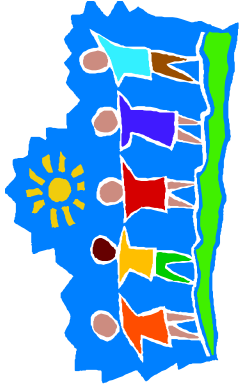


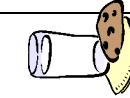




August 2011



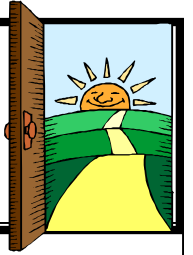
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Monthly themes	2	3	4	5	6 Weekly Godly Play stories will be posted on this side of the calendar.	
7 will be posted here through- 14 out the school year.	8 Office hours during the month of August are 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.	9 10 17	11 18	12 19 Little Blessings Advisory Board... First Meeting	20 26 today!	27 Have you received your postcard?
21 28 	22	23 24 Welcome Back, Teachers! 	25 1 Parent Orientation 7:00 pm	26 27 Parent Orientation 7:00 pm	28 29 Cookies and Milk Open House 	



Blessings News

August 2011

(630) 904-9898 www.littleblessings.org



From the Director... The new school year is approaching quickly. Little Blessings teachers spend the better part of August gearing up for the exciting first days of school. Planning, decorating, training workshops, cleaning, labeling, and more planning are all part of the process of “getting ready.” All this preparation leads up to September 7 and 8, when we open the doors to the new year! It is an exciting time, typically filled with many emotions for both parent and child.

Children display a wide range of reactions to the first days (and weeks) of preschool. Sometimes, they breeze into the classroom on the first day as if this had been part of their entire lives, and there are some who are a bit more hesitant and take some time to adjust and feel at ease. Other children have a more difficult time transitioning away from mom or dad and joining the group of children in the classroom. This is perfectly normal, and there are steps parents can take to help ease the anxiety that their child may be experiencing.

Preschoolers benefit from opportunities to talk about what is going to happen. As you drive by Little Blessings this month, explain to your child that this will be his new school. Talk about some of the activities that make up a preschool day. As you attend Cookies and Milk Open House, keep a relaxed pace and make sure that your child has time to play, speak to the teachers, locate her cubby, and take a trip to the bathroom. On the first day and everyday, try to avoid a morning rush. Choose clothes before bed, and make sure that the backpack is ready to go. A photo of the family, or a small security item such as a blanket might be helpful items to tuck inside the backpack. At school, it is best to establish a consistent “leaving schedule.” This is a simple, short routine such as a hug, a kiss, and a wave good-bye. Mention when you are returning in a way that a young child will understand, such as “right after story time.” Tempting as it may be, do not sneak out of the classroom. This will only heighten your child’s anxiety when he realizes you have left. Leave with a confident smile, and resist the impulse to linger. Our teachers are very caring and empathetic towards children who are feeling sad after saying good-bye. They will comfort them, attempt to distract them with a toy or activity, or take them on a little walk in the building, just for a change of scenery and the opportunity to chat. It has been my experience that once children begin to bond with their teachers and make new friends, children separate easily. At this point, they are looking forward to friendships and experiences that they have come to know and love, and are able to rejoin the family at the end of the day, filled with new stories to tell and accomplishments to share. We will see you soon! ...Ms. Stephanie



MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) is welcoming all moms of young children (infant through preschool) to find support, friendship, and parenting resources. The fall session begins in September. For more information, contact Amy Chavous at: alleluiamops@gmail.com

MOMSnext offers community, personal growth, and practical help to moms of elementary school children. There will be an open house on Friday September 9, at 9:30am in the Underground. Learn more about the program, and pick up a registration form. Contact Maria Dresnin at momsnext@alleluialutheran.org

Little Blessings Enrichment Explorers

Enrichment classes are offered in Science and Math, Spanish, Book Club, Health & Fitness, and Art Works! If you would like to extend your child's schedule from 9:00am to 3:00pm, or if you would like to add a session on another day, enrichment classes offer children the opportunity to explore a subject in depth, in an active, hands-on way. Classes may be added at any time.



✓ When you do your back-to-school shopping, please keep in mind that sturdy shoes are best for the playground, not sandals or crocs. Full sized back packs will hold all of the prized art work that will be sent home, with less chance of wrinkles and tears.

✓ Parent Orientation will be held Thursday, September 1 at 7:00pm in the Worship Space. We will go over the Parent Handbook, and answer questions that may have come up during Cookies and Milk Open House.

✓ The first days of school are September 7 and September 8.

✓ The September tuition payment is due during the first week of school.

Do You Have an Afternoon Kindergartener?

Little Blessings offers morning enrichment classes for Kindergarteners.

On Tuesdays, Readers Workshop children will focus on different authors while increasing their Language Arts skills. On Fridays, children in Science and Math will investigate number use, make predictions, research, and record data as they learn about the natural world around them.

Activities in both classes will enrich the skills being taught in the regular Kindergarten classroom. The classes meet from 9:00am to 11:30am.

Let's Meet the Teachers, See the Classroom, and Play...

Join Us for Cookies and Milk Open House!

Wednesday, August 31

9:00 AM to 10:00 AM

PDO Monday
Kindergarten Meet and Greet
Health and Fitness—Monday

10:30 AM to 11:30 AM

PDO Wednesday
3 Day AM
4 Day AM
Art Works!—Wednesday

12:30 PM to 1:30 PM

PDO Friday
3 Day PM
4 Day PM
Health and Fitness—Tuesday
Preschool Science and Math—Wednesday



Thursday, September 1

9:00 AM to 10:00 AM

PDO Tuesday
Preschool Science and Math—Tuesday

10:30 AM to 11:30 AM

PDO Thursday
2 Day AM
5 Day AM
Book Club—Monday PM

12:30 PM to 1:30 PM

2 Day PM
Preschool Science and Math—Thursday
Spanish—Monday and Wednesday
Book Club—Friday AM and PM
Art Works!—Thursday

Watch for your Cookies and Milk Postcard

Post cards inviting you and your Little Blessing to Cookies and Milk Open House will be dropped in the mail on Wednesday, August 24. Please call the preschool office if you have not received this card by August 27.

