

CHAMBLEE METHODIST KINDERGARTEN
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March 2022

Dear Parents,

Welcome to March! This new month will bring more fun and exciting events to our classrooms. Around St. Patrick's Day we often see some leprechaun mischief in our classrooms so be on the lookout. We hope to begin our activities related to Easter. This month will be another busy time for all of our classes!

Chamblee Methodist Kindergarten is blessed with the best teaching staff around. As the director I could not have asked for a better staff. The love, compassion, dedication and attention to the children is so inspiring to watch. CMK teachers are amazing! This month during Chapel on March 17 we will honor and recognize staff members for their length of service to CMK. These teachers have given at least 5 years of service to our school and for that we are so grateful. Join me in recognizing and showing our appreciation to these staff members: Tracy Kester (28), Dianne Wheeler (23), Heather Nortje (19), Patti Payne (16), Nancy Bethany (14), Yvonne Clemens (13), Ann Council (11), Becky Cooper (10), Anne McGrath (10), Davina Profit (8), Fara Yarbrough (8), Emily Hamilton (6), Beth Williams (6) and Camilyn Germann (5). Our staff continues to enhance their preparation by attending a minimum of 16 hours of professional development classes each year and by participating in the Georgia Preschool Conference in March. Thank you to these and all our wonderful CMK teachers.

With Gratitude,

UPCOMING DATES

Wednesday, March 2	Chapel 9:15, Ash Wednesday, all Wed. classes and parents
Thursday, March 10	School Make up day for all Thursday classes
Friday, March 11	NO SCHOOL, DeKalb workday (CMK and PMO closed)
Thursday, March 17	Chapel 9:15; all Thursday classes and parents
Thursday, March 24	Current Family Open House; 5:00 – 6:15 pm, details TBA
<u>April</u>	Parent/teacher conferences (dates/ times TBA)
Monday – Friday, April 4 - 8	NO SCHOOL, Spring Break
Saturday, April 9	CFUMC Easter Egg Hunt
Wednesday, April 13	Chapel 9:15
Friday, April 15	Tuition Deposit DUE for rising Kindergarten class
Friday, April 15	NO SCHOOL – Good Friday
Thursday, April 21	Staff Meeting–School closes at NOON for 2s, 3s, and PreK students (no lunch bunch); Kindergarten Dismisses at 1:00
Thursday, April 28	Chapel 9:15
Week of May 2	Last Enrichment classes (except Monday ballet)
Thurs, May 5 and Fri, May 6	Spring Sing, 11 a.m. (for 3s, pre-k, and K classes)
Monday, May 9	Ballet recitals for all 3 ballet classes Times TBA
Tuesday, May 10	Tuition Deposit due for next year – 2s, 3s, Pre-K
Wednesday, May 11	Chapel 9:15
Monday, May 16	Kindergarten class graduation at 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday, May 18	Last day of school

SUMMER FUN AT CFUMC

June 13–17 (M-F)	Vacation Bible School at Chamblee First UMC Church- see website to register
June 20 – 23 (M-Th) AND	Summer camps at CMK 9:00 – 1:00 – registration will be after spring break
June 27 – 30 (M-Th)	

CURRENT FAMILIES OPEN HOUSE

On **Thursday, March 24** we will have our annual current families Evening Open House to give our families and our children a chance to come to school, see the classroom, have your child show you his/her favorite toys/games and activities and meet parents who have children in your child's class. We will divide the night into small blocks of time for parents to sign up for in an effort to keep our classrooms less crowded. Be on the lookout for an email with further directions from your child's teacher as to how to sign up for a block of time.

APRIL PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

CMK teachers are looking forward to talking with you during conferences about the growth and development of your child. Please make attending a priority. It is helpful for teachers to know ahead of conferences if there are specific areas you would like to have addressed, so please email your child's teacher in advance with specific questions or areas of interest you want to discuss. We try hard to begin and end on time so we won't inconvenience those waiting. If you feel that your conversation was limited due to time constraints, please know that the teachers will be glad to set up another time to answer all of your questions fully.

HOLY WEEK EVENTS AT CHAMBLEE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

All families are invited to the Chamblee First United Methodist Church Easter Egg hunt on the front lawn of the church on Saturday morning, April 9 at 10 am. The egg hunt will begin at 10:00 am **sharp** so you may want to come a bit early. The church is requesting all families RSVP so be on the lookout for that sign up near the end of March. Bring your own basket and enjoy fellowship with other CMK families. Be sure to find a CMK teacher and say Hi. The church also invites you to join them for worship and Easter services during Holy Week. Special services will be Palm Sunday, April 10, Maundy Thursday service on Thursday, April 14, Good Friday Mission Event on April 15 and Easter Sunday services on Sunday, April 17.

MUSIC HIGHLIGHTS

Your children have enjoyed various song props and playing lots of different instruments. In January we talked about the letters A, B and C so we've sung "Apples and Bananas," had dancing teddy bears, played my "box drum" (a cajon), castanets, and taken turns with the cabasa shaker. You can quiz your older students on what the difference between a cabasa, *cabeza*, cajon and *calabaza* is!

Over the next 2 months we will celebrate our music program with "Music and Me" for our two year old classes and "Spring Sing" for our older classes. The goal of these two programs is to highlight the enthusiasm and fun our children have in music while showcasing their singing and moving to the rhythm.

"Music and Me" - Each 2 year old class will have a special music time called "Music and Me." We invite parents to this special class as an opportunity for the children to show all the fun things they do in music in the comfort of their music classroom. After a short music time together we invite all the parents to come back to the classroom for cookies and lemonade. Your child's teacher will send the date and time soon.

"Spring Sing" - Our 3s, 4s and Kindergarten class will present Spring Sing on Thursday, May 5 (Payne, Kester, Nortje) and Friday, May 6 (Germann, Clemens, Kindergarten.) More details about this celebratory event will be in the April newsletter.

PARENTING CORNER

Parenting preschoolers is an enormous responsibility but also very rewarding. In this article <https://parenting.firstcry.com/articles/15-effective-parenting-tips-for-parents-of-preschooler/> there are 15 really good parenting tips. I am including my 2 favorites as it relates to success at preschool.

Teach them to be good listeners.

We all know that it's challenging to contain the curious mind of toddlers. However, when in preschool, your little one will have to take part in various activities, such as singing, drawing, listening to the teacher's explanations, and so on. All these will require your toddler to sit still and pay attention. Being a good listener will help him proactively take part in various activities in preschool.

Have a set routine.

Having a set routine for various activities such as playing, meals, snacks, sleep, etc., is important for both of you. Not only will it teach discipline to your kid, but it will also help you manage your own time efficiently. Another advantage is that you won't have to run after your toddler every day for meals or bedtime.