



SEPTEMBER 2022

The Little Mud Puddle's Learning Center Newsletter

WHY PRESCHOOL IS IMPORTANT: Part 1,2,3

1- Preschool helps the child to explore self and outside:

- Preschool setting helps the child to be a part of a structured educational setting
- It helps the child to explore motor, sensory and cognitive aspects of development
- It also helps in emotional fulfillment by giving them an opportunity to make friends
- It is great for language development as children communicate with instructors and other kids
- They learn to follow instructions and also make decisions

2- Preschool makes a child socially more aware and emotionally more stable:

- When kids start attending preschools they learn to make friends
- They learn about sharing and leading
- They get over their separation anxiety within time and start being emotionally more stable
- With a healthy learning environment and more conducive setting children start exploring social developments within and outside
- They learn team skills by group activities

3- Children get to decide for themselves:

- The sooner the child begins taking decisions , sooner she may get independent
- There are ample activities and games which child is asked to choose from
- Children learn important decision making skills

THESE ARE JUST A FEW OF THE MANY REASONS WHY IT'S IMPORTANT THAT CHILDREN ATTEND PRESCHOOL. IT'S JUST NOT COLORING, IT'S NOT BABYSITTING. IT'S A WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE FOR THEM.



Darlene Johnston-

Director/Owner

Elizabeth Motwani-

Assistant Director

The Little Mud Puddles

Learning Center

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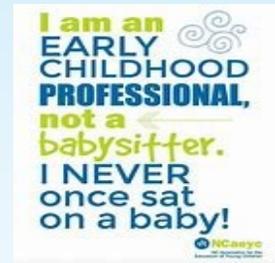
www.littlemudpuddles.com

Email:

www.littlemudpuddles@aol.com

Hours:

7:00 a.m.—5:30 p.m.



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Igniting the love of learning for over 35 years!



BE STRONG, BUT NOT RUDE; BE KIND, BUT NOT WEAK; BE BOLD, BUT NOT BULLY; BE HUMBLE, BUT NOT TIMID; BE PROUD, BUT NOT ARROGANT.



SCHOOL CLOSURES FOR 2022—This list is subject to change.

2022

September 5—Closed in Observance of Labor Day

September 23—Closed for the Ages/Stages Parent/Teacher Zoom Conference

October 10—Closed for Indigenous People’s Day

November 11—Closed in Observance of Veteran’s Day

November 18—Closed for the DRDP Parent/Teacher Conference

November 23, 24, 25—Closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday

December 22—January 6— Closed for the Holiday Season

2023 (Partial)

January 2-6 Closed for the Holiday Season

January 16—Closed for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day

January 20—President’s Day

April 7—Closed for Good Friday

May 26—Closed for DRDP Parent/Teacher Conference

May 29—Closed for Memorial Day

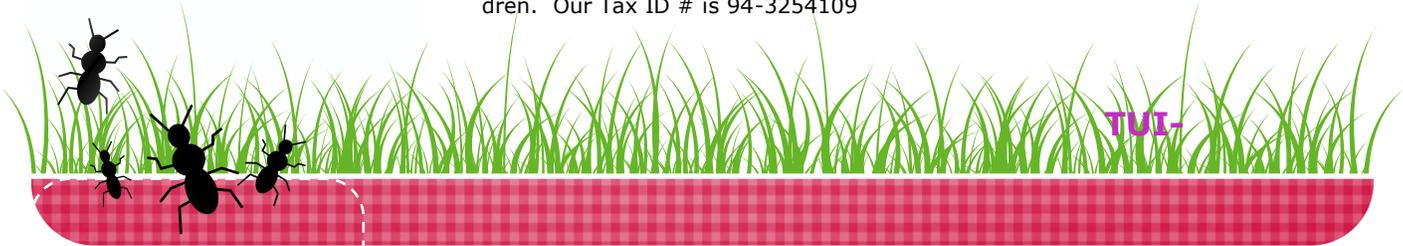
June 19—Closed for Juneteenth Day

July 4th & 5th—Closed for Independence Day

TUITION

Our tuition fees for 2022 is as follows:

Jr. Preschool is \$1550 per month. Weekly is \$375, **Preschool & Pre-Kindergarten** is \$1475. Weekly is \$350. Our yearly Material Fee is \$150 and is due every January 1st. Our Material Fee helps pay for the materials/toys we purchase during the year for the children. Our Tax ID # is 94-3254109



TWI-

PICTURE DAY:

Picture Day is September 27th. There are no retakes so please plan on attending on this day unless your child is ill. Keep in mind that the photographers do the best they can but sometimes children just don't want to smile or are uncomfortable with someone they don't know. You will be receiving picture forms soon and they are due to the front desk by September 19th. Due to the pandemic, parents may not stay and watch pictures being taken. We appreciate your cooperation. More info will be put in your child's folder soon.



CORNELIS BOL PARK IN PALO ALTO:

Cornelis Bol Park is located at [3590 Laguna Ave, Palo Alto, CA 94306](https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/3590-Laguna-Ave-Palo-Alto-CA-94306). This park has a playground, large open grassy area, Matadero Creek, paved walking/biking/running trails, chickens, and two Donkeys. The Donkeys are out on the grassy fields on Sunday mornings. The chickens wander the park as they please. This is a beautiful park to take your family or go solo for a quiet stroll or jog. This park is tucked away in a quiet neighborhood in Palo Alto. Each year there is an annual fair with food, games and a jumper at this park. **Cost: Free**

- Bathrooms: No
- Dog Friendly: Yes
- Parking: Limited street parking

Shaded: Playground is full sun. Grassy area is somewhat shaded, creek is shaded, biking-walking trail in full sun

One of the Donkeys was the muse for the Donkey in Shrek.

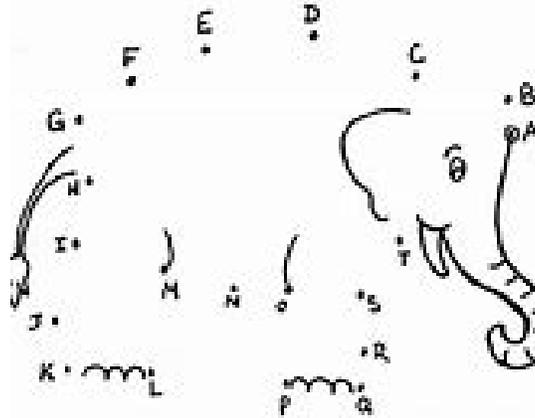


TRAVEL

Should your family travel by plane anywhere, we will require a home Antigen COVID-19 test 72 hours *after* you land. Or have your child quarantine for 10 days. **ALWAYS email the school at littlemudpuddles@aol.com and let us know the test results (negative or positive). You must send a snapshot of the test to LMP or your child cannot return.** If you are travelling by car no COVID-19 test is necessary unless symptomatic. Do sign our vacation log located at the front office. Also, please plan your vacation accordingly to include the 72 hours afterwards/ for testing.



FOLLOW THE ABC DOTS AND SEE WHAT YOU GET!



LMP HAS 5 CLASSES WITH 12 CHILDREN IN EACH CLASS. WE ARE WORKING VERY HARD TO MAINTAIN SAFE DISTANCING, EXTRA CLEANING THROUGHOUT THE DAY, WASHING HANDS OFTEN, TEMPERATURES TAKEN AND MASK REQUIREMENTS FOR BOTH CHILDREN AND ADULTS. WE ARE SO PLEASED YOU HAVE CHOSEN OUR SCHOOL TO CARE FOR YOUR CHILDREN. WE ARE TRULY HONORED.

PARENT/TEACHER ZOOM MEETING:

Every year in September we ask families to complete an Ages and Stages Questionnaire so that we understand your child's development and how we can provide additional support to you and your child. Please put on your calendars that we are closed **Friday, September 23rd**, to have a one on one Zoom meeting discussion with your child's teacher. The sign up sheets will be in front of your child's classroom by this Friday.

All questionnaires need to be **completed by Friday, September 16th**, 2022 so that we are prepared for the parent/teacher meeting on **Friday, September 23rd**.

Please e-mail Miss Darlene at littlemudpud-dles@aol.com or talk with your child's teacher if you have any questions.



MORNING HEALTH SCREENING FOR CHILDREN:

Every morning please fill out the Health Screening on HiMama before bringing your child to school. We are having some parents forget and we have to contact them. Miss Darlene will contact those families who fail to do their screening.

It is now possible to complete your child's health screening in your HiMama application on your mobile phone. It is a very easy and simple process, I would like to give you some quick instructions on how to complete the health screen with HiMama

1. Log into your HiMama application
2. At the top of the page you will see "Health Screening" Click on that.
3. Read the message pertaining to symptoms your child may have.
4. Click yes or no at the bottom of the screen.
5. Submit your screening.

If your response failed to meet the screening criteria, keep your child home and try again in a few days. We will not take any chances and get others ill. You will be called if your child comes to school ill.

LITTLE MUD PUDDLES REMINDERS:

We ask that that children are in school by 9:00 a.m. There will be a grace period of 15 minutes. If you are continuously late, expect to pay a late fee of \$20 per every 15 minutes you are late. Please be respectful of teachers by being on time. Do try and get to school before 9:00 as the parking lot gets crowded. **DO NOT** park and leave your car on the side where you enter- everyone *must* wait their turn for a parking space.

If your child is not feeling well or had a bad night, it is not reason enough for him/her to come to school late and you will be charged accordingly. Its best to have them stay home and rest.

Tuition must be paid during holidays, teacher In-Service days, family vacations and sick time.

Parents must do the Health Screening every morning **BEFORE** coming to school. Please be mindful of the questions on the screening report.

Your child may not come to school if they have the following: diarrhea, fever of 100.5 or more, green thick mucus (our policy- not your doctor's), bad cough, not able to keep up and if they are just not themselves.

Children are not allowed after 12:00 p.m. Make all your appointments and give yourself enough time to return to the school by noon. Let us know a day or so in advance if your child has an appointment. You may be asked to bring in an excuse note from your appointment so that you won't be charged late fees.

Do bring a light jacket or sweater for cool mornings.

Water bottles are not allowed. We have water in all classrooms, Learning Center, and outside.

Please make sure to have enough clothes in your child's cubby or we will have to call you to bring more.

Parents are to give us a three week notice before leaving the school. Please return key FOBS before leaving so that we can reuse them.

All children must wear masks for the protection of other children and staff. Your child must have a minimum of 3 masks—more if they have a cold. We don't want them in wet masks from colds all day. Cloth masks must be taken home and washed everyday and replenished daily. Everyone coming into the school must wear a mask and have their temperature taken at the front office. Everyone also must sanitize their hands.

Please hold your child's hand when exiting your car or going to your car. Also, after dropping off your child, please leave as soon as you can. There are others waiting for a parking spot.

If you are going on vacation, please write down your plans on the clipboard located at the front office. Please follow our policy on flying (page 3). Even if you are driving to CROWDED places like Disneyland, it's a good idea to test your family upon your return.

ALWAYS LET US KNOW IF YOUR CHILD OR ANYONE IN YOUR FAMILY HAS COVID. EMAIL US AT littlemudpuddles@aol.com

You may wonder why so many policies? We have policies so that the school runs smoothly for you, your child and our staff. We factor in safety for the children and consistency which makes them feel more comfortable.

*Bring a sweater
for your child due
to weather
changes.*



**HAPPY BIRTH-
DAY!**

SEPTEMBER

Nyra Balachandran

Kayden Khangura

Nihar Gandhi

**Ana Ekaterina
Mondragon**

**Lincoln Sakakiha-
ra**

Shaurya Madan

Miss Berenice

Miss Amber

