

WELCOME

Welcome to our 52nd year of educating young children at Ursuline Preschool & Kindergarten.

We have several new staff members:

Miss Bridget Crogan, Technology Teacher

Mrs. Jodi Klepec, Time for Two Teacher

Miss Grace Lape, After Care Assistant

Mrs. Colleen Loney, 3's & 4's Assistant

Mrs. Tammy Romeo, 3's & 4's Teacher

SCHOOL FORMS

Thank you for your prompt and efficient return of all the school forms. ODE requires that we have current shot records and updated forms on file for every student the first day of school.

BULLETIN BOARD

Please "Check Out the Scoop" on our parent bulletin board in the lobby. If you have business cards you would like to display, please give to Karen in the office.

SUPPLIES

It is amazing the number of tissues we use in a day. Thank you to parents with last names "A-J" for sending in the needed supplies listed on pink supply list sent home.

HOT LUNCH/PIZZA

Hot lunch orders and money are due by Thursday, Sept. 10th. The first day for hot lunches to be served will be Monday, Sept. 14th. The children that are at UPSK during lunch time have the opportunity to purchase a lunch from "Revolution in Nutrition" which is operated by Antone's. The cost is \$3.50 for each lunch which includes milk/juice. An order form with additional information will be sent home. If you have questions see Mrs. Oddis, TK assistant who is our Lunch Coordinator. On Friday, the children can purchase Fernando's Wedgewood pizza. Please place \$3.50 in an envelope with your child's name and "Pizza" marked on the outside. Pizza lunches include pizza, chips/pretzels, fruit snacks and unlimited milk and juice. Pizza Fridays has already begun!

HOMEROOM MOMS

If you are interested in being a homeroom mom, please make sure your form is turned in. The names will be randomly picked on September 15th at 9:00 a.m., you are welcome to attend. On Monday, Sept. 21st the HR Moms that were randomly selected will meet from 6:00-7:30 p.m. to plan the year.

BOXTOPS & LABELS FOR EDUCATION

Please continue to save these for our school. Last year we earned **\$1,751.10** from those tiny Box Tops on items. We were able to purchase educational materials, art supplies and helped pay for Gymsters for the children. The Recycled Robot in the lobby is always hungry for BoxTops and Labels for Education. We will be sending more information home shortly. Our goal is to reach \$2,000.00 in profit.

GYMSTERS & CANDY BAR FUND RAISER

Gymsters will be part of our curriculum for the children again this year. The sale of "Market Day" Items combined with BoxTops helped pay for this program last year. As many of you may know, Market Day closed this past June. We needed to come up with another creative way to pay for Gymsters. *World Famous Candy* guaranteed us that we will make the \$2,050.00 that Market Day generated for us last year! Of course, with that incentive it was too good to turn down. We will be sending the "details" and candy bars home Sept. 10th & 11th and the sale ends Monday, Sept. 28th. ***The staff and most of all your children thank you for supporting this ONE time fundraiser for Gymsters.*** It will replace the monthly sale of Market Day. We are asking each family to sell only one box of 30 World Famous Chocolate Bars. Of course we will have extra candy bars for those that need them. The family that sells the most bars will receive "One Free GYMSTERS Birthday Party" which retails up to \$200.00. This wonderful prize has generously been donated by Liz O'Hara, the owner and instructor of GYMSTERS. We have other prize incentives that will be explained in a detailed letter.

HANDBOOKS

Family Handbooks have been distributed to all families. Please sign and return the form stating that you received and read the Handbook for 2015-2016.

MORNING CARE/AFTER CARE

We are able to care for your child from 7:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m. if the need is there. Our **Before Care** is available daily at 7:30 a.m. (ring doorbell at side door near Mrs. Sebastiani's Room.) Our **After Care** is available daily from 11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. for additional fees which are billed monthly. A phone call or note is all you need to have your child attend After Care, even at the last minute. ***Alumni and siblings of UPSK students attending Canfield Elem. Schools can take the bus to UPSK After Care.***

27th ANNUAL CRAFT SHOW

Save the date, Saturday, December 5th, 2015 for our 27th Annual Craft Show. Committees are being formed and many volunteers are needed to prepare for "***Once Upon A Christmas***" Craft Show. Christy Durham, the mom of two alumni of UPSK, does an outstanding job as chairperson. We are grateful for her continued leadership and to ALL OF YOU who volunteer to help carry on this fine holiday tradition! Call the office to volunteer.

ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL

Please use ONLY the entrance that is marked "Ursuline Preschool & Kindergarten and Walsh University." This is the Shields Rd. entrance that is closest to Raccoon Rd. Thank you for driving SLOW when entering the parking lot. We ask that the TK/K parents follow the arrows on the pavement at dismissal to keep everyone safe. Children are able to arrive at 8:20 a.m. and 12:20 p.m. for their classes. Morning Care and After Care are available every day.

TK/K TESTING & PRESCHOOL PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE

Mrs. Albanese will be administering the AIMSweb test to our TK/K students three times

during the year. Results will be shared with parents at conferences.

We will be sending home the "Ages & Stages Questionnaire" (ASQ-SE) to all preschool parents. A letter explaining this will be sent home with the questionnaire. It takes about 10 minutes to complete and enables the parents and teachers to see where their child's social and emotional development is. The information is **confidential** between teacher and parent and not shared with anyone else.

PRESCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

This is available for our preschool children as an addition to the 3's and 4's program. It is an excellent program that expands on our Preschool curriculum and engages the children in investigative learning activities. It enables your child to be at UPSK, Monday-Friday. The program hours are 8:30-12:30 p.m. and 11:00-3:00 p.m. Depending upon availability, you pick the days and times that work best for your child. Brochures are in the office or talk to Mrs. Conti.

TRANSITIONAL ENRICHMENT

This program is designed for the children in our Transitional Kindergarten that wish to extend their day. It is an extension of the TK curriculum with many hands on scientific and investigative activities. It is 12:30-2:30 p.m. with optional days available. Brochures are in the office or talk with Mrs. Shindle.

TIME FOR TWO PROGRAM

We began this program last year and it proved to be a wonderful addition to our school. This program is designed for the two year old child to enjoy an hour of many age appropriate activities with one adult. Your child may attend either Tuesday or Thursday, 9:00-10:00 a.m., one hour a week. Limited spaces are available for this "first" preschool experience. Brochures are available in the office or talk with Mrs. Klepec. There is a small monthly fee. Our Time for Two begins this year on Tuesday, Sept. 8th and Thurs., Sept. 10th and meets through May.

SPANISH

Wednesdays is Spanish Day at UPSK for the Preschool Enrichment, TK Enrichment and the Kindergarten children. Mrs. Rubi Pappalarda will continue with the Spanish classes that we began last year in our program.

TUITION/SUPPLY FEE

Thank you for your conscientious effort to make payment on your September tuition and supply fee. If your child attends Before or After School Care, you will be billed at the beginning of each month. Enrichment Programs will be billed separately at the end of each month. Tuition is due on or before the 15th of each month. Please make checks payable to UPSK. "Paypal" is also an option if you want to pay with credit card. If you pay the tuition for the year by Sept. 30th you will receive a 5% discount.

SCHOOL SAFETY

We take the safety of your child very seriously. All of our doors are locked with cameras located at all entrances. All people entering the school must stop in the office upon entering. We purchased NAVIGATE, a program that enables all of our lockdown procedures, class lists and emergency information to be an app on our staff cell phones. In addition all our information has been electronically sent to local authorities, ODE and the Attorney General. We will be conducting the various safety drills including Lockdown procedures on a routine basis during the year.

SPIRIT WEAR

We will be sending order forms home for our Ursuline Preschool & Kindergarten Spirit Wear. Samples will be on display in the lobby. During the year you will note on the calendar "Spirit Day." On these days we show our school spirit by wearing these neat t-shirts. Order forms and money will be due Wednesday, Sept.30th.

CHAIRPERSONS NEEDED

Thank you to the many parents that volunteered to be chairpersons for the many events we provide for our children and families.

We are very grateful to Nicole Billak for organizing the Room Moms and the various committees for our school events. We are still in need of several chair and co-chair for the following events: *Play Center Cleaning* (once a year the toys are cleaned), *Teacher Conference Lunches* (organize parents to provide a simple treat for teachers on conference days) and a *Co-chair for Bake Days* (organize and direct parents to help make buckeyes for the Craft Show.) If you are able to help with any of the above please contact Nicole Billak or stop in the office.

ENROLLMENT

We are thrilled that our enrollment continues to grow. Currently we have 218 wonderful students. Several classes are closed but we have room in a few classes for additional students. We have a rolling enrollment for all of our programs at UPSK. This means if you have a child that is ready to begin preschool in the middle of the school year we will be happy to accept your child if space is available. Thank you for spreading the good news about UPSK!

NUN RUN

Mark your calendar for ***the Nun Run 5kRace/1 mile Walk and Kids Run*** on Sat., October 3, 2015. The Kids Run (10 and under) begins at 8:45 a.m. Many families and staff have already turned in the registration form. All proceeds benefit the Ursuline Sisters HIV/AIDS Ministry. Check the bulletin board for "purple registration form". See you there!

Thank you for the opportunity to be part of your child's educational journey this year. The entire staff encourages you to enjoy these many "first days" of school with your child. May these fall days be filled with many memories that will last a lifetime. We look forward to seeing you in the halls as you bring your child to school each day.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann Critell, Principal/Director

and

Staff at Ursuline Preschool & Kindergarten

