



# HILLTOP NEWS

Volume 19 Issue 1 September 2018

## Welcome!

Welcome to Hilltop Christian Nursery School. We're excited about the thought of getting to know you and your child. We feel that each child is a unique gift from God and our goal is to help your child to know that too!

We have already spent so much time preparing for your little ones, and we hope to have a great beginning to the school year. Each month we will send home a newsletter to inform you of events that will be occurring in the coming month. We also use this newsletter as a means to share any news items from the different classes. If you would like to see something specific in the newsletter, please feel free to contact the director, Becky Chocklette, or your parent representatives.

## Themes

Our 2-year-olds will be learning "I am Special." Their Bible verse is "I am wonderfully made" from Psalm 139:14. Our 3-year-olds will also be learning "I am Special." Their Bible verse for the month is also "I am wonderfully made." Psalm 139:14. The 4-year-olds will be learning about their five senses, self-awareness, and feelings. Their Bible verse will also be Psalm 139:14, but an extended version "I will give thanks to you for I am wonderfully made." The 5-year-old's theme for September will be "Dog Gone, You're Special!" Their Bible verse will be "Know that the Lord is God, He made us and we are his." Psalm 100:3. The color of the month is blue. Each teacher will send home information in a weekly/biweekly newsletter which will provide detailed information about each classroom. Please be sure to take time to read each newsletter as it contains important information about Hilltop and your child's classroom.

All of our classes will be working on the skills needed to adjust to school and the new surroundings. We want the children to know that God has made each and every one of them extra special. He loves them and so do we!! Thank you for allowing us the privilege to be a part of their young lives.



## Snacks

Every school day, families will be assigned "snack days." Please watch your child's calendar closely to see when you are responsible for bringing in a healthy snack for your child's classroom.

Please check with your child's teacher to see how many children there will be in the class, and if any of the children in the classroom have allergies to specific foods. We've included a list of snack suggestions, but you may vary from it. The teachers will include the schedule of who provides snacks on their class calendar. Many families place the calendar on their refrigerator. This way children, as well as parents, can look ahead to special days.

Birthdays are a special time, and many people would like to "celebrate" their child's birthday at school. Please contact your child's teacher if you want to bring a special snack for that day. Because of their messiness, we would appreciate it if you would not bring cupcakes or a whole sheet cake for snack, but choose an alternative.

If there is an allergy in your child's classroom, please be sure to check the ingredient list carefully. Many snacks are made in a factory that processes nut products.

We also ask that you provide a drink which could include milk, fruit juices, lemonade, low sugar fruit punch or, of course, water. Please do not send in juice boxes with the children. Not only are they messy, but they are time consuming to open for the entire class. All paper products are provided by Hilltop.

## School Supplies

We will be collecting new school supplies in a bin at Hilltop's entrance. These school supplies will be given to children at the ECCA school in Haiti. Hilltop staff and board members are scheduled to take trips to ECCA in October and January. We are excited to share the supplies you donate with the children who so desperately need them. Other opportunities to give to ECCA will be offered throughout the school year. Be on the lookout for these opportunities at the Hilltop entrance. Thank you!!!

## Arrival

You are your child's best and "Most Important" teacher. Please don't hesitate to talk to your child's teachers—but please talk to them after class. Before class, their first concern is the children and helping them to get started. They will be glad to call you or arrange a time to meet with you if you have a special concern.

Don't forget, if you arrive before 9:15 a.m., please wait outside the Hilltop entrance. A door greeter will open the door at the appropriate times.

We pray that this year will be a wonderful one for your child. Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

## Hilltop Hints

As you bring your child to nursery school, please be sure to dress him/her in appropriate play clothing. There will be times when we will be doing messy projects, and although we do use paint shirts and cover-ups as much as possible, sometimes accidents do occur. Also, we will be spending time playing on the playground and equipment. As the days of fall begin to get cooler, expect that your child will be spending some time outside and dress him/her accordingly.

Thank you so much for your support.



**Be Safe!!!  
Follow the  
Playground Rules  
at all Times!!!**

## Caution in Parking Lot

We are very concerned about your child's safety in the parking lot. PLEASE DRIVE SLOWLY when entering the church area. When entering the church property, please use the two "upper" entrances into the main sanctuary parking lot (look for the Evangelical Free Church of Hershey sign). The speed limit is 5 mph. Please be sure to look for running or walking children. There are many children who use this facility and they may not see you. Please keep a hand on your child at ALL times in the parking lot!!! Thank you for your help with this matter.

## Show and Share

For many years, as a part of our program, we have offered "**Show and Share**" days which have given the children an opportunity to express themselves verbally and to help develop in themselves a sense of ease in sharing something special in a group setting. Please note that these are Show and Share, not Show and Tell days. When you see this special day posted on your calendar, please help your child to select something that he/she would like to bring to school to share with the other children. In doing this, we hope to help instill in the children a sense of pride and cooperation in sharing what they have. It is our hope that what comes in with your child can be readily shared by classmates. If the item is something so precious or expensive that if an accident should occur it would be upsetting to you or your child, that item would best be left at home.

## Hilltop Library

Mark your calendars now!! Hilltop's Library will open on Tuesday and Wednesday, October 2nd & 3rd, in room 203 on the upper level of Hilltop. More information will be sent home closer to the time, but the library is a free program that we offer at Hilltop where you are able to "check out" our library books just like the local library, except ours is right here onsite. It contains thousands of resources for both children and adults.

## Grocery Gift Cards

This is a wonderful way for you to do your normal, weekly grocery shopping while helping Hilltop at the same time. How the program works is that you simply stop in the Hilltop office and purchase Giant, Karn's, or Redners gift cards (we do accept credit cards for these purchases as well!). We sell them in denominations of \$10, \$20, \$25, \$50 and \$100. Whatever amount you pay, you get the same amount back to spend at the store--the same as cash. Hilltop then receives 5% of all gift card purchases from the stores!!! Think of the money that could be raised at Hilltop if each family gave 5% of their weekly grocery bill to Hilltop. This program allows you to do that without losing any of your hard-earned cash. Stop in the office to purchase your grocery cards today!!

## Health Policy

The health and safety of the children in our care is of utmost importance to us. That is why we have developed the following health policy.

We will keep an emergency card on file for each child with pertinent information. If your child should become sick while at school, you will be notified immediately. If you are not available, we will contact the emergency numbers you have provided. We expect that you or another authorized adult will pick up the child promptly. Please be sure to keep all medical information and emergency numbers current by notifying the nursery school office of any changes. If a child has been ill within the last 24 hours and has experienced nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, a fever, a heavy nasal discharge, a constant cough, or symptoms of possible communicable diseases (such as pink eye, head lice, chicken pox, etc.), he or she should not be brought to school. Your child's classmates do not need the exposure to any of these ailments. Also in an effort to prevent exposing other children in our care to communicable diseases, it is requested that you notify the director if your child develops symptoms of a communicable disease. This would be particularly important if your child attended school during the incubation period for the communicable disease. In addition, if your child's illness will prevent the child from participating comfortably in the activities routinely presented at school, or if the child's illness requires more care than the Hilltop staff can give, the child should remain at home for the day. Even extreme tiredness can make a day at school miserable for a child.

We will be going outside as often as possible, even in cold weather, so if you feel your child is too sick to go outside, than that would be a good time to keep him/her home also. Thank you for your help.



**Here is a recent photo of the ECCA Building Project. This is the final building they are completing on the school grounds. The preschool and kindergarten classrooms are now completed! Thank you for your continued support of the Haiti Partnership!**