



Arcola Christian Preschool

"Let the little children come to Me . . . for of such is
the kingdom of God."
(Luke 18:16 NKJV)

November 2018

Director's Note

November is such a special month. The colorful fall trees, blue sky, and cooler weather remind us of God's amazing creations. It is fun to watch the children take every opportunity to hear the "crunch" of the fallen leaves and it's wonderful to see how they are enjoying many new experiences and making new friends. They have adapted to their classes and new routine.

November is traditionally a time to be thankful and I want to tell you how thankful I am for the wonderful staff, parents and children at our preschool. You all make it a joy to come to work each day!

This month's focus on learning through play is about Dramatic Play in the "House Corner". Read for some ideas on how to extend your child's learning at home.

The Virginia Department of Health requires us to regularly test our water as part of our preschool licensing procedures. Our water consistently passes all tests. If you would like more information about lead in water, they would like to share this website:
www.epa.gov/lead.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Barbara

BarbaraL@ArcolaChurch.org
703-327-7878 x222

Admin Notes

Tuition

Tuition payments are **due the first of each month**. The best way to pay is on the preschool tuition payment page on our [website](#). You can also use bill pay through your bank but please allow at least a week for the check to be delivered. There is a \$25 late fee after the 5th of the month. We are a non-profit and rely on your timely payments to pay our staff and purchase supplies.

Absences

If your child is going to be out of school due to illness or travel, please inform your child's teacher or the preschool office.

Odds and Ends

Please be sure to label all clothes, jackets, and school bags with your child's name. Many children do not recognize their own jackets when there are several others that look similar.

Snack

All snacks must be nut free – that includes peanuts and tree nuts. **This policy applies to all snacks to be consumed at the preschool, including those brought in for celebrations, as well as items to be sent home with the children in goody bags.** We cannot serve items that have been processed, packaged, or manufactured in a facility that also processes, packages, or manufactures peanut or tree nuts. Snacks must be store bought with labels we can read and be unopened. **Thank you for your cooperation in keeping all our students safe.**

We serve water to drink so there is no need to send in any other beverage.

Scholastic Books

Each month there are new book order fliers available at www.Scholastic.com/bookclubs. Books are a wonderful way to extend your child's learning and they also make great gifts! This month's **orders are due Thursday, November 29**. You can order online with the information below. Books will be delivered to the preschool and will be sent home with your child. Let me know if you prefer they are a surprise and I'll notify you when they arrive.

September order due date: 11/29/2018
Web address: scholastic.com/bookclubs
Class Activation Code: GZVWY



Arcola Christian Preschool Calendar:

November 1 - 13 – Parent/Teacher

Conferences (see information from
classroom teachers)

November 5 & 6 – No Preschool (LCPS workdays)

November 15, 16 - Thanksgiving Feasts
(students only)

November 19-23 - No School (Thanksgiving Break)

December 18 & 19 - Family Christmas Sing-Along
beginning @ 11 am

Dec. 20 – Jan. 1 - No School (Christmas/Winter
Break)

Upcoming events at Arcola Church



Check out our church website for more information about Arcola church as well as upcoming groups and events. We would love to see you!

MISSIONS - Calling all kids - this project is for you!

[Operation Christmas Child](#) demonstrates God's love to hurting children in a tangible way by partnering with churches worldwide to deliver gift-filled shoe boxes and the Good News of Jesus Christ. Find out how to pack your box with the informational brochure found in the Narthex or [online](#). **Filled shoe boxes are due back to the church by Sunday, November 11.** Don't forget to include a donation in your shoe box or [donate and follow your box online](#). Please contact [Anne Moriak](#) for information.

Moms with Littles

Join us for "Moms with Littles" on the first and third Thursday each month! This is a group for moms of babies through preschool age children. We'll drink coffee and nibble on snacks, discuss scripture and pray for each other. This year we will also follow along with the devotional book [Pressing Pause: 100 Quiet Moments for Moms to Meet with Jesus](#). Come meet other Arcola moms and share the joys and challenges of motherhood! Register [online](#) and contact [Rachel Kearsse](#) with any questions.

Refill Wednesdays

This year the Arcola Diner will transition to Refill Wednesdays, an opportunity for our congregation to gather together in community! There will be a prepared meal served by an Arcola small group the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month at 6pm.

Please **Register by Monday** before the event so that we can plan accordingly. All are welcome!

<https://arcolachurch.org/event/1163991-2018-10-03-refill-wednesdays/>

Dates with a Purpose

Go on a date with your spouse the third Saturday of each month. (Saturday, November 17, this month.) Before you go, join a group at the church at 6pm for a 20 minute discussion on ways to improve your marriage. Childcare is available with reservation. Go online for more information and to register.

<https://arcolachurch.org/event/819836-2018-11-17-dates-with-a-purpose/>

Arcola United Methodist Church

Pastor: Chris Riedel

Web site: www.arcolachurch.org

Sunday worship times: 8:00, 9:15 & 11:00 am

If you are interested in learning more about what is happening in the life of Arcola Church, please send me an e-mail (BarbaraL@ArcolaChurch.org) and I will have you added to the church newsletter e-mail distribution list.



A Letter to Parents on the House Corner

What We Do and Why

The house corner is a very important part of our classroom. The work children do in the house corner is called dramatic play or pretend play. In the house corner children take on a role and recreate real-life experiences. They use props and make-believe about a wide variety of topics.

The ability to pretend is very important to children's later academic success in school. When children pretend, they have to recall experiences they've had and re-create them. To do this, they have to be able to picture their experiences in their minds. For example, to play the role of a doctor, children have to remember what tools a doctor uses, how a doctor examines a patient, and what a doctor says. In playing the role of a doctor, children have to be able to cooperate with other children and defend their own ideas.

When children are engaged in dramatic play in the classroom, we encourage them to talk about what they are doing. For example, we might say:

- "What do mothers do when children are sick?"
- "What kind of cake are you going to make: chocolate or vanilla?"
- "Why does your baby cry so much?"

We ask questions that help children extend their thinking and their play.

What You Can Do At Home

You can encourage the same kind of pretend play at home by having a box of dress-up clothes available or by putting a sheet over a card table and making a hideout for your child. Such activities are particularly good for a rainy day.

One way to extend your child's dramatic play is to collect different kinds of dress-up clothes and put them in boxes with picture labels showing the contents. For instance, one box might contain an apron, bibs, cups, plates, spoons, small cooking utensils, a whisk broom, and other objects for use in the kitchen. Another box might include hats with visors or recognizable insignia denoting an occupation, shoes, neckties, shirts, vests, coats, or trousers. A hospital prop box could hold nurses' hats, white coats, toy thermometers, stethoscopes, empty pill bottles, a small pillow, an eye patch, and a watch.

When the time is appropriate, you can give your child one of the boxes and encourage play by asking questions such as these: "What can we do about this sick baby?" or "Will you make grandmother a birthday cake?"

When you play pretend with your child, you are teaching important learning skills and spending valuable time together.