# PROMISE LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL NEWSLETTER

# August 2025 | 7323 Schwartz Rd Fort Wayne



# The Classroom is Ready

We are thrilled to share that our preschool classroom is all set and ready for an amazing year ahead! Our team has been working diligently to organize and prepare the space, and we can't wait for the children to come in and explore. Mark your calendars for the first day of class on September 2, 2025, at 9 AM. We look forward to seeing all the smiling faces and embarking on this wonderful journey of learning and play together!

# **Upcoming Events**

# **Open House/Meet the Teacher**

Open House and Meet the Teacher night is scheduled for August 26 from 6-7. Come and meet the teacher, see the classroom, and ask questions about the school year. Mrs. Ashton is looking forward to meeting all the children and parents.



## New playground coming soon

A playground for the children will be coming this fall (weather permitting). Look for more information as plans are currently being finalized on the project.

# Items to complete:

# **Physical and Immunizations**

As part of our commitment to ensuring the health and safety of all students, we would like to remind you of the state licensing requirements regarding physicals and immunizations.

- All children must have a current physical examination on file with the school.
- The physical must have been completed within the last year to be considered valid.
- Up-to-date immunizations are also required to ensure the well-being of our school community.
- -If your child is not receiving immunizations due to religious beliefs, you will need to have a state signed form stating the exemption.

Please ensure that your child's physical and immunization records are submitted to the school office before the first day of school. If you have any questions or need assistance, feel free to reach out.

Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our students healthy and safe!

## **Brightwheel - Keeping you informed**

- Real-time Updates: Parents can receive updates on their child's activities throughout the day, including photos, videos, and daily reports
- Activity Feed: A student activity feed provides a chronological view of the child's day, including check-in/out times, meals, naps, and other activities.
- Communication: Parents can easily message teachers and staff

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#### **Welcome to Our Preschool Class**

We are excited to embark on this new journey together in our first year of preschool! This year will look a little different as we will have a combined class of 3-5 year old children. While our enrollment is smaller, this presents a wonderful opportunity for more personalized interactions between our teachers and students.

#### **Benefits of a Combined Class**

- Individual Attention: With fewer students, our teachers can provide more one-on-one support tailored to each child's developmental needs.
- -Mentorship Opportunities: Our older children will have the chance to take on leadership roles by mentoring their younger classmates, fostering a sense of responsibility and community.

#### **Focus on Development**

In the coming weeks, we will concentrate on social and emotional development using the Kimochi curriculum. This program will help our children express their feelings, understand emotions, and build strong relationships with one another.

#### **Building Connections**

We will dedicate time to getting to know each other, creating a warm and welcoming environment where friendships can flourish. Your child will also learn about Jesus and His love for us, emphasizing the importance of loving and caring for one another.

We look forward to a fantastic year filled with growth, learning, and fun! Thank you for being a part of our preschool family.

# How to best prepare my child for their first day of preschool?

#### 1. A little prep goes a long way

In the weeks before school starts, spend a little time helping your child get familiar with the idea of preschool. Read stories about starting school or packing their backpack, walk or drive by the building, and talk about what their day might look like — from circle time to outdoor time. Practice saying goodbye, and let them try out their backpack or lunchbox. These little moments can help build confidence and excitement.

#### 2. Label everything

We mean it. Every water bottle, sweater, hat, blanket, stuffed animal. If it leaves your house, put a name on it. Classrooms are organized chaos, and labeling your child's belongings helps us keep track of their things (and saves you from the lost-and-found pile).

#### 3. The first few weeks are a big transition for everyone

Tears, clinging, tantrums, refusal to get dressed, sudden potty accidents — it's all normal, and part of adjusting to a new rhythm and space. Your child is learning how to trust new adults, be part of a larger group, feel a sense of belonging to a new space, and manage their feelings. Be patient — with them, and with yourself.

#### 4. Please don't sneak out...and please don't stick around

Talking about big transitions, let's talk about goodbyes. We know they can be tough, especially on the first day. You might think slipping away while your child is distracted will save them (and you) some tears. But in the long run, it makes it harder. When you say goodbye clearly and confidently every time, it builds trust. Your child learns that even when you leave, you always come back. That said, once you've said goodbye, it's time to go. We know it's tempting to linger by the window or sneak a peek to see how they're doing. But if they spot you, it often means the goodbye has to happen all over again. It can also make them feel unsure, wondering when or if you'll pop back in. The best thing you can do is trust the process and let them settle in with us.

#### 5. We want the same thing you do

And on the topic of letting them settle in with us, remember that <u>we are on your team</u>, working towards the same goal. We're not just here to "watch" your child. We're building a space where they can feel safe, brave, curious, and loved. We care deeply about helping them grow — not just academically, but socially and emotionally too. We want their days to be magical. And we want you to feel good knowing they're in good hands.

### 6. There's no race to "ready"

We know it's tempting to compare your child with other children. When will your child write their name, recite the alphabet, or count to ten. But here's the truth: development is a walk in the woods, not a race on the highway. Some children will take off running, and others will stop to examine every leaf. Both are exactly where they need to be.

We're here to support their pace, their path, and their passions. No one gets left behind—but we also don't push children toward arbitrary milestones. And if we ever have a <u>concern about their progress</u>, we promise to bring you into the conversation with care, clarity, and a plan forward, always as partners.

### 7. Keep us in the loop

We don't need your whole life story, but we do appreciate a heads-up if something's going on at home. Send us a <u>quick message</u> to let us know about changes new siblings, sleep struggles, grandparents visiting for the weekend — even what seems like a small change to you affects a child's day, behavior and mood. When we know what's happening, we can meet your child with even more empathy and care.

Oh, and one last thing...

**We're your teammates** in this new season of your child's life. If something feels off or you have a question, please reach out. We're here to support the children and the adults, and we're so excited to get started!

And most importantly, we promise that even if there are tears, we've got them. Really.

#### **Contact Information**

- Brightwheel will be the best and easiest way to get in touch with your child's teacher or the director
- The Director's email address is preschooldirector@promisefw.com
- You can call the church office phone to leave a message for the teacher or the director at 260-493-9953