS AND UPDATES.

\*FACEBOOK: I WILL UPDATE FACEBOOK REGULARLY TO COMMUNICATE WITH PARENTS AND SHARE CLASSROOM HAPPENINGS. PLEASE CHECK THIS PAGE. SEARCH: "SOTH PRESCHOOL"

\*\*\*WE LOVE TO CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS. PLEASE LET ME KNOW IN ADVANCE IF YOU PLAN ON BRINGING IN A TREAT FOR YOUR CHILD TO SHARE WITH THE CLASS.

\*\*\*TOYS AND PERSONAL VALUABLES SHOULD NOT BE BROUGHT TO SCHOOL. IF THEY ARE, THEY ARE AT SCHOOL AT THE CHILD'S RISK. ALL PERSONAL BELONGINGS SHOULD BE CLEARLY LABELED WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME.

\*\*\*EXTRA CHANGE OF CLOTHES ACCIDENTS HAPPEN! PLEASE SEND AN EXTRA CHANGE OF CLOTHES IN YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL BAG.

\*\*\* HOLIDAY PARTIES- I WILL SEND A NOTE HOME FOR PARTY NEEDS. THE NOTE WILL HAVE A BOTTOM PORTION TO FILL OUT OF WHAT YOU CAN DONATE AND IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP.

PARTIES: HALLOWEEN, CHRISTMAS, VALENTINE'S DAY, 100TH DAY, EASTER, AND END OF YEAR PARTY/GRADUATION

**\*\*\*CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR/CONSEQUENCES-** COTTON BALL JAR INCENTIVE- STUDENTS WILL EACH HAVE A JAR WITH THEIR NAME ON IT. THEY WILL EARN COTTON BALLS FOR POSITIVE BEHAVIORS WITHIN THE CLASSROOM. IF THEY FILL THEIR JAR THEY WILL EARN A REWARD. I WILL ALSO HAVE STICKER CHART INCENTIVES. OUR CLASSROOM WILL HAVE A CALM DOWN/QUIET CORNER FOR STUDENTS WHO MIGHT NEED A "BREAK" OR TO REGULATE THEIR BEHAVIOR. SHOULD YOUR CHILD VISIT THIS CORNER, OR HAVE BEHAVIOR ISSUES DURING A SCHOOL DAY, I WILL COMMUNICATE THIS AND ENSURE YOU ARE AWARE OF ANY INCIDENTS THAT OCCUR IN RELATION TO YOUR CHILD'S BEHAVIOR.

\*AS THE CLASSROOM TEACHER I HAVE HIGH EXPECTATIONS FOR ALL STUDENT BEHAVIOR. WHEN A CHILD MISBEHAVES REGULARLY IT DISRUPTS THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT AND IS NOT FAIR FOR THE OTHER STUDENTS. I WILL COMMUNICATE WITH YOU SHOULD ISSUES ARISE. IT IS MY HOPE THAT WE CAN WORK TOGETHER FOR THE SUCCESS OF YOUR CHILD DURING THIS UPCOMING SCHOOL YEAR.

**\*\*\*NEWSLETTERS/CALENDAR** I WILL SEND OUT A NEWSLETTER AND UPDATED CALENDAR EACH MONTH. PLEASE LOOK FOR THIS AS IT MAY HAVE IMPORTANT INFO, DATES, AND WHAT IS GOING ON WITHIN OUR PRESCHOOL COMMUNITY.

THAT IS IT FOR NOW! PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS AS THE SCHOOL YEAR GETS STARTED.

ANNA PIETTE  
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208-659-7210