

August/September 2019 Lil' Bears Preschool Newsletter



Dear Families,

Welcome to the 2019/2020 school year at Lil' Bears Preschool at Royal View! We are very excited to begin a new year, to meet many new families, and to reunite with our returning families. We hope that you have had a relaxing summer. We already have many wonderful activities planned for the month of September.

Communication:

At Lil' Bears, we have a variety of methods to communicate activities and events with families.

- *Monthly Newsletters* with more detailed program information will be sent home and also posted on the district's website.
- *Monthly Calendars* are sent home by each teacher providing "at a glance" information for the program and classroom.
- Classroom *Weekly News* providing information specific to your child's classroom will be sent home at the end of each week from individual teachers.
- Please be sure to sign up for *Alert Now* for information about Royal View and for school closing notifications.
- Please check your child's backpack each day for notes, projects, reminders, etc...

Monthly Themes

We follow our preschool curriculum each month. This curriculum was carefully selected by the staff to meet the state's early learning standards and was

approved by the district's Board of Education. We target skills in each area of child development, including physical development, social/emotional wellbeing, language, literacy, science, social studies, health/safety, math, fine arts, and media/technology. This month our "Ready for School" theme includes four units- My School, Making Friends, Learning Together, and Getting Along. The following books may be read during class time and/or available in the classroom library:

The Kissing Hand by Audrey Penn

Pete the Cat, Rocking in My School Shoes by Eric Litwin

Annie, Bea, and Chi Chi Delores by Donna Maurer

My Friends by Taro Gomi

Owen by Kevin Henkes

My New School by Kirsten Hall

A Splendid Friend Indeed by Suzanne Bloom

Mouse's First Day at School by Lauren Thompson

How Many Can Play? by Betsey Chessen and Susan Canizares

We Help Out at School by Amanda Miller

Clifford's First School Day by Norman Bridwell

Lending Library Books

Throughout the school year, your child's teacher may send home a copy of a book that will be read in class. This is for you to enjoy at home with your child and then return to school by the due date. Returning the book on time and in the same condition allows another child to enjoy the book in the future. Thank you for your consideration.

Family Space

Our curriculum provides an online resource for families. Family Space enables all families to extend early learning at home. This powerful tool allows families to take an active role in their child's preschool education. On Family Space, parents will find information about current classroom lessons, access to BookFlix, downloadable books, educational resources, and Fun With Clifford® Activities. Your child's teacher will send home Information on how to access Family Space.

PTA Meetings-

The Royal View Parent Teacher Association (PTA) meets one time per month to organize activities for the school. Some of these activities include family events, the holiday shop, Scholastic Book Fair, yearbook, and fundraisers. The Royal View PTA provides support to Lil' Bears Preschool, as well as grades K-4. The first

meeting of the year will be held at 9:30 am on September 19th at the North Royalton Public Library. Please consider supporting the PTA through membership and participation.

Parent Night- Thursday, 9/5/19

Parent Night will be held on Thursday, September 5th at 6:30. This event is your opportunity to meet with your child's teacher and other staff members to learn about classroom procedures, the daily schedule, and the preschool curriculum. Due to space limitations and content, we do ask that you arrange childcare for this event. This event is intended for adults only. We hope to see you on this special night! Parents will also have the opportunity to sign up for November conferences on Parent Night.

Picture Day

We will have our Picture Day on Friday, September 6th. Parents can purchase pictures. Further information about ordering will be sent home at a later date. All children have their individual pictures taken for school records and the yearbook, whether or not a picture package is purchased. All children participate in the class group picture as well.

Special Days

We will have a variety of special days throughout each month.

Red Day – Friday, September 13th

We typically have one color day per month. This month, we will celebrate the color RED! Please have your child wear the color red and bring a red item for sharing (Show and Tell).

Shape Day –Friday, September 20th

Have your child wear a shirt with a shape on it and bring in a shape for sharing.

Sensory Storytime

We have developed a partnership with the North Royalton branch of the Cuyahoga County Library. Each AM and PM class attends a sensory story time with a librarian at Royal View one time per month. During these sessions, the librarian utilizes a multi-modal approach of storytelling, including movement, songs, manipulatives, a visual schedule, and printed books. Storytimes will occur for the AM class on Thursday, September 12th and for the PM class on Friday, September 13th.

Birthday Celebrations

A child's birthday is a special day, and we love to celebrate in our classrooms. Please let us know in advance if you plan to send in a birthday treat to celebrate your child's special day. Please remember that all birthday snacks and items in treat bags must comply with the district approved snack list. Unfortunately, food items not on the approved list cannot be served and must be returned to you. Children's birthdays will be listed on the individual classroom calendars the teachers send home each month.

Scholastic Book Orders

Your child's teacher may send home Scholastic Book order forms each month. Scholastic offers inexpensive books to you and provides reward points to the teacher for the purchase of books and materials for the classroom. You are not required to order from Scholastic, but it is a great source for both classic and recent children's literature. Accessing Scholastic online using the code provided by the teacher allows for easy and secure ordering. Individual teachers will send home the forms and set classroom due dates.

Arrival Procedures

Preschool staff members will begin to unload vehicles in the AM at 9:10 and in the PM at 12:40 PM. Please line up at the drop off location. There is no need to exit your vehicle as staff members will open doors, unbuckle the children, and walk them into the building. However, parents are permitted to walk children to the building after parking in the parking lot. Staff members are not available for supervision before the designated times.

Dismissal Procedures

Dismissal procedures for the 2019/20 school year differ for the AM and PM classes. This is due to Royal View's schedule. Please refer to the parent handbook for details.

