



Bethel Highlands “Preschool Press”

Fall 2012 Registration

It's time to make that important decision about your fall class selection! Registration dates are set for Saturday, February 4th from 8—11am for CURRENT STUDENTS. Previous families and younger siblings of current students may register beginning at 9am on Feb.4th. Saturday, February 11th is the date for church members (beginning at 8:00am) and the general public (beginning at 9am). It is sure to be a busy couple of mornings, as we've had many phone calls and tours already. If you have questions about fall class choices, please discuss options with your child's teacher or with Kari Jo. As of right now we plan to offer exactly the same schedule, and we always try to be responsive to the needs of our families. Do NOT be discouraged if you end up on a waiting list for your desired class, as many times we are able to work things out.

We are in need of some volunteers to help with registration the mornings of February 4th and 11th from 8:00-11:00am. If you are able to help out, please contact Kari Jo. It's a fun morning, and coffee is on tap!

2012 registration forms are available in the office, or on our website.

The following is an article written in February of 2009 that many people have found helpful in making decisions about K Prep vs. 4 year-old classes....

What is Kindergarten Prep All About?

All of the classes that take place at BHP are helping children get ready for Kindergarten and “big school.” But there is a big difference between the programming at each age level. We work very hard to find curriculum activities that are developmentally appropriate, and challenge our learners at all stages.

The K Prep programs at Bethel Highlands are intended for children who will definitely be going to Kindergarten the following school year.

In recent years, many children are starting Kindergarten later and therefore they may have a year of 4 year-old preschool AND a year of K Prep. So what's so unique about K Prep?

- Our K Prep teachers have their Elementary Education degrees. They've taught at the elementary level, and have a good understanding of the expectations facing incoming school-agers.
- Our curriculum includes similar themes for all ages, but at the K Prep level the learning goes deeper. For example: the 4 year-olds learning about “our bodies” may be learning about body parts and how they help us stay healthy; the K Prep class learning about “our bodies” will explore muscles, lungs, bones, heart, brain, etc...
- K Prep kids will do the Pledge of Allegiance, weather graphing, and other activities to help them feel comfortable with the “big school” routines.
- K Prep kids spend more time on their fine motor skills. Expanding the learning with journal time, more difficult scissors projects, a focus on properly writing their names and holding a pencil, and exposure to more fine motor equipment. During art projects K Prep students are encouraged to add more detail, dimension, and expanded thought processes.
- Social skills are explored at a new level to encourage more responsibilities, conflict resolution, and engaged play with peers.
- The language arts programming provides extensive exposure to letters and letter sounds. Children in K Prep are interested in inventive and inquisitive spelling, as well as sequencing story cards and retelling stories.
- Math skills are developed to include patterning, number writing and recognition, counting by 10's, and time concepts.
- Science experiments and the proper environment allow for logic, questioning, and seeking answers through exploration.
- Discussions are welcome on current events and history.
- Kids still have fun, enjoy school, and feel good about their new abilities!

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS
ABOUT PLACEMENT FOR FALL,
DON'T HESITATE TO ASK YOUR
CHILD'S TEACHER!**

BHP Bake Sale

Each year Bethel Highlands Preschool holds a bake sale during Saturday night and Sunday worship at the Highlands campus. This year that event is set for the weekend of February 4th & 5th. We are requesting baked goods from our families by the 3rd, and ask that you sign up on your classroom door to donate some goodies. You'd be surprised how much a bake sale can raise for educational materials! Please see Kari Jo if you have questions.

Parent Education Nights

We are so pleased to be offering Parent Education Nights this year! These topics coming soon...

FAITH DEVELOPMENT, with Pastor Van Bredeson and Children's Ministry Director, Lisa Ruettimann. *How can parents nurture a child's relationship with God? How can parents answer those tough questions that kids ask? How can parents model a life of faith?* Learn and discuss these questions and many more on **JANUARY 19th @ 6:30PM**.

CHALLENGING BEHAVIORS, with Pam Morrison, Early Childhood Special Educator with the Hudson School District. Every parent encounters those moments when they've tried every trick and nothing seems to work! *How can I get my child to follow my rules and requests? Why is my child throwing tantrums? What can I do to stop the hitting/fighting/back-talk?* Learn and discuss these questions and more on **FEB 7th @ 6:30PM**.

HELPING CHILDREN THROUGH CHANGE, with Kari Jo Fore and Christina Tietz, school counselor. Changes such as starting preschool, kindergarten, divorce, moving, new siblings, etc... will be discussed on **MARCH 5th @ 6:30PM**

FREE CHILDCARE! Sign up for sessions by emailing Kari Jo karijo@bethelhighlandspreschool.org, or on the list by the office door. Cost is \$5 per person.



MARK IT ON THE CALENDAR!

- January 10—Parent Group Mtg
- January 16—No School
- January 19—Parent Ed. Night
- January 27—No School
- February 4—2012 Registration for current students and returning families
- February 4 & 5—BHP Bake Sale!
- February 7—Parent Ed. Night
- February 11—Registration
- February 14—BHP Parent Group Mtg.
- February 24—No School
- March 17-25—Spring Break

Soccer Shots is Back!

There will be a Soccer Shots Demo Day on Wednesday, January 11th in the morning for all students. Classes will start the following week. Please register online at <http://stcroix.soccershots.org/>



Children paint the ceiling of the "Sistine Chapel" as they learn about Michelangelo in art class.

2011 Tax Receipts

Did you know that your preschool tuition is tax deductible as "dependent care?" If you would like a receipt for your 2011 payments, please email Kari Jo or write a note with your name and "2011 receipt." We will do our best to get that to you within two days.

We're on Facebook! Get updates, photos, and announcements at www.facebook.com/bethelhighlandspreschoolorg