



September 2009

The Sun Times

Vol. 8, Issue 1

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Dates to Remember:

- **Monday, September 7th:**
CLOSED for
Labor Day
- **Monday, Sept. 14th:**
Infant's Let's Get Together Breakfast 8-9am
- **Tuesday, Sept. 15th:** YTs'
Let's Get Together Breakfast 8-9am
- **Wednesday, Sept. 16th:**
OTs' Let's Get Together Breakfast 8-9am
- **Thursday, Sept. 17th:**
Emma and Lynsey's Let's Get Together Breakfast 8-9am
- **Friday, Sept. 18th:** Kristin and Mary Jo's Let's Get Together Breakfast 8-9am

Happy August! Happy new school year!!

Everyone has been working very hard to get their classrooms ready for the new school session. Walls have been touched up, tables and chairs cleaned and disinfected, cabinets hung and a new sink put in the PS/PK bathroom (which took a better part of 3 days to complete!) With that in mind, words cannot express how much we appreciate Mr. Quint Powell for always being available for patching, building, plumbing and not to mention "Home Depoting" for our beloved school. Without his help, we would have never gotten through it all. Also, a HUGE thank you to Linda Johnson for supplying our lunch and dessert for our first day of in-service. She's graciously done this 2 years in a row and the words "thank you" don't seem enough, but THANKS SO MUCH!!

Thank you to everyone for the patience needed to get through the front door. Codes are in, but some have not worked correctly. Please let us know if you are having problems with getting in and out.

We wish everyone a wonderful, happy, successful school year and as always if you have any concerns or questions feel free to come visit us or give us a call.

Carol

Enrich the day, brighten the future.

INFANT NEWS

Danielle's News

Greetings to all! We are having a blast in the infant/wee toddler room. We are getting to know each other and we are off to a great start. I would like to welcome Hailee, Alexander, Zen, Kara, Jacquelyn, Houston and their families.

Hailee is exploring the new room. She is very mobile and loves to cuddle. Alexander is as happy as can be. He is holding his head up and he loves story time. Zen is starting to play a little bit longer. She likes sing-a-longs and also loves story time. We are eager to meet Kara, Jacquelyn, and Houston.

We are thankful that you have chosen us to care for your child. With that said, Ms. Lisa will no longer be in our classroom. She has been promoted to lead teacher and will be teaching in the Young Toddler room. We thank her for all that she has done for our room. She's an awesome teacher and she will surely be missed. We wish her well in her new adventure. With sad news comes good news. We are welcoming Ms. Krystal Mondragon, who will be Ms. Danielle's afternoon assistant. Krystal was employed by La Luz a couple years ago (w/ Ms. Danielle!) and has received her Bachelor's Degree in Elem. Ed. We welcome her back and know she will do great! Please introduce yourselves to her!!

We are closed Sept. 7th for Labor Day and our "Let's Get Together Breakfast" day is Monday, Sept. 14, in our class.

Danielle and Krystal (&Ms. Lisa)

Stephanie's News

Welcome to our room! We are having fun getting to know all our new families. The babies are really cute and fun to be around. As we are getting to know each other, we would like to make a family board. Please bring in a picture of your baby's family.

We know we will have a fun year with your little ones and learn from them and you. We hope they can learn from us as well. We welcome visitors in our room anytime so we hope you join us sometime.

Remember, we are CLOSED Sept. 7 for Labor Day. Additionally, please join us for our Let's Get Together Breakfast on Monday, September 14th from 8-9am in our classroom. We hope to see you there.

Thank you for letting us care for your child.

Stephanie, Mercedes, Connie

YOUNG TODDLER NEWS

Jennifer's News

Welcome Everyone! First of all, I want to thank everyone that was able to attend open house. It was great to see all of our old friends and meet our new friends. We have been having so much fun exploring our new classroom.

The theme for the month of September is faces and places. We will be doing many activities to help the children learn each other's names and where everything belongs in the classroom.

Please remember no outside food or drinks are allowed unless approved by the director due to severe food allergies within the center.

Just a few reminders:

Monday, September 7th: Labor Day; La Luz is CLOSED

Our Let's Get Together Breakfast Day is Tuesday, September 15th in our class

Ms. Jennifer, Ms. Angie & Ms. Christinia

Lisa's News

Hello everyone! It's the end of our first month in our new class and we've had many new changes. First, Ms. Miyuki is no longer lead teacher in our room and we will all miss her terribly. Ms. Lisa has been promoted to take her place. She has written a bit about herself at the end of this letter. Second, we will be washing sheets and blankets. We feel this is easier for everyone. Third, we will have monthly activities which will include two letters and one color that will follow our theme for the month. This month's theme is farm animals, the letters A and B, and the color red. Our first field trip will be to the State Fair on September 25th from 9 to 11:15 and back to La Luz for school lunch. Ms. Lisa and Ms. Jennifer's classes will be going on this trip together. If you are unable to make it, please let us know as soon as possible and we will make arrangements for a teacher to stay behind.

We know that this is a lot of information and new change but all the children are handling it very well and are doing great! We would like to thank you for all of your support and understanding. If any one has any questions or concerns please feel free to talk to any of us. Remember, we will be closed Monday 9/7 and our Let's Get Together Breakfast will be Tuesday 9/15.

Letter from Ms. Lisa: Greetings, parents! I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Lisa Gibson. I graduated from UNM in December with a Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education and I have worked in a classroom setting with children for five years.

Along with Ms. Shauna and Ms. Susan, we want to provide a classroom environment where your child feels comfortable and safe. We want to create an environment where they will be provided with various materials and activities that will influence their wonder, curiosity and intellectual development. Naturally, this will enhance the learning goals you have for your child. I am very excited for this upcoming school year and being part of your child's early childhood development.

Please stop in and let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Ms. Lisa

Ms. Shauna

Ms. Susan

OLDER TODDLER NEWS

Mona's News

We are officially OLDER TODDLERS now. The kids LOVE our new classroom and playground. They have all adjusted wonderfully to our new routine. They are enjoying our new circle time songs and exploring our classroom.

Just a reminder, we need to get updated family pictures and sunscreen from everyone who hasn't already brought them in.

This month our curriculum will include Camping, Apples, State Fair, and Fall. We have several fun art projects, as well as cooking projects and games.

We want to wish a HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Sidney who turned 2 on August 28th, and Calvin who turns 2 on September 1st.

Finally, I want to remind you all of a few important dates.

September 7th we will be CLOSED for Labor Day.

September 14th- 18th Let's Get Together Breakfast. Our breakfast day is Wedn. Sept. 16th in our class.

Sincerely,

Ms. Mona, Ms. Ana & Ms. Lindsay

Arlene's News

Welcome parents and friends to the Older Toddler classroom. We are so happy to have you! The month of August was a great one. The children adjusted so well to our new classroom. All of the children sit on the potty during diaper changes and they like it! They like to flush the potty and run to wash their hands in the automatic sink.

We only have a few reminders: We are no longer using sippy cups. We are big kids now, drinking from "Big-Kid-Cups" at school for water and juice. We bought all the children new water bottles that stay at school and will be used when we go outside. Also, please apply sunscreen to your child before school and we will reapply it in the afternoon. Please don't forget a weather appropriate hat. There is not a whole lot of shade on our new playground.

Our first field trip will be to McCall's Pumpkin Patch sometime in October. More info on that to follow. On that note...have a great month, and we look forward to a great year!

This month:

Letters: M, F, A

Colors: Red and Yellow

Shape: Circle

Numbers: 1 and 2

Dates to Remember:

September 7th: La Luz CLOSED

September 14th-18th: Let's Get Together Breakfast. Our breakfast day is Wedn., Sept. 16, in class.

Happy Birthday to Gabriela on August 21st and Taryn on September 20th.

Thank you: Ms. Arlene, Ms. Maria, & Ms. Joslyn

PRESCHOOL NEWS

Lynsey's News

Hello and welcome again to Preschool! Your kids have all transitioned very well and seem to be comfortable with their new routine. Though we are still getting to know each other, we are all thoroughly enjoying our time together.

Thanks a bunch to those of you who allowed me to visit your homes. I loved having the kids show me their toys and their space and they seem to be more accepting of me as a result. If you did not sign up for a home visit and are still interested, please let me know and I would be glad to set something up with you.

I am working on getting all of your email addresses entered so that we can use email as another form of communication. The address is laluzpreschool@yahoo.com so please feel free to contact me in this way if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you all so much for making this transition so smooth for everyone involved! Please remember that we will be CLOSED Monday 9/7 and our Let's Get Together Breakfast will be Thursday 9/17.

~Ms. Lynsey

Emma's News

We are happy to say it has been a fun and successful transition time for everyone involved. There are so many things to do an explore in preschool, and we are glad to see so much enthusiasm from both parents and children.

If your child does not have sunscreen yet, please remember to drop one off with their name clearly labeled on it. There are still plenty more hot days ahead. For those who are still potty training, please bring in changes of clothes.

Here is a list of our curriculum themes for the upcoming weeks:

September 1st-14th: Colors

September 15th– 21st: Shapes

September 22nd– 30th: Opposites

These topics will be a part of circle discussion and will have a correlating activity during self selection.

Feel free to talk with any of us with any concerns or questions you have. Have a great month.

Reminders: We are CLOSED Monday 9/7 and our Let's Get Together Breakfast is on Thursday 9/17.

Ms. Emma

Ms. Lisset

Ms. Matilda

PRE-K NEWS

Mary Jo's News

A big thank you to everyone who attended open house. Your comments and positive attitudes meant a great deal to us.

All of the new Pre-Kindergarteners are settling in quite well and are adjusting to the new routines. They seem to be really enjoying their new classroom. We are beginning our evaluations so we know at what pace we need to proceed during the year. As each student is at a different level, we want to make sure to plan our activities so that everyone benefits and has fun!! Some of the children do not have water bottles or extra clothes in class. Please bring in these items. In September, we will begin our alphabet practice. We will do one letter (upper and lower case) each week. There will be times (when there is a short week due to a holiday closure) when we will do a review of the previous letters we have learned. You will be kept up to date on the letter we are practicing. Please keep checking the dry erase board above the children's art folders for important classroom updates.

Our August theme was "Beginning the New School Year." It was a time for us to learn the Pre-K routines and have a good time. In September, our learning themes will be:

Aug. 31– Sept. 6: My Friends and Me

September 8– 11: State Fair and Farm Animals—"Aa"—CLOSED Monday 9/7

September 14– 18: State Fair and Farm Animals—"Bb"—Let's Get Together Breakfast– Friday 9/18

September 21– 25: Apples and Worms—"Cc"

Sept. 28– Oct. 2: Fall—"Dd"

We want to remind you that you are always welcome to visit our class during the day and if you **ever** have any questions or concerns, please bring them to our attention. We are here to help you and your child in whatever way we can.

Welcome to our class family,

Ms. Mary Jo Ms. Janice Ms. Alyssa

Kristin's News

Hip, Hip, Hooray! It's a brand new school day! We are so excited to have all our new friends in class and to have a few big helpers staying with us. We are looking forward to an amazing year. The calendar is already filled with fun events and activities.

We are grateful you all have chosen us to be your child's teachers. It means a lot to us that you trust us to care for your children. Please feel free to come to us anytime with any questions, concerns or suggestions. We appreciate your input and welcome you to be as much a part of our class as you can be.

Thank you to all of you who attended open house and also to those of you that welcomed us into your homes. It is always so nice to get to see the children in their most comfortable environment and to show them that we are willing to be a part of their world. If you are interested in a home visit and were unable to sign up prior, please just let me know and I would be happy to set up a time with you.

The month of September we will learn about Fall on the Farm, the letters Aa, Bb, Cc, and Dd, and All about Me. We will be cooking rainbow toast, making Cheerio names, playing with Muddy Pigs, and much, much more!

We will be CLOSED on Monday, Sept. 4th. Please join us for our parent breakfast on Friday, Sept. 18th in our class.

Ms. Kristin, Ms. Alison, Ms. Diana