

September 2019

FRIENDS OF JESUS PRESCHOOL

2122 Bronson Boulevard, Kalamazoo MI 49008

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Welcome to Preschool, Friends of Jesus Families!

Back to school time is such a great time of year! It's so great to see the smiling, happy faces of our preschoolers in our classrooms and hallways! It is fun to hear their excited voices and laughter. We're looking forward to a year full of learning and playing and making new friends. Here are some reminders to help us get off to a smooth start. Be sure you have placed a spare set of clothes in the bin above your child's coat hook. Preschool can be messy! Make sure that you have labeled all clothing with your child's name. Sometimes coats or sweaters get left behind on hooks when the day turns warm. Make sure your preschooler is getting plenty of rest - restarting school tires everyone out! And, very importantly, be sure to look through your child's school folder and backpack each day after he/she attends school. There are often important messages from Friends of Jesus staff members, time sensitive forms for you to sign or, wonderful creations made especially for you by your child that are refrigerator door worthy.

Starting preschool can be a difficult time of transitions for some children. If your child is having trouble separating from you when you are dropping him/her off at school, here are some tips from parenting and teaching pros to help make this process less anxious:

1. Always say good-bye. Don't try to sneak out - this can cause more anxiety. A quick good-by and a kiss are fine.



Upcoming Events

September 13

Orange & Red Bug Bike Day

All Mum Orders DUE.

Scholastic Book Orders
Due.

September 20

All School Gull Meadow
Farms Field Trip, 9:15 am

September 27

Grandparents' Day - Watch for information about your child's class festivities in your family folder. Special invitations will be coming home later this week. Yellow and Orange Bug grandparents will attend in the morning - Red Bug grandparents will attend in the afternoon.

2. Get your child's teacher involved. Let your child's teacher step in and redirect your child after you've said good-bye. Chances are that as soon as your child is interacting with others, he/she will be fine.
3. Act confident, even if you don't feel that way. Parents experience separation anxiety too! Try not to let your child see that you are apprehensive. Exhibit confidence about the school environment and teacher.
4. Get your child excited about the day on the way to school. Saying things like, "I bet you'll get to paint today" or "I wonder what book you'll read at circle time" can help your child get ready to enter school looking forward to the day ahead.
5. Have a routine and stick to it. If your child sees that by crying or holding on to you, you stay and give extra attention, this may prolong the problem. Consistency when you are leaving is important.

Remember that just when you think you have mastered a smooth drop-off, regressions can occur. After an illness or vacation break, a new sibling arrives, or a parent returns from a business trip, separation anxiety can reappear. Return to the above tools and things should fall back into place.



Mum Fundraiser

Our mum fundraiser is going on now. Fundraising order forms and info sheets are in your Family Handbook folder. Extra copies are available at the Information Station. A local greenhouse generously makes this a very profitable fundraiser for us and helps us pay for field trips and other special programming for all students. Orders are due by September 13th. Think fall decorating! Ask neighbors, friends and family members- they're probably going to buy mums anyway!

Pest Management Program

Zion Lutheran Church has an integrated pest management program in place. If a pesticide application is needed a sign will be posted at the church entrance 72 hours in advance of treatment. If you would like to be notified in advance of these treatments, please see Mrs. V.



Fall Festival

Remember: Fall Family Fest is coming in October - please mark your calendar so you'll be sure to make this a part of your fall activities. Friday, October 18, 2019 from 5:00 - 7:00pm

School Pictures will be taken October 1st and 2nd. Watch for more information coming home in your family folder soon.



Zion Lutheran Church offers several services and special programming. Sunday services are at 8:00am and 10:30am. Sunday School hour is from 9:15 to 10:15. Saturday evening services are offered at 5:30. Each Wednesday during the school year dinner is served in the Gathering Room upstairs, beginning at 5:30pm, and is open to everyone! Confirmation and adult classes are held after dinner. Remember, you are ALWAYS welcome at Zion!