



## SEPTEMBER 2022

Welcome to our new families and welcome back to all of our returning families. We are so excited to begin this school year! We have an incredible team of teachers just waiting to engage your children in learning! We would like to welcome Mrs. Maria Hanson to our MWF three's class. We would also like to welcome back Mrs. Desiree Wright, in her new position as teaching assistant in our Two's Together program. Parents will be signing their children out at the end of their day. Please see your child's teacher for where to find their sign out sheet!

### CHECKLIST FOR PARENTS

- 1) Did you return the SCHOOL FORMS packet?
- 2) Did you return your child's completed **Universal Health Form** and **Immunization Records**?
- 3) Just a reminder, September tuition is now due, if you have not already paid. Place your payment in the mailbox to the left of the main entrance to the building, or in the basket outside my office, or you can pay electronically online. Families using this option will incur an online payment convenience fee. If you wish to continue paying by check, simply deduct the online payment convenience fee from the invoice total when submitting. The Preschool Treasurer will adjust your invoice accordingly. Tuition is due the first of the month October-March, unless you have already paid in full. Your deposit covers April, May and June tuition.

### UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

**September 19** Afternoon sessions, Early Birds, Stay & Play begin

**October 10** School Closed for Columbus Day

**October 19** Parent Night - all classes - this night is for parents ONLY, please leave the children at home and enjoy the night out!

**Birthday Treats** are permitted if they are commercially prepared and packaged. So, treats from the grocery, the bakery, or Dunkin Donuts are all permitted. Please be sure to check the date with your child's teacher prior to sending in a special snack. We want each child to have their own special birthday celebration!

\*If your child has an allergy, please send in a snack for them each day.

Important information regarding the **FLU SHOT**, we must have:

- 1) Flu shot documentation from your child's doctor or
- 2) A note from your child's doctor claiming medical exemption or
- 3) A note from you claiming religious exemption.

**THIS IS REQUIRED BY THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY BY DECEMBER 31, 2022 FOR CHILDREN 6-59 MONTHS IN ORDER TO REMAIN ENROLLED IN JANUARY.**

**MAILBOX** - when placing any checks or papers in the mailbox by our front door, please pull down the handle and slide your papers through the opening at the top. Please do not put your papers in the outgoing mail clip.

## **THE BENEFITS OF PLAY**

We have long valued the power of play at NPPS Preschool & Kindergarten. Play not only helps children make sense of their world, but it also develops language skills, perceptual skills, socio-emotional skills and problem solving skills just to name a few.

This article highlights the benefits of play:

*Play allows children to use their creativity while developing their imagination, dexterity, and physical, cognitive, and emotional strength. Play is important to healthy brain development. It is through play that children at a very early age engage and interact in the world around them. Play allows children to create and explore a world they can master, conquering their fears while practicing adult roles, sometimes in conjunction with other children or adult caregivers. As they master their world, play helps children develop new competencies that lead to enhanced confidence and the resiliency they will need to face future challenges. Undirected play allows children to learn how to work in groups, to share, to negotiate, to resolve conflicts, and to learn self-advocacy skills. When play is allowed to be child driven, children practice decision-making skills, move at their own pace, discover their own areas of interest, and ultimately engage fully in the passions they wish to pursue*

Sources: Tsao L. How much do we know about the importance of play in child development?Child Educ. 2002;78:230-233 Hurwitz SC. To be successful: let them play!Child Educ. 2002/2003;79:101-102

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I would like to THANK all of you for trusting us with your children. It is a privilege that we take very seriously. Please feel free to contact me with any questions, concerns or comments. My door is always open, so feel free to stop by my office anytime. My email address is: [lagrifolio@thecornernj.com](mailto:lagrifolio@thecornernj.com) or 908.665.9051 X 19 (office) I am looking forward to a rewarding and exciting year ahead!

*Lorie*