



September 2018

Dear Parents,

We have had a great first few weeks of school. During most of September we will continue to work on learning about new friends, discovering what interesting things we will do in the classrooms each day, and following directions in a routine day at school. This year is Chamblee Methodist's 62nd year of serving young children in our community. As always, we expect it to be one of our best! Our current enrollment is 164 children with 12 classes and 25 staff members. I am so glad that our hallways are filled once again with happy voices and smiles.

This newsletter is your first of this school year. We will use it as one of our communication tools to let you know of upcoming events as well as information pertaining to the development of young children. We ask that you read all notes and letters completely and carefully, and mark your calendars with the information pertaining to your child. Please feel free to contact any of our staff with your questions or suggestions, too. You will also receive reminders and other classroom communications by e-mail. So please make sure that your child's teachers have an accurate e-mail address for you.

Home to school communication is a priority for us, so feel free to use email as well as handwritten notes put in your child's school bag zippered pouch as a way to communicate. Emails will be checked and responded to before or after school each day so that the teachers can give their full attention the children during the school day. If a message is time-sensitive please call the school office at **770-457-2527**. Also, remember that no one is available to answer the school phone from 11:40-12:10 each day since every staff member is needed for carpool and lunch bunch time. If you have a message regarding your child's pick-up during this time, call the church office at **770-457-2525** and the church office manager or phone volunteer will relay the message to us in the hall.

We are very pleased to have each of you at Chamblee Methodist this year! We appreciate your encouraging words, your enthusiasm, and your terrific children. May God bless each of you as we share the joy of nurturing your young boys and girls.

With Gratitude,

### **UPCOMING CALENDAR EVENTS**

Thursday, September 27	Chapel in church sanctuary, 9:15
Thurs, Fri, Mon, October 4, 5, 8	School closed for Fall Break and Columbus Day
Wednesday, October 10	Chapel in church sanctuary, 9:15
Thursday, October 18	No school for children; staff meeting for teachers
Saturday, October 20	CFUMC Fall Festival, front lawn of church, 1-4 pm
Tues, Wed, October 23, 24	School Pictures
Wednesday, October 24	CFUMC Trunk of Treats and Hot Dog Dinner, 6:00
Thursday, October 25	Chapel in the church sanctuary, 9:15
End of October	Halloween Parties, TBA by classroom teacher
Tuesday, November 6	School closed for election day
Wednesday, November 7	Chapel in the church sanctuary, 9:15
Thursday, November 15	Chapel in the church sanctuary, 9:15
Thursday, November 15	School closes at noon; staff meeting, no lunch bunch

### **CHAPEL DATES**

Chapel is held twice per month beginning at 9:15 in the church sanctuary. We encourage parents to come and be with us during this special time. We ask parents to sit in the parent section so you can see the children as they walk in with their class. We find that if you sit with your child's class, some students wonder why their parent is not there and it can lead to an upset child. Also, when sitting in the parents section you have an opportunity to meet other parents of CMK children. Younger siblings are also welcome and we request that siblings remain seated with parents during chapel. Be reminded that we are unable to bring coffee or other beverages into the sanctuary.

### **MAGNETS, SHIRTS AND TOTES FOR SALE!**

Our school has car magnets (\$4) and an assortment of colored t-shirts (\$10) with the Chamblee Methodist logo available. Also available are tote bags (\$10) in many colors. Purchasing these items are a great way to support our school! Please let us know if you'd like to get a magnet, shirt, or tote bag for your child.

### **STUDENT HANDBOOKS**

You received a copy of our handbook for the '18 – '19 school year at Meet the Teachers Day or at Parents' Orientation earlier this month. Please be sure to read through it carefully to make sure you are aware of our policies and procedures, even if you have been at CMK for years. If you have not received your handbook for some reason, please tell us immediately and we'll make sure you get one! We especially ask that you review the section on carpool safety and procedures, as well as the section on our \$10 late pick-up fees. Please make sure your nanny/babysitter, grandparents and other caregivers are familiar with our procedures too.

### **STAFF CHANGES at CHAMBLEE METHODIST KINDERGARTEN**

We had a few staff changes this year! We are so happy to welcome back Emily Hamilton as a PreK assistant, Summer Rowell who has been in PMO and is now also assisting in a 2's class, and former parents of CMK students, Mary Marshall Burr, assisting in PreK and Rachel Herring, lead teacher for 2's. We feel fortunate to welcome Katie Weaver in our music room who has already expanded our music knowledge by bringing in her guitar and drum to accompany the singing children. We feel incredibly blessed to be surrounded by wonderful staff members who love and cherish each child in their class. Your children will be equally as blessed by being surrounded by such a wonderful staff.

### **SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS**

If you are interested in working as a substitute teacher on either an occasional or regular basis, please tell Mellie so that we can send an application form to you. This is an ongoing need at our school. Our substitutes are paid for this work. A background check (paid for by the school) and a TB test (\$25) are required. Please call or e-mail Mellie if you have questions about this important need. We have over twenty people on our substitute list so you would be called only occasionally (unless you tell us you'd like to be called often!)

### **CMK SCHOOL REMINDERS**

Early Arrival - If you arrive at school early and walk your child in, please wait until 8:45 before allowing your child to come to the classroom. Prior to that time, teachers are often out of the room gathering supplies for the day or meeting with one another to go over the day's plans and objectives, or communicating with Mellie. It is important that our staff has this time before class so that we may give our undivided attention to the children when they arrive. Please be sure spouses and caregivers who may bring your child to school occasionally are aware of this policy.

Clothing - Be sure your child is dressed comfortably and appropriately on the day s/he has Creative Movement class (either Tues. or Weds.). Girls might be more comfortable in pants that day. Also, please have your child wear clothing that s/he can manage while in the bathroom. Belts and complicated snaps and fasteners are often too difficult for a young child to undo and create delays in making it to the bathroom.

PLEASE BE SURE TO LABEL ALL TOTE BAGS, LUNCH BOXES, SWEATERS, JACKETS, ETC. WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME.

We do appreciate your special efforts in helping us get off to a smooth start! Your help in cooperating with our procedures makes everything go well for the children and helps keep everyone safe. Thank you!

Our staff feels that each child is an important person at Chamblee Methodist Kindergarten and is a unique creation of God. You may be certain that your child has received a lot of love and will continue to do so as we try to reinforce his/her positive self-image and help each child feel secure.