
PARENTS' POST

The Early Learning Program of the W.C.P.C.

May 2018

From the Director

"LOOK AT THE WONDERFUL THINGS GOD MADE." JOB 37:14

This has been an awesome year for all of us at ELP. As the new Director at ELP, I often take time on the weekends to reflect upon all the things that have gone on in the past weeks and think about the new things that are to come. Thinking all the way back to September, we cannot forget that our school year began with a hurricane. That huge storm was unexpected and devastating to so many people and many are still putting pieces of their lives back together. We must be careful not to forget that feeling of awe that we all shared as we either played a role in receiving or helping share God's love for others. We shouldn't need huge disasters to remind us to recognize the miracles and the blessings that surround us each day, and we should always strive to share this spirit of love and support even in the mundane days. The truth is, however, we do sometimes forget as we get busy and days turn into months. It is easier to forget to simply look at the wonderful things (and people) that God has made than we would like to admit.

As early childhood educators, we are grateful to have the opportunity to serve God's children on a daily basis at ELP! This helps us to view the world from a child's perspective, and this helps us remember to stop and stand in awe of even the tiniest miracles like caterpillars turning into butterflies, or seeds turning into flowers. Maybe this child like view is what we should always cling to! Our days for this remaining school year together are few, but our hope is that you and your children will find time to enjoy all the wonderful things this year has brought and remember WHO gets the credit! May we remember to praise HIM, our Heavenly Father, for the time we have shared; even those times when we were together in a storm.

Our focus this month will be WATER and all that it offers. What better way to learn in this returning heat than to spend several weeks on the playground with water activities. Miss Breanne, Miss Blythe, and Miss Corky have planned all sorts of wet and wild water activities for our outdoor learning centers on the playground. So, for the last month of school, please send your child in cool, casual play clothes and remember to put a full change of clothes, including socks and shoes, in your child's backpack each day. Also, please look in your child's back pack this week for our last special event schedule! We will be having "Yard Art and Water Days" coupled with a wet Noah's Ark chapel! This day will be especially wet and messy, and your children will be excited to wear their swimsuits to school!

Thank you for supporting The ELP staff this amazing year! We will miss all of our biggest kiddos that are headed to kindergarten next fall, and we wish you the very best! We will be anxious to see all of our returning families in late August. Look for letters from your next year's teachers in the mail mid August. Don't hesitate to call us with questions over the summer! Sincerely,
Cindy

Mark Your Calendar

May 8, 9, 10

Growing Up Ceremonies for PreK & Transition Classes

May 15, 16, 17

Yard Art and Water Days

May 18

Last day of ELP - Have a wonderful and safe summer

May 18

Due date for admission forms and May 2019 tuition

Returning ELPers!

Please remember that Admission Forms and reservation fees (May 2019 tuition) are due by May 18th. The immunization and physical form is included on the back of your admission form and **MUST BE COMPLETED** with your physician's signature in order for your child to be admitted to ELP next fall. It is acceptable for our immunization records to be separate from the application form, however, **THE ADMISSION FORM MUST BE SIGNED BY YOUR PHYSICIAN**. If we already have an application form on file with your physician's signature, we can use it for upcoming years. If you are not sure if you have one on file, please check with Fran in the office.

Please feel free to drop the forms in the church or preschool office or mail them to:

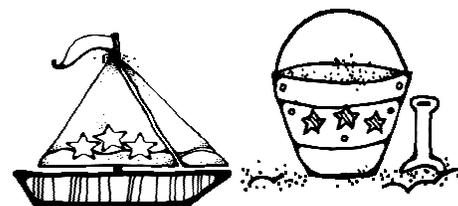
The Early Learning program
of the Woodlands Community Presbyterian Church
4881 West Panther Creek
The Woodlands, Texas 77381

Attention!

With the school year coming to an end we would like to have any outstanding payments submitted as soon as possible. Watch your child's backpack. Statements will be sent out to anyone with an outstanding balance.

Thank you!

Fran



THANKS SO MUCH!!!!

A BIG THANKS goes to all of our parents who have helped us in so many ways this past year. All of your volunteering has been invaluable to the teachers and students. Your hard work, love for children, and support of ELP has been appreciated by all.

A special thank you goes to all parents who graciously provided meals to our teachers each month at staff meetings. You have no idea how much this means to us to have a lovely, warm meal waiting for us! You make us feel so appreciated and you allow us to have food and fellowship together as a family prior to all of our meetings!

A big thanks to all room moms too who helped with classroom donations, play dates, parties, and organizing of teacher appreciation days!

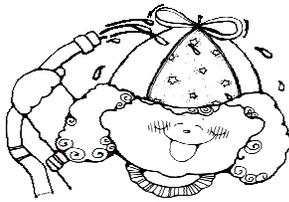
Yard Art & Water Days Noah's Ark Chapel

The last week of school will be wet and wild with "Yard Art & Water Days" AND Miss Melinda's Noah's Ark Chapel.

Children should wear their bathing suit to school this day. Have your child wear water shoes or sandals. Please send a change of clothes, shoes, and a towel. **LABEL EVERYTHING!**

Apply sunscreen before school: Chapel will take place in the front courtyard. Art and water play will be on the side yard for 3's and 4's. The Bluebirds and Owls will have water days on their playground.

Feel free to join us as we end the year with FUN! FUN! FUN!



"Look at the wonderful things God made." job 37:14



Mother of A Grown Son

My hands were busy through the day
I didn't have much time to play
The little games you asked me to.
I didn't have much time for you.
I'd wash your clothes, I'd sew and cook,
But when you'd bring your picture book
And ask me please to share your fun
I'd say, "A Little later, son."
I'd tuck you in all safe at night
And hear your prayers, turn out the light,
Then tiptoe softly to the door
I wish I'd stayed a minute more.
For life is short, the years rush past.
A little boy grows up so fast
No longer is he at your side
His precious secrets to confide.
The books are put away,
There are no longer games to play,
No good night kiss, no prayers to hear...
That all belongs to yesteryear.
My hands, once busy, now are still.
The days are long and hard to fill.
I wish I could go back and do
The little things you asked me to.

Author Unknown

Literacy Corner

What Happens Before School Matters



What preschoolers know before they enter school is strongly related to how easily they learn to read in first grade. Three predictors of reading achievement that children learn before they get to school are:

- The ability to recognize and name letters of the alphabet
- General knowledge about print (understanding, for example, which is the front of the book and which is the back and how to turn the pages of a book)
- Awareness of phonemes (the sounds in words)

Reading aloud together builds these knowledge and skills. As a result, reading aloud with children is the single most important activity for parents and caregivers to do to prepare children to learn to read. (Adams, 1990).

Reading Rockets.org



ELP's Growing Up PRESENTATION

You re invited to attend ELP's Pre K / Transition Growing Up Celebration. This is a special end of the year Chapel time with our older classes It will be held in the sanctuary and all family members and friends are invited to share in this event The schedule is as follows: (on The Early Learning Program Facebook page too!)

Tuesday, May 8, 11:00 AM
Cardinals

Wednesday, May 9, 11:00 AM
Flamingos

Wednesday, May 9, 2:00 PM
PM Penguins

Thursday, May 9, 11:00AM
AM Penguin

Thursday, May 10, 2:00 PM
Transition Toucans

CPR

WCPC invites you to join an upcoming CPR/AED class.

This class will be held on May 21 at 7PM in Room 301 in the Hendericks Education Bldg.



This will not be a certifying class, but is designed to offer an informative overview of CPR for all parents, teachers, and caregivers of children.

Fee free to join with WCPC and learn this very important skill.

Job Description—Mom

POSITION: Mother, Mom, Mama, Mommy, Momma, Ma

JOB DESCRIPTION:

Long term, team players needed, for challenging permanent work in an, often chaotic environment. Candidates must possess excellent communication and organizational skills and be willing to work variable hours, which will include evenings and weekends and frequent 24 hour shifts on call. Some overnight travel required, including trips to primitive camping sites on rainy weekends and endless sports tournaments in far away cities. Travel expenses not reimbursed. Extensive courier duties also required.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

The rest of your life. Must be willing to be hated, at least temporarily until someone needs \$5. Must be willing to bite tongue repeatedly. Also, must possess the physical stamina of a pack mule and be able to go from zero to 60 mph in three seconds flat in case, this time, the screams from the backyard are not someone just crying wolf. Must be willing to face stimulating technical challenges, such as small gadget repair, mysteriously sluggish toilets and stuck zippers. Must screen phone calls, maintain calendars and coordinate production of multiple homework projects. Must have ability to plan and organize social gatherings for clients of all ages and mental outlooks. Must be willing to be indispensable one minute, and embarrassment the next. Must handle assembly and product safety testing of a half million cheap, plastic toys, and battery operated devices. Must always hope for the best but be prepared for the worst. Must assume final, complete accountability for the quality of the end product. Responsibilities also include floor maintenance and janitorial work throughout the facility.

POSSIBILITY FOR ADVANCEMENT & PROMOTION:

Virtually none. Your job is to remain in the same position for years, without complaining, constantly retraining and updating your skills, so that those in your charge can ultimately surpass you.

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE:

Non required unfortunately. On-the-job training offered on a continually exhausting basis.

WAGES AND COMPENSATION:

Get this! You pay them! Offering frequent raises and bonuses. A Balloon payment is due when they turn 18 because of the assumption that college will help them become financially independent. When you die, you give them whatever is left. The oddest thing about this reverse-salary scheme is that you actually enjoy it and wish you could only do more.

BENEFITS:

While no health or dental insurance, no pension, not tuition reimbursement, no paid holidays and no stock options are offered; this job supplies limitless opportunities for personal growth and free hugs for life if you play your cards right.



Thank you ELP Subcommittee

Many thanks to the 2017/18 Subcommittee members. This committee consists of nominated ELP parents and WCPC church members who serve for a 3 year term. The committee meets monthly and works hard to support the Director and to help ensure that budget, daily operations, and policies are maintained and in compliance with the ELP Bylaws. Thank you again to all of the board members for a great year!

We would like to recognize the following members who are rolling off the board this year and thank them for their dedication:
Claire Elliot (Moderator)
Kristen Kowalski (Secretary)
Jennifer Ericsson (Co-Moderator)
Kendra Hendon
Robin Ward (WCPC Liaison)

2018/19 Members will be recognized in next September's newsletter!

Lost and Found Last Call!

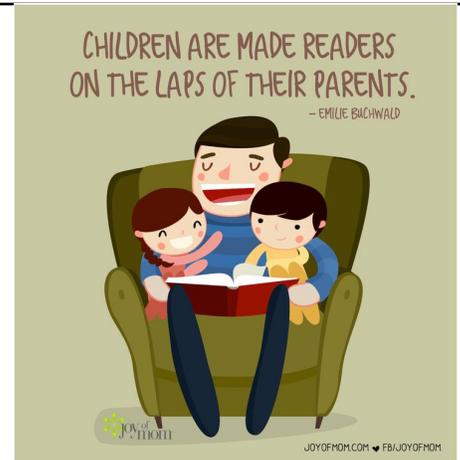
If you would like to take a peek at the lost and found, please stop in at the office. All remaining items will be donated over the summer.

It's Not too Late!

Join The Early Learning Program Facebook Group! Reminders and schedules are always posted! Stay connected!

Looking To Make a Tax Deductible Donation?

Please keep us in mind as monetary donations to ELP are always accepted! Donations go toward our teacher trainings over the summer and help us to purchase classroom and playground materials! Thank you for all donations!

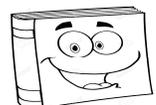


When you are planning your summer-time fun... don't forget books! Borrow books from a public library or our ELP Library! We will gladly share our books with you! It is fun and relaxing and the variety will increase your child's interest and vocabulary. Here are a few pointers for lap time.

- ***Read** aloud to your children from birth.
- ***Read** favorite stories again and again. Children love the predictability.
- ***Read** any time, but especially at bedtime. It is calming and a time for closeness.
- ***Read** with lots of expression and feeling.
- ***Be** playful with words, pointing out words that rhyme and encouraging your child to repeat refrains.
- ***Discuss** what you read to make sure children comprehend the story. Change a part of a story and ask, "What would happen if...?"
- ***Have** your child recreate a story of his own.
- ***Make** this time of your day relaxing and interactive.

While it is true that many children learn to read at school, remember that you are your child's first and best teacher and children develop the basic skills and a love for reading at home in your lap.

ELP accepts donated books to add to our library. Feel free to donate books in the coming years as your children grow out of their pre-school books!

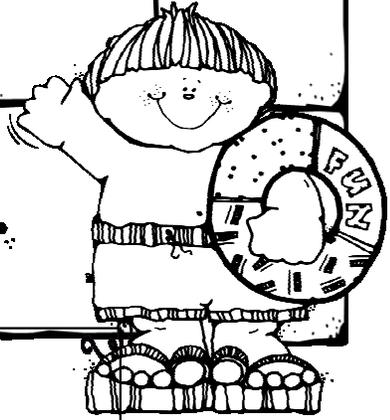


Stay Tuned.... We Will Soon Introduce A New Smiling Face In The Office This Summer

Everyone knows and loves Fran! If you have ever stepped foot into ELP, then you too have become friends with Fran. Fran has served at ELP for 22 years as an Administrative and Assistant Director and has been a vital part of ELP's success as she has done an astounding job of creating and maintaining staff, parent, and child records. Fran has also been amazing at building and maintaining relationships and offering a variety of support to the families, children, and Directors. For over 2 decades, she has given her heart to everyone who has entered the doors at ELP! Thank you Fran, we love you!

Beginning August 1, Fran will begin a new role at ELP. Although she will be handing her computer over to a new Administrative Director and be leaving her office chair, she will not be far away. We will continue to be blessed by Fran as she will be in a teaching role next year as well as a new teacher support role too! Fran, we wish you the best in this transition and cannot say thank you enough for all of your service over the past 22 years.

MAY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Motor Movement	2 Motor Movement	3 All Ears! Family Night 6:30	4 Motor Movement	5
6	7	8 Cardinals Growing Up Ceremony 11:00	9 11:00 Flamingos & 2:00 PM Penguins	10 11:00 AM Penguins & 2:00 Toucans Growing Up	11	12
13	14 Last Week of ELP	Yard Art & Water Days with Noah's Ark Chapel			18 Last day of ELP & 2018/19 Reg. Due	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29 	30	31 		

Worth Quoting

"Goodness is the only investment that never fails" Henry David Thoreau

