

Wee Folk in September

There's a hint of fall in the air, and it feels so good to be returning to school! We look forward to getting started with the many activities we have planned for our "Wee Folk." We are delighted to greet families new to our school, and welcome back those who are returning this year. After a very enjoyable orientation day, we anticipate a great year ahead! Today, your child will bring home the tote-bag you made together on your visit day. We hope you enjoyed this cooperative project as much as we enjoyed seeing your varied and creative results! Please remember to check your child's tote-bag each day, as he/she will be bringing home communications and project work to share with you.

During the first few weeks of school we will play various cooperative name games and sing "name" songs, which will help us get to know one another. We will be making our "helping hands" and look forward to being special helpers as our turns come to share the snack and show-and-tell with classmates. Once again this year, we will have specific themes for each month for our show-and-tell time. Your child will receive a note the week prior to his/her "helping hand" day. These turns are given in alphabetical order by first name, and Mrs. Thomsen coordinates the scheduling of these days for the children. If you ever have questions, or need to reschedule, feel free to discuss it with her. Please remember that all snacks should be commercially prepared and unopened, but do not need to be individually wrapped. Fresh fruits and veggies are also good choices, and we will be happy to peel and/or cut them as needed. We will provide milk, juice, or water for the beverage.

This month's theme will find us down on the **farm**, as we focus our attention on barnyard animals in a variety of literature-based activities and hands-on learning. We will begin each day's circle time activities singing, "Drivin' My Tractor," and highlight a different farm animal to learn about each day. The children will be introduced to the many products we get from the farm and begin to recognize how much we depend on farmers for the good foods we have to eat. And we will use our creative talents to turn our classroom into "Old McDonald's Farm" with the assortment of barnyard animals that we make to decorate our walls!

Accompanying your newsletter is the Back-to-School Scholastic Book Club News. Should you ever wish to place an order, you may do so by going directly to www.scholastic.com and find our school in the 19438 listing, or by using our code: **GVLDG**. Your purchases enable us to receive books and educational resources for our classroom, as well as books to share with your children. When the orders arrive in about two weeks, we will put them in a bag above your child's cubby.

October tuition payments are due this week, if you haven't already made a payment this month. Remaining payments are due the first week of each month, through April, and are payable to **Indian Creek Church of the Brethren**. There is a basket on our kitchen counter to collect payments, notes, forms, etc.

Dismissal will be from the playground on nice weather days when we are outside to play at the end of class. You may park in the rear of the building and when we have the children assembled to leave, please walk up to greet your child and he/she will be excused to you. On days when we are not outside to play at the end of class, we will bring the children out the rear entrance where they will be excused to you.

As we become acquainted with the outdoor play area this week, the children will be learning rules for their safety and how to use the equipment. Should you ever wish to play before or after class time, please be consistent in following the rules we have established. Thank you for your help in these areas of safety, which are in place to protect your child.

As an added measure of security, after everyone has arrived for class, we will lock the exterior Wee Folk door. Should you ever arrive and find the door locked, please ring the doorbell to get our attention. We will need written permission to dismiss your child to go home with someone other than a parent or those indicated on your child's permission form. In an unexpected situation, please call and leave a message with the church secretary, or on our voice mail.

Mrs. Thomsen and I look forward to a rewarding year of learning and growing with all the children entrusted to us. We commit each one to prayer, and ask God to bless our school year and our time together.

Blessings,

Kathy Moyer