

WARD'S CHAPEL PRESCHOOL CHATTERBOX



VOLUME 43, No. 5

Ward's Chapel Preschool

JANUARY 2024

JANUARY DATES TO REMEMBER

Jan.	3	School Reopens
	9	Re-enrollment Day – 12:00 p.m.
	15	NO SCHOOL - MLK, Jr. Birthday
	26	NO SCHOOL – Staff Planning Day
	19	Book Orders Due
	23	Irvine Visits – MT 2s, MTW 3s
	25	Irvine Visits – ThF 3s
	25	Sub Sale Orders Due

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Jan.	06	Iliana M.	4
	17	Piper M.	5
	23	Cora F.	4
	25	Grace L.	4
	29	Bennett C.	3
	29	Wyatt T.	3

JUNE UNBIRTHDAYS

June	10	Connor G.	2½
	18	William K.	3½
	20	Daisy H.	4½
	27	Jaxen A.	4½
	30	Jordan N.	4½

JANUARY PRAYER

Thank you for the world so sweet.
 Thank you for the food we eat.
 Thank you for the birds that sing.
 Thank you God, for everything. Amen.

2024-2025 REGISTRATION

You have received reenrollment packets for children attending preschool this year and enrollment packets for siblings attending next year.

Re-enrollment Day and Registration for siblings is Tuesday, January 9, 2024, doors will open at 12:00 p.m. outside the Fellowship Hall

Bring with you the completed re-enrollment form or application and the \$85.00 registration fee and security deposit for each child. Return in the envelope included in the registration packet.

Check the reenrollment letter for next year's fees. Please contact the office if you would like to schedule a visit in a classroom for next year.

SUB SALE FUNDRAISER

The Ninth Annual Sub Sale begins now, for Super Bowl Weekend delivery. The 8" Italian Subs sell for \$10.00 each, *orders are due January 25th*. *Pick-up day is February 10th from 10 am – 12 pm.* Please tell your friends and family. A great way to throw a Super Bowl party and help the school! See the flier.

CHRISTMAS THANK YOU...

The Staff sincerely thanks everyone for all the wonderful gifts received for Christmas. We appreciate your generosity and thoughtfulness. May your New Year be filled with good health, happiness and love.

FROM THE OFFICE...

- ***Inclement Weather Policy*** - We will follow the Baltimore County or Carroll County Public School closings. If either or both Baltimore or Carroll Counties are closed, we will be closed. If they go late, we will implement our alternative schedule. The 2's will meet 10:00–11:45. The other morning classes will meet 10:00 a.m.–12:00 noon. Please check local TV or internet for the Baltimore and Carroll Counties closings and delays. If you are signed up for "Remind", you will receive a text on your phone. Please alert sitters or grandparents to this policy, especially if they have your children in the mornings.
- ***Updates*** - Please let us know if you have had a recent change of address, phone number, or emergency information.
- ***Reminder*** - Please make all checks payable to **WARD'S CHAPEL**
- ***Child Care Reimbursement Statements*** – If you currently claim child care pre-tax reimbursement, with both parents working, you may request a statement by January 19th.

Virtue of the Month - EMPATHY

Empathy is the capacity for experiencing as one's own the feeling of another, walking a mile in someone else's shoes. It's very closely related to compassion. Children learn about empathy as they relate to the feelings of others. We can foster the feeling of empathy by asking a child how he or she would feel about things that they see happen to their friends, if that same thing happened to him or her.

Some children's books about empathy are:

Faces by Barbara Brenner

Feelings by Alike

On Monday When It Rained by Kachnmeister

The Brown Bear that Wasn't by Carole Kaplan

LEARNING WITH BLOCKS

Blocks are open-ended materials that stimulate young imaginations, provide choices for discovery and invention, and promote the development of problem-solving skills. One day a block may be an airplane. The next day that same block in the hands of the same child can be a sofa for the house he is building. Building with blocks helps develop young children's eye-hand coordination, visual perception, and large and small motor skills. It builds self-confidence and provides opportunities for creativity and dramatic play. These things occur naturally when children play with blocks. We also find that working with blocks often deepens children's engagement with literature and literacy. A child may be inspired, say, to construct the three bears' beds and chairs, a pirate boat, or an enchanted castle. We sometimes take photographs of children's block creations and invite the children to caption the photos. We also encourage girls and boys to make their own signs for their creations. In these activities, children are exposed to print in meaningful ways. Inviting children to reconstruct buildings and other things they have seen on field trips is one way we encourage their thinking in relation to social studies. They work with the concepts behind maps and models, and as they build block cities, farms, and factories, they work out their own understanding of these complex sites and communities. Children also develop mathematical and scientific concepts, such as balance and gravity, as they work with blocks. Blocks are engrossing and fun for young children, of course. They are invaluable tools for promoting children's development on many fronts.

...from [Family-Friendly Communication for Early Childhood Programs](#)

