Greetings preschool families.
A warm welcome to you all and I hope that the school year is off to a great start for you and your family! We have had a wonderful first few weeks of school and it seems as though everyone has made a smooth transition. If your child is still having a difficult time separating, please be sure to make an appointment with your child’s teacher and myself so we can help to ease the transition some. Not to worry they’ll be making new friends in no time. Classroom rosters are available, complete with names of both children, parents and phone numbers.

If your life is anything like mine, you have probably found yourself dropping off one child, picking up another and heading to soccer practice, sandwich one hand and homework in another!! Please be reminded while all of the extra curricular activities are fun and exciting, sometimes it can be a bit too much on us all. Children, no matter what age they are all need down time. They need opportunities to be creative and find ways to self entertain, almost a lost art in this crazy day in age. With camps, writing class, ballet and karate, it’s often difficult to find time to eat dinner together. I know many families took the opportunity to “do nothing” over the summer! So I encourage you all to find a day to “do nothing”, pick one day out of the week where you all join together to eat dinner, yes at the table and enjoy one another’s company! Embrace your family time together, and dare to be creative with your children. Please feel free to see me up the red stairs, anytime to chat, visit or just to say hello!!

Blessing to you all and make it a great month!!

BHCP 12th Annual Harvest Festival

Mark your calendars for November 8th, if you have not already, as the preschool prepares for its largest fundraising event of the year. This is a community wide event and a ton a fun for the entire family. We have a mini carnival right here on the preschool campus, filled with games, crafts and food for everyone to enjoy! There is a live raffle, silent auction and opportunity drawings throughout the day. Last year the preschool made over $20,000 in just short of 3 hours. This huge fundraising event enables the preschool to renovate different areas of center year after year. Please look for more info coming home and ways you can participate! Invite all your friends and family to our 12th Annual Harvest Festival!!
Trunk-O-Treat

Halloween has always been a favorite around BHCP! It is such a pleasure to watch our little ones parade around the preschool in their costumes, in fact it is a fun-filled treat for us all!

What we need are about 20 or more parents, am and pm to park outside the perimeters of the preschool and in the parking lot to pass out treats (it doesn’t have to be a sweet treat), as our preschooler's parade around the center. The catch is you get to decorate your trunk or mini van.... Get it TRUNK OR TREAT!!!

There is no need to formally sign up, but would love for you to all participate. This is an opportunity for you to catch your lil’ one on camera with their peers and to get involved in your first preschool activity!!

Children should come to preschool dressed in their costume.
Please send a grocery size paper bag with your child’s name on it and an extra set of clothes inside the bag, so we are able to change them afterwards. It would be greatly appreciated if a few parents would stay and help to change the children.

Keep in mind at this young age, some children might not want to wear masks or costume make-up. Please try to keep scary or demonic costumes out side of preschool.

Smile and Say Cheese......

Lil Angels Photography will be here taking individual pictures of the children

On Wednesday, October 22nd and Thursday, October 23rd

Our fine photographer Shelby Deal actually tells the children to say “Turkey”, but either way, cheese or turkey, she has a unique way of getting the children to smile and parents have been pleased with her work over the last few years.

Please leave Ms. Soriano a note, if you have special instructions when photographing your child or if you would like for them to take a sibling picture, otherwise it will be left at the discretion of the photographer. Class pictures will be taken in the spring.

Pumpkins, Spiders and Gourds Oh My!

Over the next 2 months the children will study 2 full weeks of Spiders and Pumpkins, in order for us to provide extended opportunities like cooking and measuring activities along with the secular portion of the holidays.

Emergent Curriculum at it’s Best!

We would appreciate donations of pumpkins and gourds, any size will do!! Thanks, The BHCP Gals
Meet the BHCP Gals

Whether this is your first or last year here at Belmont Heights Church Preschool, I am sure there is a teacher you may know very little about... so I would like to take the time to introduce them to you... In room 1 one we have Ms. Lizzy, mother to Jazzy (15). Ms. Lizzy has been teaching here at BHCP for 8 years. If ever you need something and I am not available, please do not hesitate to ask Ms. Lizzy for assistance, as she is the lead teacher and my assistant. Ms. Methelyn is our opening teacher and assists in Room 1 and extended day care. Methelyn enjoys spending time with her family and friends in her spare time and is in her 5th year here at BHCP. Ms. Chris and Ms. Sivhui share room 2 throughout the week. Chris is teaching the pre-k group and Sivhui teaches the afternoon T-Th group. Chris and Sivhui both spend the majority of their free time pursuing their college career. Ms. Sivhui is busy planning her June wedding. While Ms. Chris is preparing to transfer to CSULB over the next year. Mrs. Gotic is our mother hen here at BHCP, she has been a part of this preschool for over 12 years and has truly been able to watch it grow and progress. We call her “Zana” and she can always be found collecting something, saving something or salvaging something! Mrs. Gotic has one daughter, Natasa... and 2 grand-dogs! Teaching in room 4 we have Ms. Amanda, mother of 5 children, ages 13-21. Amanda is an amazing woman, quite versatile as she shares her classroom all week long. Ms. Kerry and Ms. Sivhui are her assistants during the week. Kerry is our newest member to BHCP, working part time with us T-Th. She has over 20 years of teaching experience and we are delighted to her with us. Ms. Pam teaches the M-W-F pm class in room 4, working part time this year in order to spend more time at home with her daughter Debra, age 3. Pammy has been a special part of this BHCP team for over 5 years. Ms. Wendie is our lovely teacher helping us all out in so many ways, preparing snack and organizing all the goodies. Wendie has two high school students, Elle and Oliver. Ms. Rhonda recently joined the preschool team last spring. She enjoys spending time with her friends and church family. Whew...that is almost it, lastly we have my sister Dana, working here in the office with me a few hours a week. She is responsible for some of the organization around here and as you can imagine with 150 families, how excited I am to have a helping hand. As for myself, I am proud mother of Jayson (15) and Jacob (7). I have been a part of this wonderful preschool for 12 years and love every minute of it! I am truly blessed to be part of this amazing preschool community! Pastor Sheena and Carla Gerard (church administrator) are some of the other friendly and helpful faces you may see around the premises. Please stop by and say hello if you have not already!!

"From the very beginning of his education, a child should experience the joy of discovery"
Alfred North Whitehead

Happy 40th Birthday BHCP

Many Hugs and thank you to all of you who joined in on our big birthday celebration! It was a beautiful morning and I am reminded just how lucky we are to be apart of this quaint little area of Belmont Heights and really what a ministry this preschool is, has been and will be in the years to come! The birthday bash brought in visitors of all type, past and present alumni, teachers and even our previous director. Thank you to Diane Babore, Sabine Cain, Lily Coomans, Cammie Cassiano, Diana Pape, Karen Escalante, Alicia McKeown, Helen Vidor, Suzie Sherlock, Liz Tyler, Leslie Grenier, the BHCP gals, BHUMC and Pastor Sheena and all the others who helped to celebrate our birthday bash. XOXOXXOX

Pastor Sheena’s Corner

I hope you all are experiencing a wonderful start to the new preschool year! It’s been great to meet many of you and your children. Just a reminder that we are beginning a book club focused on spirituality this week (October 1). We are meeting in the parlor (the room behind Christy-Ann’s office) at 9:15 every Wednesday. The first book we will discuss is "Traveling Mercies" by Anne Lamott. I hope you will join us!
A special thanks to the stores on Broadway, especially Gigi’s momma Maritza and her store The Kids are Alright who organized a street wide vendors event to benefit our scholarship program. The stores donated over $275.00!!

Preschool Reminders:

Preschool begins at 9:00 am unless your child is signed up for early morning care between 8:00-9:00 am. Contracts are available at the sign in table, please fill one out and drop it in my box.

Interested in lunch bunch… we have some room, please check with Ms. Soriano!!

Got Kindergartners?

The preschool is expanding our services to include after school care for kinders, I am still working out the details, but would love to hear from you if you’re interested!!

October 2008

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