

WHAT YOUR CHILD WILL NEED FOR THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

(Put on your Fridge TODAY!)

- ◇ 1. A **complete** set of current enrollment forms **on file** in the Preschool Office.
- ◇ 2. A **complete** change of clothes clearly **labeled** with your child's name. (ALL AGES)
- ◇ 3. A lunch box with a thermos or plastic cup. Plastic divided plates for infants and toddlers (with a tight fitting lid). Lunches are needed for **ALL** ages.

PLEASE PACK A NUTRITIOUS LUNCH FOR YOUR CHILD. Sorry no candy, sodas , cookies or other high sugar , non-nutritious foods for lunches at school.

- ◇ 4. Diapers, diaper wipes, and any creams or lotions your child may need. **ALL FOODS AND BOTTLES MUST BE LABELED WITH THE CHILD'S NAME. WRITTEN FEEDING INSTRUCTIONS MUST BE ON FILE FOR INFANTS NOT EATING TABLE FOOD AND MUST BE UPDATED MONTHLY.**



- ◇ 5. **WHAT TO WEAR.....**Comfortable play clothes that allow children to run, climb, crawl, paint, cook, make mud pies and rivers, and play freely . Sturdy shoes that allow for running and climbing. **NO flip flops , Crocs or stiff-soled boots PLEASE!**

PLEASE LABEL ALL BELONGINGS, ESPECIALLY COATS AND JACKETS.

- ◇ Please leave **all** toys and valuables at home—they get lost or broken and it is difficult to explain to a child We have lots of toys here!



ALL families owe September 2015 Tuition by August 1, 2015. We strongly encourage families who pay bills on-line to set up WUMP as a vendor and set up auto-pay with your bank.

We are planning a **PIZZA DAY** once a month beginning in October. The first Thursday or Friday of each month we will serve pizza and milk for lunch for **\$5.00** per child. You may pay for the entire year for **\$40.00**. Parents may send fruit or veggies to complete the meal. This has been a huge success in the past! Parents love it as much as the children!

Extended Day

We offer an **EXTENDED DAY** on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays from 1:00-3:00 p.m. Thursday Extended Day is limited to 3 Thursdays per month due to a required monthly staff meeting on the first Thursday of every month. To enroll for regular attendance requires a \$15 Registration fee and monthly tuition (see tuition schedule).

Group Size is limited due to staffing. Please contact the Preschool Office if you are interested in registering for Extended Day.

A NOTE WILL BE SENT HOME THE FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL LISTING THE EXTENDED DAY YOUR CHILD HAS BEEN PLACED IN AND THE AMOUNT OF TUITION DUE.

Extended Day classes will begin on September 8. We would like to ease the children into school before beginning the long days. If parents feel that it is too much, too soon, please talk with your child's teacher. If your child naps after lunch, Extended Day will be difficult.

A note will be sent home the first week of school stating the Extended Day your child has been placed in. Please contact the Preschool office if you have any questions.

**WESTLAKE UNITED
METHODIST PRESCHOOL**



Visit our web page at:
www.westlake-umc.org
Click on the Preschool Link

Chapel and Children First at WUMC

The children and staff were treated to Pastor Lynn leading our weekly Chapel during the Summer Fun Sessions. Lots of music, (many of you may have heard your child singing “the name song”) and getting to know about each other and God’s love.

Ms. Hilary introduced a new friend and invited the children and their families to come to “Children First”, an interactive worship service for children, their families and people of all ages. The first “Children First” service will be at 9:00 on September 6

Join us!



Greetings from the Preschool Advisory Committee

Welcome to all of you as we start the 2015-2016 school year! Whether you are new to WUMP or a returning family, we are delighted to have your children here. The committee and staff are looking forward to an enriching year full of events that celebrate the early years of childhood.

Thank you in advance to the following parents and church members who are serving on the Preschool Advisory Committee: Corey Blahuta, Wes Hildebrand, Alison Bogle, Jessica Wright, Sara Thurston, Ashley Jamison, Donna Villacis, Elizabeth Hooks, Katie Ruback and Barbara Southward. We are in need of volunteers for our Fundraising Committee for 2015 –2016. Fundraising provides our program with **many** benefits. There will be more information forthcoming about how you can get involved, but if you have any questions, you may speak with Director, Sharon Coleman, myself, or any PSAC member.

WUMP has a great team of staff assembled to nurture your children and keep the school at the top of the list of Austin’s BEST. We will continue building on our excellence through our Texas Rising Star accreditation. Our top priority is making every memory a great one for your child!

Warmest regards,
Cristina Feldott, PSAC Chair

WELCOME TO THE 2015 2016 SCHOOL YEAR AT WUMP! *We are looking forward to an exciting year full of adventure, challenge, growth and joy! The staff of WUMP are anxious to greet returning families and get to know families new to our program.*

We bring a dedicated and experienced staff to this school year. We have returning staff in familiar places, some for MANY years, and new staff who are anxious to be part of our program. Our staff is truly our greatest asset. Teachers will be contacting families to set up a time to meet with you and your children on an individual basis. Please mark your calendars to attend the New Family Orientation and Open House on September 1. It is an important way to learn about our program philosophy and policies and meet other families.

We welcome the opportunity to grow with the children and families of this program. As we begin this year, we remain committed to our philosophy being “child centered” and of meeting the needs of the whole child in a developmentally appropriate way. This means we will provide many hands-on learning experiences daily: stimulating, engaging, questioning, open-ended, child-centered, messy, and most of all FUN! The most exciting goal that lies before us is to provide the children with an environment that celebrates a love of learning and the uniqueness of each of us, children and adults alike!

Let’s begin that journey together!

Sharon



GOOD NUTRITION!

Lunches and Snacks

Children's nutrition is a necessary and very important part of a quality preschool program. WUMP is committed to the best possible learning experiences for your children and nutritious eating is part of that experience. Lunches *must* contain balanced servings of foods including fruit, vegetable, grain product and a protein source. Lunches should be simple and easy for children to eat *by themselves*. Drinks in lunches should be limited to milk, 100% fruit juice or water. Children enjoy a variety each day and small amounts of several things are eaten more easily than a large sandwich. Some suggestions are: crackers and cheese, raw vegetable sticks, fresh or dried fruit, lunch meat strips, yogurt, pasta, pizza or left-overs.

PLEASE DO NOT SEND SODAS, FRUIT PUNCH, SPORT DRINKS, CANDY, CHIPS OR OTHER HIGH SUGAR, HIGH PRESERVATIVE FOODS. We will return such foods for snacks at home.

THANK YOU!

DAILY SNACKS are provided by parents of children in each classroom. Teachers will prepare a snack schedule on a rotating basis. Teachers may request specific foods for each week. We will serve **ONLY** water at snack time. **Families will be notified of FOOD ALLERGIES and be requested to comply on a class by class basis. Please inform the Preschool Office if your child has a food allergy.**

SNACKS are served family style in most classrooms. Each child should have a plastic cup with a handle to allow them to pour their own drink.

To comply with Health Department guidelines, we may serve **ONLY** fresh fruits, vegetables or commercially packaged foods **in factory sealed containers** to groups of children.

PLEASE NOTE: WE CANNOT SERVE nuts, nut butters, popcorn or hard pretzels to children younger than 4 years of age without parental permission.

CELL PHONE USE

We insist on a "Cell Phone Free Zone" for the Preschool building AND the parking lot. Cell phones may **NOT** be visible between the hours of 9:00 and 3:00 at the Preschool.

THE CHILDREN DESERVE ALL OF OUR ATTENTION! DROP OFF AND PICK-UP TIMES ARE VERY SPECIAL TO YOUR CHILDREN. We appreciate your cooperation and so do your children!

"PLAY is the highest expression of human development in childhood. For it alone is the free expression of what is in a child's soul.

- Fredrick Froebel-

WE NEED PARENTS!

SUBSTITUTES—We frequently need help in the classrooms when staff are out. We require a short form, a background check and fingerprinting, a brief orientation, and a willingness to have lots of fun! Substitutes are invaluable to our program. Please sign up in the Preschool Office or at Open House.

A ROOM PARENT IS NEEDED FOR EACH CLASS as the contact person to relay information of upcoming events, bad weather closings, classroom needs, special events etc. **PLEASE SIGN-UP AT OPEN HOUSE.**

PARENT SUPPORT GROUP We would love to have a parent volunteer to help with planning speakers and topics for parent gatherings. The goal of this group is to provide parents with education and resources to support the very demanding job of parenting.

SAFETY ISSUES

The welfare and safety of the children is of utmost importance to us all. Please be aware of the following; **CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED TO THE CLASSROOM DOOR** by parents or car pool drivers. You **MUST** make certain that teachers know your child is now in their care before leaving. This is extremely important at pick up time as well. **ALL children must be signed in and signed out daily. THE OUTSIDE GYM DOORS WILL REMAIN LOCKED DURING PRESCHOOL HOURS. These doors may not be used as an entrance or exit.**

PLEASE exercise caution when entering, backing up, and exiting the parking lot. Common courtesy helps us all. We will have "TRAFFIC FLOW" marked with cones to aid in pedestrian safety. Please comply! You must respect Handicapped parking spaces and leave the "LESS MOBILE" spaces for parents with infants AND other young children. We have 3 parking spaces reserved for families that won in our Spring Silent Auction.

Thank you for your cooperation and help!

PLAY IS THE WORK OF CHILDREN!