

## 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 to 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 liked 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. 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 assigned in alphabetical order by first name, and Mrs. Thomsen coordinates the scheduling of these days for the children. Should you ever have a question or need to reschedule a date, 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, 100% fruit juice, or water for the daily beverage. Please do not send water bottles.

This month's theme will take us on an **Under the Stars Camping Adventure!** Our climber has been replaced by a camping tent, complete with a "campfire," a lantern, and everything we need for s'more fun! We will be reading about some favorite story friends, like Curious George, Pete the Cat, and Maisy, to hear about their camping adventures. Like these characters, we will learn to work together to accomplish goals as we get to know each other and grow together as classmates. This unit will also find us learning about **stars, fireflies**, and some of the **animals who live in woodland settings**. Our puppet theater is sheltering a furry raccoon, skunk, mouse, opossum, squirrel, and black bear, for more hands-

on experiences. Crafts will include twinkling stars, star-gazing telescopes, splat-painted campfire, glowing fireflies, and a light-up lantern.

Accompanying your newsletter is the Back-to-School Scholastic Book Club News. If you wish to place an order, use the QR code or log onto the Scholastic website provided. Your interest will determine how often we will make this book club available. Please be sure to enter this first order no later than **September 26**. Your purchases enable us to receive many nice bonuses for our classroom, including books and other educational resources.

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**. Please see me if you have any questions about payment schedules. There is a basket on our kitchen counter to collect payment checks, notes, forms, etc.

**Dismissal** will take place 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.

The exterior doors to the church as well as our dedicated entrance will always be locked after the children have arrived for school. Should you ever arrive and find our door locked, please ring the doorbell to the left side of the outside door to get our attention. We will need written permission to release your child to go home with anyone other than a parent or those indicated on your child's information/permission form. In the event of an emergency situation, please call to

leave a message on our voicemail or with the church secretary.

In an effort to advertise our program more visibly in the community, church leadership has inaugurated our presence on Facebook. You will be receiving a consent form to sign that you are aware that your child's picture may be used. However, please note that I have requested that none of the children's faces be visible in the photos posted.

Mrs. Thomsen and I look forward to a rewarding year of learning and growing with 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