

CHAMBLEE METHODIST KINDERGARTEN

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January 2019

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! Our staff hopes that you had a wonderful Christmas and an enjoyable holiday with your families and friends. We are very glad to see all of our CMK friends again and are looking forward to a busy month. When January arrives, we are always aware of the growth and maturity that have taken place over the last few months. The challenges and opportunities in our classrooms will increase in pace yet still filled with fun activities.

As noted in the handbook please be aware that our school will abide by the decision of the DeKalb County School System as to whether we will be open in the event of bad weather that may pose a safety concern for transportation and roadways. If we should have snow or ice, check your radio, TV, or internet to see if our school is open. If for any reason DeKalb County announces a delayed school opening or an early release time (rather than a cancellation), please check your e-mail for a message regarding our CMK schedule.

During these winter months when colds and coughs are common and so easily spread, please review our health standards for school attendance. Keeping a child home for only one day is often not enough, both for the child to feel better and to avoid the most contagious time. Although we do not expect children with coughs and colds to remain home for the usual 7-10 day duration, usually being at home for 2-3 days is helpful for both the sick child as well as his/her classmates. Children with fever or vomiting should remain at home for at least 24 hours symptom-free, even if they seem just fine the next morning. Thank you for monitoring your child's symptoms carefully. We also strongly recommend handwashing upon arriving home each day.

We'd like to thank all the parents who helped with our Christmas parties. We had truly wonderful and creative refreshments and activities. Thank you for your extra efforts at a very busy time of year! I am personally grateful for the many cards, family photos, and homemade treats, you gave me at Christmas. On behalf of our staff, may your new year be filled with God's richest blessings!

With Gratitude,

CALENDAR EVENTS

Tuesday, January 15	Registration for current families and church members in Fellowship Hall – 8:45am - 9:15am
Wednesday, January 16	Chapel – 9:15 am
Thursday, January 17	Staff meeting; NOON dismissal, no Lunch Bunch
Monday, January 21	NO SCHOOL (Martin Luther King Day)
Tuesday, January 22	Registration for Alumni families 8:45 am – 12:00 noon
Wednesday, January 23	Registration for community/ New families – 8:45am -9:15am
Thursday, January 24	Chapel – 9:15 am
Monday, January 28	David Ginn Magic Show – Fellowship Hall, 10:30am
Wednesday, February 6	Chapel – 9:15 am
Tuesday, February 12	Evening Open House for students and families; time TBD
Friday, February 15	NO SCHOOL – President's Day weekend
Monday, February 18	NO SCHOOL – President's Day weekend
Thursday, February 21	Chapel – 9:15 am and Staff meeting; NOON closing; no lunch bunch

TOY DONATIONS

The coordinators of Cross Cultural Ministries were also very grateful for all the toys, books, and games that our families donated; your generosity certainly made the holidays much brighter for many families and truly exemplified the spirit of giving. The recipients are families that Cross Cultural Ministries works with year-round in tutoring, after-school programs, classes, Bible studies, etc., so the relationships are far deeper than simply a one-time gift program.

REGISTRATION NEWS

Registration for the 2019-2020 school year begins on **Tuesday, January 15**. On this first day, church families and current families will register. You may pick up your child's packet that morning in **Fellowship Hall** between 8:45am and 9:15am (no "early birds" please; we will not give out any packets until 8:45am). **Be sure to bring your checkbook or cash to pay the nonrefundable/nontransferable registration** fee of \$65.00 per child for Church members, \$100.00 per child for non-church members and \$75.00 per additional child (non-church members.) We will accept cash or a check made payable to Chamblee Methodist Kindergarten (CMK).

TUITION FEES FOR 2019-2020

In the fall, the Kindergarten committee met and approved a slight raise in tuition for next school year as described in the December newsletter. Below is the new fee schedule for the 2019-2020 school year.

Number of Days Attending Per Week	Tuition Payment Amount	Annual Tuition Total
2 days	\$240.00	\$2,160.00
3 days	\$290.00	\$2,610.00
4 days	\$325.00	\$2,925.00
5 days	\$355.00	\$3,195.00
Kindergarten	\$400.00	\$3,600.00

REGISTRATION FOR KINDERGARTEN (5 YEAR OLDS)

If you intend to register a student for kindergarten, we'll send these packets home with them; there is no reason to come in on the morning of January 15, unless you want to since this one class is not first come, first served. When we have more applicants than available spaces in the **kindergarten class** for 5 year olds, registration will be based on how long the student has been at CMK, how long the family has been at CMK, and church membership. So that we can send you confirmation as soon as possible, we are asking you to register for this class by **Friday, January 18** for first consideration. We will look at all the applications received by this point and send responses via the students' tote bags. You may register for this class after January 18 if you wish; spaces will be confirmed as they become available.

As always, we are happy to answer any questions you may have about our school. We appreciate your recommending our school to friends and neighbors and are always glad to have parents call or visit to get information. We sometimes hear that some new families believe that it's just "too hard to get in CMK," so please let your friends know that we expect to have spaces for new families in some classes, especially 3s.

PARENTS' MORNING OUT (PMO)

As you register your preschooler for the 2019-2020 school year, please remember that PMO will register on the same day, January 15, for all currently enrolled families. PMO is for children ages 9 months to 23 months as of 9/1/19. Contact Chrissy Deegan to answer any questions you may have (770-457-2525). Registration is on a first come, first served basis. Please let your neighbors know that PMO is a great entry point for the early childhood education programs at Chamblee First United Methodist (new families may register on January 23).

WEBSITE UPDATE

We have been updating our website with information about our school, posting the newsletter and pictures of activities that are happening at CMK. Feel free to take a look at our website and let us know how we are doing. As we move into more digital communication, our website will become a great resource for both our school and our parent community. Suggesting to new parents to browse our website is another great way to let the community know about our great school.

Why Are Scissor Skills So Important?



Build Fine Motor Strength

- Cutting allows a child to build up the little muscles in their hands with the open and close motion. These muscles are so important for writing, painting, and doing everyday things like brushing your teeth, eating with utensils, and getting dressed.

Develop Eye- Hand Coordination

- Cutting requires kids to use their eyes and hands in unison to accomplish the cutting task. Eye-hand coordination is important for catching/throwing balls, eating with a spoon and zipping a coat.

Increase Bilateral Coordination

- Cutting encourages your child to use both sides of the body at the same time while each hand is performing its own task. When cutting a shape, a child must hold the paper with one hand while the other hand is opening and closing the scissors and moving forward to cut. This is essential for tasks like zipping up pants, washing dishes, and opening an envelope.

Improving Focus and Attention

- Cutting out shapes takes concentration and attention to detail. Both skills are necessary for success not only in the classroom but in everyday life. The ability to sustain focus is essential to being able to read books, listen to instruction and complete many other classroom tasks.