

January 1, 2024

# HAPPY NEW YEAR

## January 2024 School Newsletter

### Happy New Year & Welcome Back!

New year, new adventures! We hope you had a wonderful Holiday filled with love and happiness... a time to enjoy the chill in the air, being able to see your breath and wearing mittens. We are excited to be back at school and look forward to an exciting new year at First Presbyterian Preschool. We start off the year by studying Transportation, Community Helpers and Ocean life. It will be fun!

***Exciting News at First Presbyterian Church: New Pastor starting! Let's give a warm welcome to Pastor Christian Johnson. He will be joining us in Chapel with the children soon.***

### **Parenting Training & Classes to help build resiliency and help each other in our community**

Our Preschool will be hosting another series of classes/trainings for parents and caregivers. We will, once again, have Anita Ramsey and Susan Chesko moderating the discussions and we will have food! Those classes will start again in February on the 13<sup>th</sup> so watch for more information to follow... SAVE the DATE!

**Carter's Farm Petting Zoo & Pony Ride coming on January 31<sup>st</sup>!** Save the date for a fun day with the animals. The children will see a variety of sheep, goats, chickens, ducks, and an alpaca!

### Filing Taxes 2023

It is that time of year...time to file your 2023 taxes. For those families that use the Preschool while you are at work or taking classes, our Tax Identification # is **86-6007618**. You can claim the cost of the Preschool on your income tax forms as a childcare expense.

### **PROGRAM EVALUATIONS:**

Program Evaluations will be going home at the end of the month. We will send this out through email and want to make sure everyone has their current email on file. Please take the time to fill them out when you receive it. This is a very valuable tool for us to improve our Preschool and to plan for next year. Thanks!

### **Community Helpers are Coming!:**

Would you like to come to share your profession with the children? Are you a pilot, work in a dental office or make something for your job, etc? Let us know. We would LOVE to have you come!

Also, the Mesa Fire Department will be visiting our school with a fire truck! They have confirmed that they are coming on 1/17/24! Watch for more info soon...

## This Month's Volunteer Opportunity

### Spread the word about our school:

We need your help to spread the word about our little school! We will be opening up the registration for the new school year soon and would appreciate your recommendation to others in the community. Scholarship opportunities may be available as well, for those families who qualify. If your referral signs up to start, we will give your child a new Preschool T-Shirt!

### Important Reminder:

Many families have been picking up late from Lunch Bunch after 1pm. Please plan ahead and arrive on time. The teachers are only scheduled until 1:30 each day and need that time to prepare for the next day's activities. Please be mindful of this and try to be on time. You will be assessed a \$15 late pick up fee for every 15 minutes you are late if this continues. Thank you for your help with this!

**Save the Date: Wednesday, March 13** is our school Carnival and we will need LOTS of parent helpers that morning from 9-11:30 😊

### [A look Ahead...](#)

#### **School Closure:**

1. **Monday, January 15** – Civil Rights Day

#### **CONTACT US:**

Find us on the web at [fpcmesa.org/preschool](http://fpcmesa.org/preschool) or call/email us at any time:  
[preschool@fpcmesa.org](mailto:preschool@fpcmesa.org)  
480-835-7877

## Daily Support for your Preschooler

### **Monday**

Use tongs to sort dry, colored noodles in a bowl

### **Tuesday**

Spend time at the library looking for books about weather, different cultures or sports

### **Wednesday**

Build a canned goods tower from the kitchen

### **Thursday**

Play a matching game with upper case and lower case letters

### **Friday**

Count all the blue, red or silver cars that pass while you wait in the car for someone.

## Reminders to families

- If your child is sick, please help us by keeping them home. They will not be able to return to school for 72-hours after the last incident, fever or illness.
- Make sure our child's jacket has their name marked in it. We need to stay warm this winter!

### **Donation requests:**

- Valentine's stickers
- 3 oz paper cups

**A shout out to all of our parents & families! Thank you for the wonderful Christmas treats, gifts and surprises. They made us feel so special. Merry Christmas!**