

CHAMBLEE METHODIST KINDERGARTEN
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March 2020

Dear Parents,

What a pleasure it was to see so many of you at Open House in February! Our staff enjoyed the chance to visit informally with you and to watch your proud and excited children show you some of what their school day involves and introduce you to their friends. Seeing all of you at Open House reminds me of what a blessing it is to be a part of the "Chamblee Methodist Family." We hope that you feel that every day at school is "open house"---you are welcome anytime to visit, come to Chapel, attend a birthday celebration, volunteer, or share your talents.

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 will have class pictures during the middle of March and 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 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 (26), Dianne Wheeler (22), Nancy Kelly (19), Heather Nortje (17), Patti Payne (15), Nancy Bethany (13), Patty Cottle (11), Yvonne Clemens (11), Julia Sellers (10), Becky Cooper (9), Traci White (9), Ann Council (9), Anne McGrath (8), Davina Profit (7) and Fara Yarbrough (7), Maureen Kiely (5), Emily Hamilton (5) and Beth Williams (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.

With Gratitude,

UPCOMING DATES

Wednesday, March 11	Chapel 9:15
Thursday, March 12	NO SCHOOL, Teacher workday (PMO still meets)
Friday, March 13	NO SCHOOL, DeKalb holiday (CMK and PMO closed)
Thurs, Fri, March 19-20	Class Pictures (day and time TBD by each teacher)
Thursday, March 26	Kindergarten field trip to Ga. Aquarium
Thursday, March 26	Chapel 9:15
Saturday, March 28	Easter Egg Hunt on the church lawn, 10 a.m.
<u>April</u>	Parent/teacher conferences (dates/ times TBA)
Monday – Friday, April 6-10	NO SCHOOL, Spring Break
Wednesday, April 15	Chapel 9:15
Thursday, April 16	Staff Meeting–School closes at NOON for all students (no lunch bunch)
Friday, April 17	Tuition Deposit DUE for rising Kindergarten class
Thursday, April 30	Chapel 9:15
Week of May 4	Last Enrichment classes (except Science, Monday ballet and Monday playball)
Wednesday, May 6	Chapel 9:15
Thurs, May 7 and Fri, May 8	Spring Sing, 11 a.m. (for 3s, pre-k, and K classes)
Monday, May 11	Tuition Deposit due for next year – 2s, 3s, Pre-K
Monday, May 11	Ballet recitals for all 3 ballet classes Times TBA
Monday, May 18	Kindergarten class graduation at 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, May 19	Last day of school

Summer fun at CFUMC

June 8–12 (M-F)	Vacation Bible School at Chamblee First UMC Church
June 15–18 and June 22–25 (M-Th)	Summer camp at CMK 9:00 – 1:00

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, so 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, March 28 at 10 am. The egg hunt will begin at 10:00 am **sharp** so you may want to come a bit early. 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 5, Maundy Thursday service on Thursday, April 9, Good Friday Mission Event on April 10 and Easter Sunday services on Sunday, April 12. Also, each Wednesday during Lent the associate pastor is having coffee and an adult bible study at the church. We hope you will be able to join us for some or all of these special events.

MUSIC HIGHLIGHTS

It's already been an exciting 2020 in music class. With many classes talking about bears, hibernation, winter animals and snow in January, we've gone on bear hunts, waddled like Penguins and wishfully sung "Snow is Falling Down!"

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! :-)

In February we sang lots of songs about Love, did some Mardi-Gras themed music-making as well as some African-inspired songs and music.

We are working on uploading more songs to our website so be on the lookout for more uploads in the month of March. Go to our website, www.chambleemethodistkindergarten.org/forms-documents/ and enjoy listening to our chapel opening song which is already uploaded.

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 9 (Payne, Sellers, Kiely, Nortje) and Friday, May 10 (Cooper, Clemens (3s), Kester and Cottle.) More details about this celebratory event will be in the April newsletter.