

Welcome to Preschool

The Preschool Team is looking forward to a fun and adventurous school year. We are going to learn so many new and exciting things together. We are planning activities and experiences that allow your child the opportunity to explore nature, grow socially, emotionally, cognitively, and build leadership skills. We are looking forward to getting to know your children, as well as, each of you. Please read the enclosed information that will help your child's transition to preschool be smooth and set them up for success.

First Day of School

The First Day of School is Wednesday, August 15th. Our school day runs from 8:15 a.m. - 3:15 p.m. Drop off begins at 8:00 a.m.

You are welcome to park and walk your child into the classroom or use our carpool line.

Parent Conferences

Parent Conferences will be held **Thursday, August 9th and Friday, August 10th**. These conferences will be a brief meeting with your child's teacher and teaching assistant, to allow them the opportunity to introduce themselves and get to know a little bit more about your child and your family. Please follow the link embedded in the email to select a time for your conference.

Two Family Photos

To help our environment be a welcoming community of learners, we will have pictures of your children posted throughout the classroom, this will aid in fostering a sense of identity within their school community. To help us establish this community and further their sense of identity, we need your help by providing your child's teacher with **two family photos**. One photo will be placed on the Family Tree and the other photo will be used in the classroom.

Small List of Items Needed for Preschool

1. A.M. Snack & Lunch

We will be eating a snack around 9:15 a.m. and lunch around 11:30 a.m. Please label your child's snacks and lunch items with their name and be sure to label their snacks "A.M." so we are able to help your child distinguish between their lunch and snacks. Lunches and snacks will be placed in the refrigerator if they need to be cold.

2. Water Bottle

In an effort to do our part to be environmentally friendly, we are asking that each student bring a labeled water bottle each day. We will send this water bottle home each afternoon to be cleaned. We are unable to clean these bottles at school. ****Note: Please send the water bottle to school daily filled with water.****

3. Extra Clothes

Please send in a change of clothes for your child. These clothes should be placed in a ziplock bag and labeled with your child's name. Please include a shirt, pair of pants/shorts, underwear, and socks. We will change these clothes as the seasons change. If your child is sent home with a bag of wet or dirty clothing, we ask that you send clean extra clothing the following day they are in school.

4. Rainboots and a Raincoat

Please send in a pair of rainboots and a raincoat for your child to keep at school. We will switch these out for winter boots and coat when the weather changes. Please label the inside of the boots with your child's name to help us make sure the correct boots go on the correct pair of feet. The inside of the raincoat should be labeled as well.

5. Blanket

We will have rest time each day. The school will provide a cot and sheet for each student. Please provide a small blanket to use during rest time. We ask that the blanket is not too large for their cubby. Label the tag on the blanket so that it does not find its way to another friend's cubby. The blanket will be sent home at the end of the week to be washed and returned at the start of the following week. **Note: Blankets are not needed if your child leaves during early dismissal.**

6. Backpack

Each student will have a set of hooks labeled with their name to hang a backpack and coat. This backpack can be any design that your child chooses. We will use these backpacks to send home water bottles, dirty clothes, and blankets to be washed.

7. Extended Day Programs

If your child will be attending extended day programs, please send afternoon snacks which they can eat during these times. Label the snacks with their name and "P.M." so we are aware that they are for the afternoon time frame.

Helpful Information

1. As we explore nature and our environment, we will encounter weather that is not always sunny. We will still go outside in all types of weather barring inclement weather. Your child may get muddy and dirty. Please dress them in comfortable play clothes and shoes to allow them to embrace their experiences during outdoor adventures.

2. Please remember to leave all toys at home. While we understand that our students may have toys that they enjoy and want to share with their classmates, we ask that you keep these items at home. We do not want anything to happen to anyone's personal belongings and have limited storage space.

3. Label your child's items with their name, this includes: snacks, lunch items, water bottles, boots, coats, extra clothing, and backpacks. We want to make sure that your child's items stay with them and do not find their way to the lost & found box. As the year progresses, the lost & found box becomes very full of lonely items.

4. Throughout the school year, we will plan **field trips**, both preschool classrooms will attend the field trips at the same time. All children are invited to attend, regardless of their full day or partial day schedule. In order to offer an enriching learning experience for your child, our plan is to have a monthly field trip. However, we want you to be aware that we are cognizant of your work schedules and obligations; therefore, we will do our best to balance in-house field trips with traveling field trips.

5. We would love to celebrate your child's birthday! Feel free to bring in treats. Please check with me for any allergies. Our class size consists of 16 children. Please only send party invitations, if our whole class is invited...we're all friends in Preschool! Summer birthday?! No problem! Celebrate on their 1/2 birthday or a day of their choice! **Note: 20 children are enrolled; however, only 16 attend each day.**

Please know that you and your child will get into a rhythm with school and will quickly learn our schedule and culture. The teachers and returning families are here to help with the transition to Redwood Cooperative School!

We hope you have a great rest of the summer and we look forward to seeing you soon! Welcome to Redwood!

Sincerely,

The Preschool Team

