

PROVIDENCE NURSERY SCHOOL
9019 LITTLE RIVER TURNPIKE
FAIRFAX, VA 20031
www.previdencenurseryschool.com

THE PROVIDENCE PAGES

A Letter from Natalie...



Mark your Calendar **Wednesday, September, 3rd**

Open House – Big Room

(See calender 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, 3rd

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, 4th

Co-op Training

& Abbreviated School Day

(See calender for class times)
Co-op Training is required for
every co-oping parent every two
years. Attendance counts towards
your Parent Education hours.

Monday, September 8th

First Day of School – 9:30 am **Co-op Training 6:30-7:30 PM**

(Alternate date)

September Board Mtg-7:30 pm

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

Summer is winding down, and the start of school is almost here! Our teachers, board members, and fellow parents are hard at work preparing for the new school year.

As we get the year started, I want to take a moment to introduce myself. Ed and I have been married ten years this October and we have three wonderful kids. Nicholas will be in the 3/4s class this year. His older sister, Julia, is a PNS alum and is starting kindergarten this year. "Small Kate", as Nicholas and Julia refer to her, is 1 and cannot wait to be a part of PNS too. This is my fourth year at PNS, my second year on the board, and my first serving as President. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns throughout the year. I can be reached via email at graynh@verizon.net or by phone, 571-215-5206.

I'd also like to take this time to introduce our amazing 2014-2015 PNS staff. This year I am excited to welcome Kelly Volciak as our new substitute/floating aide. Many of you will recognize this familiar face! Kelly served PNS in many capacities, most recently 3 years as PNS president, while her two sons, now alumni, attended PNS. Ms. Auten will continue teaching our CDO and 2s classes. Miss Emmy will be aiding in the CDO class and with Miss Ryan in the 4s class this year. Miss Phyllis will continue to aide in the 2s class as well as help out in the 3/4s with Mrs. Millward on Wednesdays. This year, Mrs. Mays, will be our 3/4s aide on Thursdays in addition to aiding the 3s class with Miss Susan. Miss Allison will continue leading our music classes. What an amazing group that our kids get to spend their days with!

There are several events to kick off this school year. Back to School Night will be held on Wednesday, September 3rd at 7:30 p.m. This is a mandatory meeting for all, 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. Our Open House will also be on Wednesday, September 3rd. This event is a great chance for the kids to get comfortable playing with their friends at school. Thursday, September 4th is an abbreviated school day and co-op training for parents. There will also be an evening session of co-op training on Monday, September 8th at 6:30pm. Our monthly board meeting will follow.

Finally, I'd like to thank everyone who worked so hard over the summer to help get this year started. We have a wonderful school year ahead of us!

Natalie



CDO & 2's

After spending much of the summer outdoors with my family, at the pool, in the park, and on the beach, I am refreshed and ready for September and all of its new beginnings. There are new books to read, new songs to sing, new toys to play with, and -- best of all -- new school friends!

In fact, our first learning theme for September will be Making Friends. The children have already met classmates at the August playdates and visited with me at the school. Now we will spend some time singing, reading, and playing games to get to know each other better.

During the second week of school, we will explore our first shape theme, Circles, as we bounce balls, blow bubbles, and spot circles all around us. In the third week of school, we will talk about all of the people (and pets!) in our Families. Finally, in the last week of September, our theme of Body Parts will get us up and jumping! Each week in September we will focus on a different Color of the Week, using art materials and playdough in that color, and looking around to identify things that match our color.

Meanwhile, we will also be getting familiar with the daily routine, beginning with each child "checking in" on the attendance board and being greeted at the door before choosing what to play with first. You will be amazed at how quickly the children learn the entire schedule and know just what to expect next!

Starting out in a new situation 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.

Happy school days, 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.

Is everyone sufficiently bored with summer yet? Well, we've got the perfect remedy for that – a brand new school year! It's always exciting and a little scary to get together with a new group of people, but before you know it we'll all be best buddies. After we learn the daily schedule, where things go and our new friends' names, we'll feel right at home.

In addition to learning "how to go to school", we will explore a different theme each week. Our first will be Me and My New Friends. We'll play some get acquainted games and sing plenty of songs with our names in them. Next we will talk about our Families and what we like to do together. Then we'll expand our focus beyond our homes and have a week about Community Helpers.

In case you're hearing lots of "I don't know"s, when you want to know how your preschooler's day went, here are some kinds of questions you can ask:

Did you paint at the easel today?

Who's Cleo?

What story did Miss Susan read today?

Who did you sit next to at snack time?

Did you go down a slide on the playground?

What toy did you play with after circle time?

A few reminders: Please bring a backpack large enough to hold papers and art projects and check it each day for important information. Also send a complete change of seasonal clothes (shoes, too) in a resealable plastic bag with your child's name clearly printed on the outside. This will make those little accidents much easier to deal with. It's

best to wear closed-toe shoes for the playground because no one likes to stop in the middle of running around to empty pea gravel out of sandals. Take snack bags out of backpacks when you arrive in the morning and put them in the bottom of the cubby so they will be easy to grab at snack time. Toys and special treasures are best left at home so we don't have any disputes or hurt feelings.

I can't wait to get to know everyone and begin our year long relationships. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me. E-mail is fine or catch me after class and I truly don't mind if you call me at home.

Let's go to school!!

Miss Susan



Wow...is it September already? You bet...and that only means one thing. It's time for FUN at Providence Nursery School.

Welcome to the 3/4s class! I am looking forward to the start of this school year and, most importantly, I am excited about having your child be a part of my class! We'll begin the new year learning about ourselves, our school, and others. September is a good time to explore our preschool, to become accustomed to our classroom schedule and routine, and to learn all of our classmates' names! We will focus on colors (yellow, blue, and red) and shapes (squares, circles, and triangles) throughout the month during our circletimes. And I can promise you that process art activities will be very colorful this month!

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 my program will begin in October. On your child's special day, he/she will be 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 Stars.

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. 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 blossom and grow!

Here's to a wonderful year!

Jane Millward



MUSICAL NOTES FROM MISS ALLISON

I am so excited to be teaching music again this year! This fall we will be singing, dancing, wiggling, and making all sorts of sounds. We will sing old classics like Wheels on the Bus and learn finger plays. Our wonderful rhythm instruments will help us explore different tempos and dynamics and we will use them in our copycat games. We will practice playing as a band and experimenting with the instruments as we play along with many different types of music (i.e. jazz, latin, classical and hip hop). Sometimes we will also read or sing along with books. Last, but not least, are our active songs. The kids love to dance and move their bodies to the music so we will ALWAYS include a couple movement songs. Their favorites last year were The Freeze Dance, Wiggledy Woo, and Dance, Melt, Freeze. We will incorporate a couple of yoga activities with our music – pretending to be crickets, snakes, bridges, and mountains. I can't wait to see everyone soon!

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 fourth and second 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.

We will be spending the first month really getting to know each other and our new routines at school. By the end of September, answering the morning question, checking in on the apple tree and finding our job on the job chart will all be routine. Our Morning Meetings at 9:45 will have become a little more complex as we add in new kinds of greetings and games as we master each other's names.

The first week of school will be **All About Me** and we'll share our Me Bags as well as read several books where children accomplish big (and not so big) goals for themselves. Your children will be thinking of their own Hopes and Dreams for the school year. The next week of school will be **Me and My Family** which lead to some discussions about how our families are alike and different and activities we like to do with our families. We'll continue to work on our personal books with the pictures you sent. The last two weeks of September (and into October) we'll talk about **Our Senses**. Science exploration, process art and graphing will all be heavily featured these two weeks.

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 cup in the snack bag if you would like your child to partake. Parking spaces, photos and a change of clothes to be kept at school can all be given to me at Back to School Night, the abbreviated day on Thursday, September 4 or our First Day of School on Tuesday, September 9. Me Bags can be brought the first day of school.

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



SOCCER

Fall Soccer kicks off on September 24. 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 \$90 made payable to Soccer Club Management is due on Monday September 22.

TUITION

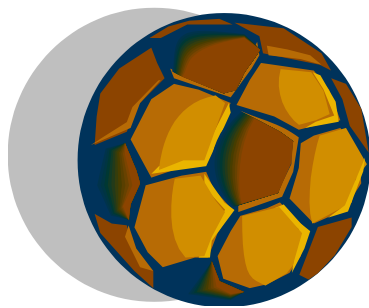
Tuition is due by the 1st of each month. Please pay on time and include your tuition invoice, printable from the forms page on the PNS website. A grace period for all payments extends through the 10th of each month. Payment not received by then is subject to a \$25 late fee. Please make your checks payable 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. Many families choose to prepay their entire tuition for the year in the September payment (and receive a 5% discount for doing so). If you would like to take advantage of this, please pay the full amount by **September 8th**. Families should have received their prepayment amounts from me via email. If they did not, have them email me at leahkerkman@gmail.com for their prepayment amount.

LUNCH BUNCH

Lunch Bunch Openings! There are still openings for lunch bunch every day. Please contact Leah Fogarty, leahkerkman@gmail.com for more information or to sign up.

CO-OP TRAINING DAY NOTE

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.



ENRICHMENT

Wonderful Wednesday

I hope you all had a great summer, and are ready for an exciting year at Providence Nursery School! This is my first year as Enrichment Coordinator, my first year at PNS, and my first year in Virginia! I’m looking forward to learning the details of all three roles.

This year we kick off Enrichment with a Fire Safety Truck and Puppet show at 11am September 24th in the big room. Kids will learn about fire safety while getting a chance to talk to real firefighters, climb on the truck, and enjoy a puppet show. The show is designed for kids 3-5, but siblings, 2s etc may climb on the truck after the show with a supervising parent.

Thanks,

Bryna Erickson

Mom of Caden 3's class



CONGRATULATIONS!!

Lily (4s) and Jane (2s) Fogarty welcomed a little sister to the world on June 15. Penelope Rose was 9 days early and weighed 8 pounds, 4 ounces and measured 20.75 inches. Congratulations to the entire Fogarty Family!

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 two. Here are some ideas to help you get a head start on completing those hours.

- Bring a snack or baked goods to Back-To-School Night or other school functions. Contact Rosalie Hallmark, our social chair, rosalie.hallmark@gmail.com for more information.
- Spend an hour raking pea gravel on the playground. This should be done weekly. Email Mary Ellen & Rob Moss at melonbusey@yahoo.com 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. **Kristen Konisky** ellswokm@yahoo.com VP admin, will have a list of dates soon.
- Attend an extra cleanup/maintenance day during the school year. One attendance is required per child enrolled in a co-oping class, but we could always use the extra help.
- Assist the fundraising committee with upcoming events. Check with Liz Claeys or Alex Erickson 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 Kristen Konisky at ellswokm@yahoo.com

FUNDRAISING

We are excited to kick off another year of PNS fundraising. Every dollar raised goes directly to the school. The money is used for both large and small needs - building a bike shed, playground maintenance, new toys and books, etc. If you are interested in finding out more about how the money is spent, please attend a board meeting and share your ideas.

PNS apparel will be available at Back to School Night on September 3rd. We will have t-shirts, sweatshirts, tote bags, water bottles. Please bring cash or a check if you wish to buy something. These items are also available year round, just e-mail Liz and she will make sure to get the item to you.

We will be having an online fundraiser during the week

of September 22nd at www.poshpouches.com. Posh Pouches are reusable, washable bags that can be used for snacks, lunch, baby wipes, swimsuits, and just about anything else. You can order bags in a variety of sizes and there is a huge selection of fabrics to choose from. We will distribute a flyer via e-mail and in backpacks the week before the fundraiser with details on how to order so PNS gets credit.

Once again, thanks to Bridget Benov and Feld Entertainment, we have Disney on Ice tickets for sale! The theme for the show this year is Frozen! We have a limited number of tickets to sell for the morning show on October 26th. Tickets are \$40 apiece. Please only buy as many as you need for your immediate family (parent(s) and kids) so everyone has a chance to get tickets. Tickets will go "on sale" at the board meeting on September 8th and will be sold all through that week. (If you are not in school till late in the week and are worried about getting tickets, please just e-mail Liz about how many you need.) One hundred percent of the ticket price will go directly to PNS!

Holiday Shop forms will be in your Back to School Night packet - please fill them out and return by the deadline specified. The Fundraising flyer in the Back to School Night packet has more information about what we have planned for the year. We welcome comments, suggestions, questions, and volunteers! We are looking forward to another successful year.

Fundraising Co-Chairs

Liz Claeys (claeyssee@yahoo.com) and Alex Erickson (alexandraerickson@hotmail.com)

Our Kids

Over the summer we researched a variety of advertising options for PNS. We were very lucky to have found Amy from Our Kids. She went above and beyond to get our wonderful little preschool's name out there! Amy was very generous to us and we couldn't be more grateful.

If you are not familiar with Our Kids, I would love to tell you more... I have liked Our Kids on Facebook for awhile now and have been very impressed with the information I've found on there. But this summer I became a member and realized what an incredible resource the membership was. As a member you receive an email newsletter every single Tuesday with hundreds of events around the area for the following week. They are organized by day and by region (VA, DC, MD). A member has access to a members-only area on the website where you can search hundreds of

events per week by age, price, event type, city, and state. Their motto is “We do the research so you don’t have to!”. It’s priceless. There are also lots of awesome giveaways and promotions. Right now they are doing a Dog Days of Summer Giveaway-a-Day where they are giving away items like car seats, strollers, books. For more information on this awesome resource, find Our Kids on

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/ourkidsdc> or on the web www.our-kids.com

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,
Elizabeth Carroll

THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who attended the August clean up & maintenance day:

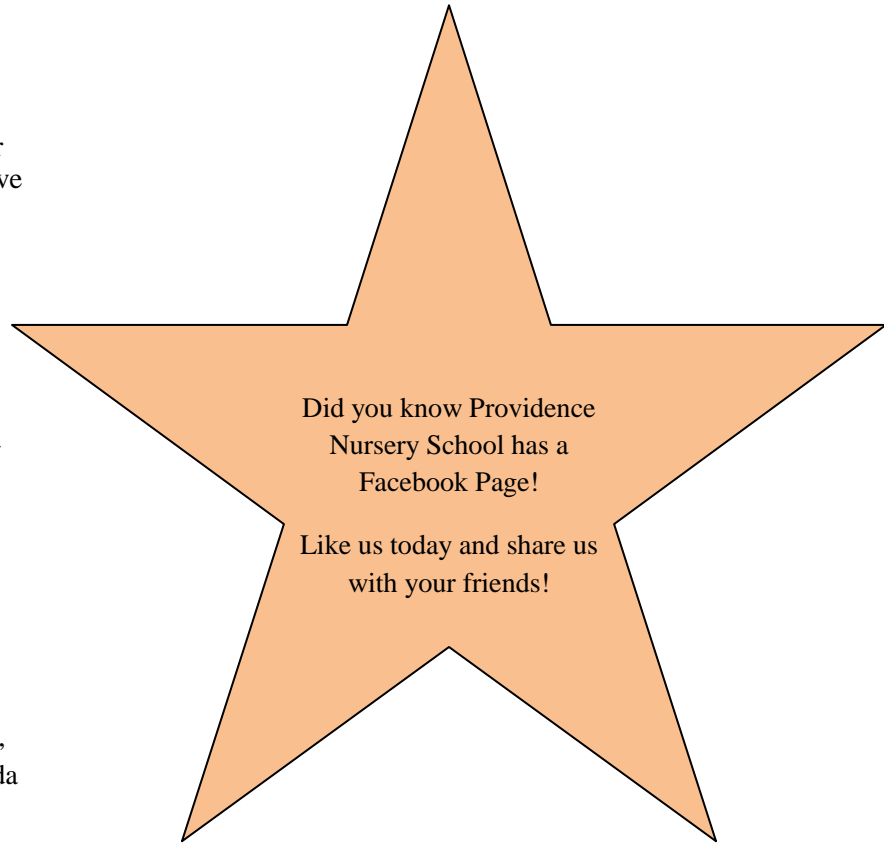
Maintenance Committee - Rob Moss (Chair), Devin Blythe, Charles Havasy

Clean Up Coordinators - Robin Kang and Christina Pak

Attendees - Marbin Pineda, Henry Wright, Michael Lewis, Parag Chitnis, Bradley Forrest, Mark Browning, Paul Pitera, Melissa Ahern, Bryna Erickson, Simonette dela Torre, Brinda Nayak, Chris DiTeresi

And a special thank you to Christina and Robin Kang for coordinating the clean-up and providing refreshments.

Thanks to the Class Reps for their efforts organizing co-op schedules and play dates over the summer: Elizabeth Boland (CDO), Maria Burel (2s), Marisa Chartier (3s), Britt Estabrooks (3/4s) and Simonette dela Torre (4s).



SEPTEMBER 2013

Sun	M	T	W	Th	F	Sat
	1 Tuition Due <i>Labor Day</i>	2	3 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	4 Co-op Training 9:30-10:30am 2s & 4s 11:00am- 12:00pm 3s &3/4s	5	6
7 <i>National Grandparents Day</i>	8 First Day of School! Alt Co-op training 6:30pm Board Meeting 7:30pm	9	10	11	12 <i>Chocolate Milkshake Day</i>	13
14	15	16 <i>National Play-doh Day</i>	17 <i>Constitution Day</i>	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 Fire Safety Puppet Show & Truck Visit 11:00am First Day of Soccer	25	26	27
28 <i>National Good Neighbor Day</i>	29	30				