

Dear Parents,

We would like to take the opportunity to share some information about our 4/5-year-old classes, Extended Day program and our Enrichment class. The Extended Day program and Enrichment class is open to all children enrolled in the 4/5-year-old program.

### **4/5 Year Old Class**

The 4/5 year old classes at LBP focus on introducing children to pre-kindergarten skills, peer socialization and following a classroom routine. Through a variety of fun and educational units, the children in our 4/5 year old classes have the opportunity to gain the confidence and skills necessary for future stages of their education. The curriculum is taught with a unit approach, stressing areas of learning that are interesting and exciting for children of this age.

Interwoven into the program are the skills needed as a child matures...large motor skills, small motor skills, listening skills and speaking in front of a group. These skills are taught through group games, art, music and sharing time. Socialization skills are taught through nurturing guidance and direction in combination with whole-group activities.

Our class structure allows for a study of the alphabet, pre-reading skills and pre-writing skills. We explore these topics by reading books aloud, singing letter songs and familiar songs, playing literacy and alphabet games and manipulating letters and their sounds during whole group and center time. Pre-writing skills play a very important part in our class. We work on getting little fingers strong for writing. Centers include fine motor manipulation such as using eye-droppers, tongs and scissors. The children also color and write in their journals.

During class time, children are exposed to math skills which include numbers, shapes, color recognition, sorting and beginning pattern recognition. A majority of these skills are taught through play and small groups in the classroom.

The teachers in both classes provide the children with a positive, loving atmosphere conducive to and productive to personal growth and development.

For the children who stay for a full day, this option gives classes further time to explore and engage in the topics covered in the morning session. It allows for greater focus and emphasis on skills needed for pre-kindergarten success. The additional time allows for increased engagement in our unit-based activities.

We introduce additional literacy and mathematic opportunities while utilizing centers that focus on pre-kindergarten skills. Students attend our morning program, eat lunch together, enjoy a “recess” and then return to the classroom for extra learning opportunities. Our extended day program is from 9:30 am-2:30 pm.

Our mornings-only class meets additionally on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, from 9:30-12:00. The students are nurtured through literature and poetry, art projects, music, physical movement, drama and individualized attention. Using a unit approach to learning, your child will be exposed to cooking, the five senses, and three-dimensional objects, to name a few. Our largest unit takes us to other countries where we learn about their customs, languages and holidays.

If you have any questions concerning these class options, please contact Jessica Steinman.