

CHAMBLEE METHODIST KINDERGARTEN

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January 2020

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! Our staff hopes 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 that has taken place over the last few months.

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 cancellation due to conditions in another part of the county, 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

Monday, January 6	School opens
Monday, January 13	Information meeting about PreK at CMK, 9:15
Tuesday, January 14	Information meeting about Kindergarten at CMK, 9:15
Thursday, January 16	Chapel – 9:15 am
Monday, January 20	NO SCHOOL (Martin Luther King Day)
Thursday, January 23	Registration for current families and church members in Fellowship Hall – 8:45am - 9:15am
Monday, January 27	David Ginn Magic Show – Fellowship Hall, 10:30am
Tuesday, January 28	Registration for Alumni families 8:45 am – 9:15, front desk
Wednesday, January 29	Chapel – 9:15 am
Thursday, January 30	Registration for community/New families – 8:45am -9:15am
Monday, February 3	Vision screening for ages 3, 4, 5
Thursday, February 6	Kindergarten Field trip
Thursday, February 6	Staff meeting; NOON closing; no lunch bunch
Tuesday, February 11	Evening Open House for students and families; time TBD
Thursday, February 13	Chapel – 9:15 am
Friday, February 14	NO SCHOOL – President's Day weekend
Monday, February 17	NO SCHOOL – President's Day weekend
Wednesday, February 26	Chapel – 9:15 am; Ash Wednesday

VISITOR SIGN IN

We love having parents come to our school to be mystery reader, bring a special snack and even to help with an art project. For the safety of all our children please remember to stop at the front desk, sign in and put on a visitor badge. Even if you plan to be in the school for a very short time we need to follow this safety protocol. The church has acquired some new volunteers at the front desk so be sure to stop by, say Hi and sign in.

INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS

As you begin to think about school for your child for next year we want to offer an opportunity for you to come in and learn more about PreK and Kindergarten at Chamblee Methodist Kindergarten. We know these are the ages when parents begin to have more choices and options and we want to help you be as informed as possible about these important years of school. Our PreK and Kindergarten teachers will be on hand during these meetings to tell you about our program, answer questions and give you important information to know as you make these decisions. All are invited to attend one or both of these sessions.

Monday, January 13, 9:15am - Information session for PreK

Tuesday, January 14, 9:15 am - Information session for Kindergarten

TOY DONATIONS

The coordinators of Cross Cultural Ministries were so 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.

REGISTRATION NEWS

Registration for the 2020-2021 school year begins on **Thursday, January 23**. 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 \$75.00 per child for Church members, \$115.00 per child for non-church members and \$85.00 per additional child (non-church members.) We will accept cash or a check made payable to Chamblee Methodist Kindergarten (CMK).

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 23, 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 **Monday, January 27** for first consideration. We will look at all the applications received by this point and send responses by Wednesday, January 29. You may register for this class after January 27 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 space available for new families in all age groups. Registration for new families will be on Thursday, January 30 from 8:45 – 9:15 in Fellowship Hall.

PARENTS' MORNING OUT (PMO)

As you register your preschooler for the 2020-2021 school year, please remember that PMO will register on the same day, January 23, for all currently enrolled families. PMO is for children ages 9 months to 23 months as of 9/1/20. 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 Church (new families may register on January 30).

TUITION FEES FOR 2020-2021

In the fall, the Kindergarten Board met and approved no raise in tuition for next school year. Below is the fee schedule for the 2020-2021 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

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.