

PUMC PRESCHOOL

“A local tradition in preschool excellence since 1989”

Can it possibly be time to register for the fall of 2012? Yes it can and we are ready and excited to begin our 24th year! Priority registration will begin on February 8th. Information is being sent to every child who is eligible to return to preschool. These children, their siblings who will be old enough for preschool in the fall, siblings of former preschool families and members of Powhatan United Methodist Church, will have two weeks to register for preschool before open registration begins. To add to the excitement, all tuition fees will remain the same and everyone who registers by March 15 will receive \$25 off of the registration fee. We will also continue our policy of **“many activities but no activity fee!”**

Our Parent Surveys were so helpful to us and while most things will remain the same, some important changes will happen. Overwhelmingly, you asked for the 9-12 times to remain the same and they will but we will begin our car drop off lines at 8:55 AM and start pick up at 12 noon. Also, our ‘Lunch Bunch’ will be extended to 3 PM. Read the registration form carefully for other changes and options and choose the class that will best meet the age and needs of your child. Our goal is to continue to make our preschool the very best place for young children to transition from the learning process begun at home to the formal education they will begin as Kindergarteners.

Once again, we will offer **developmental 2’s and 3’s classes**. In both the 2 and 3-day classes emphasis will be on the social, emotional and physical development of the child. This year we will be able to accept some children under the age of 2 ½ in our 2-day class. If your child will not quite be 2 ½ by September 30 and you would like for them to be considered for this class, please give Miss Sharon a call. The two, 3-day 3’s classes will be divided into ‘older’ and ‘younger’ age groups with learning goals to match the developmental readiness of each. All children are given an opportunity to explore the preschool environment as they learn through teacher guided play experiences. Potty training is not required but strongly encouraged for the older 3-day class.

Powhatan County offers Kindergarten to children who will be 5 by September 30, 2012. Children do not have to be enrolled in school until the fall following their 6th birthday. As kindergarten expectations become more academic and demanding, parents are more frequently choosing to wait a year before enrolling a child who is a young 5 in an all day kindergarten. The classes in our **Pre-K 4/5’s** program provide a developmentally appropriate preschool curriculum that seeks to prepare children socially, emotionally and academically for kindergarten. Pre-reading, writing and math skills are taught in a center-based environment where children play as they learn.

Many families love the 3 days a week morning format that traditional preschools were built on and we do too! We will again offer two, **3-day Pre-K** classes for 4’s and

5's, one on Monday, Wednesday & Friday and the other on Tuesday, Thursday & Friday for you to choose from. A **4-days a week Pre-K** class has always been a favorite and is another choice for your child. Children must be 4 by Sept. 30 2012 for these classes.

While all 4-5's classes are 'pre-kindergarten' our **5 days a week** class is tailored to meet the needs of older 4's (must be 4 by May 1, 2012) and young 5's (late spring to fall birthdays), especially those who have completed a year in our 3 or 4 days a week 4's program. It is also the place for children who are bright but will benefit from another year to mature given the 'gift of time.'

An exciting new addition to our 4 and 5 days a week classes is the "extended session option" that will be offered Monday-Thursday. This 1 ½ hour addition to the preschool morning will give teachers the time for enrichment activities to expand on the mornings lessons and will include lunch (brought from home).

If you have questions about your child's placement in preschool or kindergarten next year, please talk with your child's teacher or the preschool director. You may also want to visit a class to help with your decision.

We will begin accepting registration on Wednesday February 8th. **All classes will be filled on a *first come, first serve* basis.** The registration fee varies by the number of days the child will attend. If you are registering two children in the same family you may pay one registration fee now and the other within thirty days. If your child is returning to preschool and a birth certificate was presented last year, you do not have to do this again. You may register in person by bringing your forms to the director, or you may mail your registration to the preschool. Priority registration ends on February 22nd when registration is opened to the community.

If you have friends who may be interested in preschool, please suggest that they call 598-6090 or email pumcpres@gmail.com the preschool office to receive registration materials. They may also visit www.powhatanumc.us and click on the Preschool link to download our registration form beginning February 15th. If you do not need your registration materials, you may wish to pass them along

Our experienced staff (we have over 100 years combined experience working with young children!) the thousands of pre-school graduates who are our 'alumnae' and your inspiring ideas and suggestions are what make ***PUMC Preschool an ever-changing, local tradition!***

Please contact Sharon Baltimore if you have any questions about the registration process.

Powhatan Methodist Preschool is a non-profit ministry of Powhatan United Methodist Church and does not discriminate on the basis of race, gender or religious affiliation.