



Westminster Kindergarten November Newsletter

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The week of November 27th, you will receive a mailing containing billing information for the second semester of the current school year as well as enrollment information for the year 2007-2008.

Children currently enrolled in either the two or three day a week program for three year olds may be re-enrolled for a five-day a week program for four year olds or for a three day a week option, which meets Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

There are several considerations when selecting a program. If your child has a summer birthday and you are relatively certain that your child will be at Westminster for the five year

old year, the three day option is fine. However, that is not to say that those children might do just as well in the five day a week option. Attending five mornings a week helps children and parents develop the routine of regular schedules. Kindergartens today are quite different than in the past. The length of the day has increased and the curriculum has grown more complex. With that in mind, it is our recommendation that children who will attend Kindergarten in a public, independent, or parochial school attend preschool five mornings a week the year prior to Kindergarten.

Westminster Kindergarten will offer one class for four

year olds attending three mornings (M,W,F), and three classes for those attending five mornings.

Some of you may wish to re-enroll your four year old in Westminster's outstanding program for five year olds. It is designed for children who are age appropriate for public school kindergarten (five years of age by September 30) but whose parents want their child to have an extra year prior to entering kindergarten.

Please let either your child's teachers or me know if you have any questions or concerns regarding next year's registration. We are happy to meet with you!

Rebecca

Westminster Kindergarten

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Dates to Remember:

November 1,2:

School Pictures

November 8,9:

Staff Development

SCHOOL CLOSED

November 20:

NO Extended Day

November 22-23:

Thanksgiving Holidays

December 14:

Registration due for currently enrolled students

December 19:

Christmas Program for 3 Day 3's (No Extended Day for 3's)

December 20:

Christmas Programs for 2 Day 3's and 4's & 5's

No Extended Day

December 21:

Teacher Workday

A Note of Thanks

A special thank you to the following people:

- The parents of the King/Bonvissuto classroom for the wonderful lunch provided to the staff!
- Carolyn Berry and Susan Weathersby for coordinating a wonderful First Hoorah!
- All of the Room Parents and volunteers who made the event so successful!

B is for Book

Books are great teachers. Just as youngsters learn to swim by swimming and to ride a bike by riding, they learn to read by reading.

Here are some tips for using books to teach reading readiness skills to your child.

A is for Alphabet

Encourage your youngster to practice his ABC's by having him look for words that begin with a certain letter. Choose "T," for example, and tell him to touch his knee each time he sees a word that begins with "T," such as "train" or "tall."

B is for Book

Suggest that your child make his very own word book to keep track of words he can read. In a blank notebook, have him write each letter of the alphabet at the top of the page. As you read stories, help him write the words he knows on the proper page. For instance, "Dad" goes on the "D" page. Then, let him read you his word book each day.

C is for Comprehension

Be sure your child understands what's happening in the books you read together. Stop every now and then to help him make connections to the

story: "Look, the mommy is tucking the little boy into bed, just like we do every night."



2007-2008 Book Fair

Westminster Kindergarten and Toddlers & Twos are proud to announce the return of the annual Scholastic Book Fair to the Westminster Church.

The Book Fair will take place on **November 5th-7th** in Fellowship Hall.

The Book Fair provides a wonderful opportunity to purchase holiday gifts for family and friends. Several hard cover books will be available.

As a special treat, characters from some of the Scholastic books will be visiting with the children at the book fair.

A percentage of the proceeds from the Book Fair will go towards Westminster Kindergarten and Toddlers & Twos.

Please look for notices of volunteer opportunities!



Respect: A Two-Way Street

Excerpt from Early Years: Working Together for a Great Start

Give Privacy:

Knock and announce yourself before entering your youngster's room: "It's Mom. I'd like to read you a bedtime story." Knowing you respect your preschooler's private space teaches him to value other people's privacy, too. Imagine, a shower with no interrup-

tions!

Listen to Opinions:

Let your child be part of family decision making. Whether it's what color to paint her room or where to go on Saturday, show that you value her thoughts...even when you can't honor his/her wishes. Example: "We just went to the park. We'll go to the library today and back to the park

next week."

Discipline Quietly:

If your youngster misbehaves in public, find a quiet place to discuss what happened. Reprimanding him away from others shows you respect your preschooler's feelings enough not to embarrass him.