

PROVIDENCE NURSERY SCHOOL
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THE PROVIDENCE PAGES



Mark your Calendar

Wednesday, September, 6th

Open House – Big Room
(See calendar for class times).
Siblings are welcome. This is a chance for you and your child to play together with their classmates. **Teachers will not be present.**

Wednesday, September, 6th

Back to School Night – Big Rm
7:30 PM (7:00 PM for CDO).
There is a lot of very important information discussed, so one parent from each family is **required** to attend.

Many of our events are child friendly; however this is not one of them. So please make other arrangements for your children.

Thursday, September, 7th

Co-op Training
& Abbreviated School Day

9:30 AM 2s and 4s
11 AM 3s and 3/4s

Co-op Training is required for every co-oping parent every two years. Attendance counts towards your Parent Education hours. Siblings are welcome to attend co-op training.

Friday, September, 8th

CDO Abbreviated School Day
9:30 - 11:00 AM

Monday, September 11th

Co-op Training 6:30-7:30 PM
(Alternate date)

September Board Mtg-7:30 pm

Monday, September 11th

First Day of School

The *Providence Pages* is published for Providence Nursery School, Inc. Please send submissions to melissasahern@gmail.com by September 20th for October's issue.



A Letter from Jennifer...

On behalf of the Providence Nursery School elected board, I am happy to welcome you to the 2017-2018 school year. I look forward to working in partnership with all of you to make this year a success!

Our staff has been working hard to get ready for this school year and are excited to be with your children.

I've really enjoyed seeing so many of you at the playdates and there are several more events to kick off this school year. We have our Open House on Wednesday, September 6th: 10:00am-CDO, 10:30am-2s, 11:00am-3s, 11:30am-3/4s and 12:00-4s. This event is a great chance for the kids to get comfortable playing with their friends at school. Back to School Night will be also be held on Wednesday, September 6th at 7:30 pm (7pm for CDO). This is a mandatory meeting for each family, and it is for parents only. Children should not attend. We'll go over policies and procedures, logistics of our school days as well as the requirements of being part of a cooperative preschool. Following the general meeting, teachers will spend time with their individual class groups. CDO parents should plan on arriving at 7:00 p.m. to meet with Ms. Auten since she will be meeting with the 2s parents following the meeting. Thursday, September 7th is an abbreviated school day and co-op training for parents. The abbreviated schedule is: 9:30-11:00am 2s & 4s and 11:00-12:30pm-3s & 3/4s. CDO has their abbreviated day on Friday, September 8th 9:30-11:00am. There will also be an evening session of co-op training (for those who cannot attend the one on September 7th) on Monday, September 11th at 6:30pm and the September board meeting will follow at 7:30pm.

As I head into my second year in the role of PNS president, I'm honored and grateful to be in the company of so many working hard to support our children's education and development. Thank you for all you do. You are appreciated!

We have a wonderful school year ahead of us!

Jennifer

CDO

& 2's

After a refreshing summer of traveling, swimming, and relaxing at home with my family, I am looking forward to starting school again and getting to know all of my new preschool friends!

Each week of this school year, we will learn about a new theme. We'll start the year focusing on Preschool Friends. The children have already met classmates at playdates and visited with me at the school. Now we will spend some time getting to know each other better as we learn our "hello" song, read about our new school, and explore the many play options in the Big Room and classroom.

In the second week of school, we will talk about our Families; we'll sing about the people in our family, and share photos from home. In the final week of September, we will learn some important vocabulary about Faces and Feelings.

Meanwhile, the children will be getting familiar

with our class routine. Each school day will begin with your child "checking in" on the attendance board, and being greeted at the door and offered choices for play. You will be amazed at how quickly your child learns the entire schedule and knows just what to expect next!

Starting school can make both children and parents feel a little anxious. However, we will work together to say calm goodbyes at the door, start the day off right with a warm welcome, and follow a predictable routine; soon we will all be adapted and ready to report back on the news of the morning. Parents can find out more about all of our activities through weekly emails from me and notes on the whiteboard outside the classroom.

Welcome to preschool, everyone!

Warmly,

Ms. Auten

BACK TO SCHOOL REMINDERS

- NO NUTS! PNS is a nut aware school. This means no peanuts or tree nuts in the school, on the playground, or at school events held after hours. Please also check with your teacher and other parents in your class before bringing any snacks or treats to share.
- Please send a complete change of clothes labeled with your child's name on the first day of school. Clothes should be appropriate for the season and changed for a new set when necessary.
- Check your child's backpack each day for any important notes from teachers as well as their newly created artwork.
- Weather permitting; playground time is a part of every day. Your child should be dressed appropriately in comfortable clothing. Open-toed shoes are not a good idea for the playground since pea gravel between the toes does not feel good!
- In order to avoid hurt feelings, please leave toys at home unless requested by your teacher for show and tell.

Summer has just sped by and it is always a bit sad for me to send my boys off to school come September. However, I know seventh and fifth grade will be a lot of fun for my kids and I am so very happy to have my mornings filled with FUN at PNS this year.

This will be a month of adapting to change for both Ms. Emmy and me as well as your little ones. Rest assured, we will be there with warm hugs, big smiles and lots of patience as we all begin getting to know each other and our new routines at school. By the end of September, checking in and discovering our jobs on the job chart will start to be routine. The songs we sing and the games we play at our Morning Meeting will have become more familiar. You might start hearing some of them at home as well.

The first week of school will be about **Colors**. Focusing on the colors around us as we explore the Big Room, the playground and our new classroom will give us a common vocabulary. We'll make connections with each other as we share our favorite colors via the Daily News at our Morning Meeting. We will check out different colored school materials through Guided Discovery activities. Colors will be at work in our Process Art as well as in our new Science Corner.

All About Me! is the theme for the week of Sept 18th. We'll still be figuring out our daily routine as we discover our favorite parts of the day. We'll start focusing on our similarities with our new friends, as well as differences. Looking at our own "feeling" faces, painting our own hands, and checking out our pictures in our Class Book will all be opportunities for self-discovery this week. At Morning Meeting we'll play games to compare our common likes and dislikes and the Daily News will

focus on our eye color and hair color. We'll feature mirrors in the Science Corner and each child will have the chance to pick out his/her favorite creation from the past weeks' art projects to go in a class display in the hallway.

The final week of school in September will be about **Me and My Family**. At Morning Meeting, we'll find out what activities we like to do with our families and The Daily News will help strengthen our counting skills as we talk about the number of people who live in our homes. We'll foster creative thinking as we ask the children to "make" a tree from a variety of art materials for a Family Tree art project. In the Science Center we'll have materials related to the Sense of Sight and the Building Center will include a variety of people to add to our structures.

Don't forget to dress for outside play each and every day that we can be out. Water will be available at snack time, so pack a non-breakable cup in the snack bag if you would like your child to partake. A seasonally appropriate set of extra clothes (and shoes if you have them) should be kept in a labeled ziplock bag in your child's backpack.

I am so grateful to continue to be part of this fabulous co-op. I loved every moment my boys were at Providence Nursery School. I have the best memories of time spent here and I hope each of you and your children will continue to make your own wonderful memories this year. Please don't hesitate to email or call me with any questions or concerns. I look forward to seeing each of you in class, whether co-oping or just visiting.

Ms. Ryan

Goodbye, August...goodbye long lazy days. Goodbye beach trips, ice cream trucks, and lots of time to do nothing in particular. Hello, September...now it's time for preschool!!! Hooray! Summer is coming to a close and the anticipation of a new school year is in the air! Welcome to the 3/4s class...Miss Kelly and I can't wait for the first day of school!!!

The 3/4s class will begin our time together learning about ourselves, our school, and others. September is a good time to explore our preschool environment and to learn the classroom schedule and routine. We will practice lots of different things...how to walk in a line, how to sit on our parking spaces for circle time, how to respond when Mrs. Millward calls, "Macaroni and Cheese...Freeze!" just to name a few. There will be lots of time for play and for getting to know our friends. Speaking of friends, friends play a big part of our time together, so we will try to learn all about our classmates – especially their names! And we will take time to learn about each other's families and homes. (How many people are there in your family...any pets?) Also we will review our colors (yellow, blue, and red) and shapes (squares, circles, and triangles). Yep, we will be very busy just getting to know what is going on at PNS.

The "Fours' Gang" will have a kindergarten readiness component added to their schedule on Mondays. Details about this will follow. The "Star of the Day" part of our program will begin in October. On your child's special day, he/she will be the line leader, calendar person, show and tell sharer, and all those other wonderful preschool "jobs." I'll provide a calendar at the beginning of every month, naming our special daily Star. You will find that your child's Star day will be very highly anticipated each month, so keep that calendar handy for reference purposes. ☺

Co-operative preschools like Providence are a partnership between parents and teachers. I hope that throughout the year, you will share with me your observations and suggestions concerning your child. I am looking forward to getting to know each of you over the next few weeks. We are going to have a great time together, watching your child's personality blossom and grow!

It's just so exciting to be at PNS!!! YAY!

Jane



Welcome to Preschool!

Dear Parents,

I am excited about my first year here at Providence Nursery School. I enjoyed getting to know the children during the playdate and through home visits. September activities will focus on meeting new friends and teachers and adjusting to the classroom, schedule, and routine.

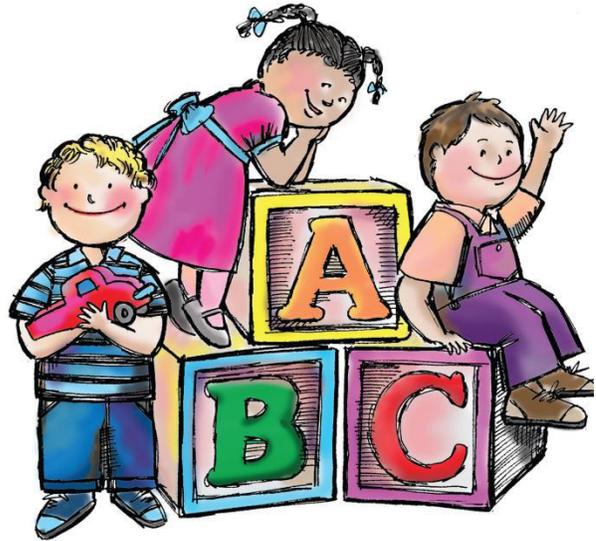
Our environment is very hands on and active! There are projects involving paint, markers, glue, and other fun materials. Dress your children in comfortable play clothes and be sure to send in a spare set of clothing that can be kept in the classroom. These simple steps help us be prepared for any spill or accidents. Please remember to label everything.

Snack is an important part of our day. It is an opportunity for the whole class to sit together and talk. **Providence is a peanut and tree nut free facility.** This is for the safety of children who may have a life-threatening food allergy to these ingredients. All other snacks are welcome. Please place your child's snack in a large, clear, sealable plastic bag labeled with his or her name. You can also send in a boxed or bottled drink.

The themes for the month of September are Friends, All About Me and Apples. The children will experience stories, poems, games, and crafts centered around making friends. They will explore how their bodies move, learn about favorite colors and foods, and create two special art projects about how they look. Different types of apples will be introduced, including a taste test and graphing the types preferred. Best of all, we will make apple-scented play dough.

We are going to have a great school year! Watch for future newsletters with information on upcoming themes, exciting activities, and fun field trips.

Ms. Shannon



SOCCER

Fall Soccer kicks off on September 20. Soccer is held on the lawn behind the church and is open to PNS students enrolled in 3s, 3/4s, and 4s classes.

The soccer lessons run 1:45 – 2:15 for 6 weeks.

Applications will be sent via email soon. The application and a check for \$100 made payable to Soccer Club Management is due on Wednesday, September 13.



TUITION

Tuition is due by the 1st of each month. Please pay on time and include your tuition invoice, printable from the forms page on the PNS website. A grace period for all payments extends through the 10th of each month. Payment not received by then is subject to a \$25 late fee. Please make your checks payable to "Providence Nursery School, Inc." Your child's name must be printed on the memo line. Put all the tuition checks in the black PNS mailbox in the hallway by the double doors to the Big Room or in the purple box in the Assistant Treasurer's mailbox in the music room. Feel free to bring September's payment to Back to School Night.

LUNCH BUNCH

Lunch Bunch Openings! There are still openings for lunch bunch on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. Please contact Kristie McCauley (kristiemccauley@hotmail.com) to sign up.

ENROLLMENT

We have openings for older 2 year olds for the 2017-2018 school year. Child must be 2 1/2 by September or be willing to do a late start. Please spread the word to your friends, family, Mom groups, and play groups.

CO-OP TRAINING DAY NOTE

Co-op training will be held on **Thursday, September 7th**. The session for parents of 2's and 4's will begin at 9:30 AM; the session for 3's and 3/4's will begin at 11:00 AM. An alternate training session will be held on **Monday, September 11th** from 6:30-7:30 PM. The Co-op training day is expected to last about an hour but participants can plan on staying and enjoying some refreshments with other parents until they have to pick the kids up from the abbreviated school day at 11:00am or 12:30pm depending on which session they are attending. See the calendar for class times.

PARENT EDUCATION

You can get a head start on your parent ed hours by completing an online webinar and sending a certificate of completion (or similar proof of participation) to Jenny Otto at jenny.otto@yahoo.com.

Offerings through Fairfax County can be found here: <https://www.fcps.edu/node/28019>

How to Melt Away Child Anxiety: <https://www.gozen.com/signup/>

ENRICHMENT

Wonderful Wednesday

First I would like to take a moment to explain what Enrichment means at PNS. We book a 30 min presentation 1 or 2 Wednesdays a month, these activities range from story tellers, to animal or safety experts, and everything in between. The presentations almost always take place in The Big Room at 11:30 am and are always on Wednesdays. All students in the 3s, 3/4s, and 4s will attend with their classes. Parents, 2s, CDO, and siblings are always welcome to join us unless expressly mentioned in that month's description.

This year we kick off Enrichment with the Annandale Volunteer Fire and Rescue Team at **11:30 am September 20th** in the big room.

FUNDRAISING

Welcome back to another year at PNS! We have been working on plans over the summer and have a lot planned for the school year. PNS apparel will again be available at Back to School Night. We accept cash or check but are also working closely with the PNS Finance Team to make payments available through Jovial. We are clearing out some of the current stock, if you have requests for new items or sizes please let us know as we will gladly place pre-sale orders.

Mark your calendars now for Barnes and Noble Day (**November 18th**) and Holiday Shop (**December 9th**). More details to follow in the coming months. We can always use volunteers for both of these fun events. There are also plans to have a restaurant fundraising night during the fall time-frame. Location and date are TBD, stay tuned for further communication from the Fundraising Committee.

As always, feel free to send us suggestions or questions. Thanks for your support of our school!

Carisa Pineda and Sarah Millward

Fundraising Co-Chairs

EDITOR'S NOTE

Thank you for reading the PNS newsletter. If there is anything you would like to have published in the October Newsletter please submit it by September 20th. If you have any suggestions or things you would like to see in the newsletter don't hesitate to let me know.

Thank you,
Melissa Ahern

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Each family enrolled in a co-oping class must complete eight volunteer hours during the school year. CDO-only families are required to do four. Here are some ideas to help you get a head start on completing those hours.

- Bring a snack or baked goods to or help with setup/clean-up at Back-To-School Night or other school functions.
- Spend an hour raking pea gravel on the playground. This should be done weekly. Contact Charles Havasy via Bloomz if you would like to help with playground maintenance.
- Check in with teachers who might need help preparing for art projects or need other assistance in the classrooms.
- Substitute for lunch bunch on occasional Wednesdays - will have a list of dates soon
- Attend an extra cleanup/maintenance day during the school year. One attendance is required per child enrolled, but we could always use the extra help.
- Assist the fundraising committee with upcoming events. Check with Carisa Pineda or Sarah Millward for details.

- Attend a board meeting held the second Monday of each month at 7:30 pm in the Big Room at school.

If you have any questions about your volunteer hours, please contact Contact Stephanie Jensen, vpadmin@providencenurseryschool.com

THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who attended the August Clean Up and Maintenance day and a special thank you to Charles Havasy (maintenance chair) and PJ Pitera for coordinating the clean-up and providing refreshments. Thank you to the Class Reps for their efforts organizing co-op schedules and play dates over the summer: Meg Krug (CDO), Jennifer Brooks (2s) Dawn Zhao (3s), Liz Carroll (3/4s) and Emily Gillotte(4s).



...a fun place to
play and learn!

SEPTEMBER 2017

Sun	M	T	W	Th	F	Sat
					1 Tuition Due	2
3	4 <i>Labor Day</i>	5	6 PNS Open House 10:00am-CDO 10:30am-2s 11:00am 3s 11:30am 3/4s 12:00pm 4s Back to School Night (7:00pm CDO) 7:30pm	7 Co-op Training & Abbreviated School Day 9:30-11:00am 2s & 4s 11:00am-12:30pm 3s &3/4s	8 Abbreviated School Day 9:30 - 11:00am CDO	9
10	11 First Day of School! Alt Co-op Training 6:30pm Board Meeting 7:30pm	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 First Day of Soccer	21	22 NO SCHOOL - FCPS Holiday	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30