



First Presbyterian
Preschool
Mesa, AZ

September 1, 2024

September 2024



38th Anniversary year!

Wow! This is our 38th Anniversary and we are excited for the great year ahead with your children! We have many amazing things planned and we look forward to welcoming you on campus to join us during the family festivities. We are dedicated to providing the highest quality program that we have built our reputation on. Please reach out to our Church Office if you have any questions or concerns. They are ready to help. Please call the office at 480-964-8606. We will be sure to answer any questions you have within 24 hours.

Thank You Families!

Oh, my tender heart! God is so good! It has been my distinct pleasure to work at First Presbyterian Preschool for the last 12 years. I have been so blessed to come each day to be greeted by the children's hugs and screeches of joy when we see each other. I know the sincere relationships that I have made here are what I cherish the most. It is the unconditional love that I feel that is so special! It is a testament of just how unique this community is, and I will truly miss that. With God's grace I will carry this deep bonded feeling from all of you, and I know that I will be able to tap into that when I need reassurances. Please know that you will be a forever mark of love on my heart, and I offer you my contact information, so please keep in touch. I love you all SO much! Thank you, Thank you, Thank YOU!

Sincerely, Shiloh Murillo ~ Director 2012-2024

My cell: 480-480-0631

murillomrnmrs@hotmail.com

Slide Update:

The Head Start program is funding the slide replacement project and it is taking a little bit of time to get that funding approved through the Maricopa County Head Start office. They are predicting the work to begin some time in October. Stay tuned! Also, as a reminder, the Head Start program does not allow for their children to intermingle with others and so we are not able to play on the playground if they are playing. Thanks!

Birth to Five Helpline: Introduced in 2005, the Birth to Five Helpline combines sensitive, supportive listening with sound information from professionals who have expertise in early childhood development and parenting/caregiving. Each child and family are unique. Each family's own parenting perspectives, traditions and style are valued. The Birth to Five Helpline is a *free* service open to all Arizona families with young children looking for the latest child development information from experts in the field.
<https://www.swhd.org/programs/health-and-development/birth-to-five-helpline/>

Picking up your child: Thank you for your help! As a reminder, the teachers only work until 1:30 and use that remaining 30 minutes to reset the classroom for the next day. We appreciate how well the families have started the new school year and are getting here on time for pick up. It has really helped so keep up the great work!

Chapel starting 9/3

We are so excited to share God's love by incorporating Bible values directly into the classroom learning environment and during this special time each week with the children! Chapel will begin on Tuesday, 9/3. We will bring the children to the Fox Chapel at 10:30 during our morning activities to sing songs and learn about God. Please feel free to join us if you would like!

Volunteer Corner

Picture Day helper: 9/11 @ 9am!

Picture day will be very busy and fun. We will need one parent helper on this day to help run the children between their classroom and the photography room. Please let Ms Shiloh know if you would be able to help from 9-11:30 on 9/11
Thanks!

FREE! Community Dinner once a month on the first Wednesday of each month. Please come!

Special Events this Month:

Picture Day – 9/11 (Wednesday)

Hearing & Vision Screening – 9/18 (Wednesday)

Please plan to bring your child on these days even if it is not their regularly scheduled day to come.

- **Fall Break school closed**
October 7-11

- Please provide snacks for your child's entire class when you are assigned. A reminder note always goes home with the class total. Remember, we have a peanut allergy restriction. Please check labels for info regarding peanuts. This really helps us out! Thank you!
- Donations corner: 3oz paper cups
- **Please call the office number when your child is feeling sick** and needs to stay home. 480-964-8606 This will help us **stop** the spread of germs to the other children and we are required by the State of AZ Public Health to document the reasons why they will be absent.
- We are still enrolling in our PreK classroom!
Please spread the word and help us fill those spots.

Daily Reminders

Your child will need the following everyday this year:

1. Backpack with an extra change of clothing inside marked with his name.
2. Sturdy pair of close-toed shoes worn to school.
3. Water bottle with name written on it.

Daily Support for your Preschooler

Monday

Read a picture book together. Ask them to tell the story to you

Tuesday

Cut pictures out of old magazines and glue them to make a collage

Wednesday

Use shaving cream to write the letters or numbers on the coffee table

Thursday

Ride your bikes together around the neighborhood

Friday

Cuddle and listen to them share how they feel

A Very Special Thank You to My Teachers!

How do you sum up 12 years of gratitude for having the best team at the best school in the best community with the best support? You really can't! But I will say I hope these women feel my love as I express the deep appreciation I have for Nicki McNelly (MY best friend & mentor), Sara Wheat (young at heart/the licensing guru) and Ellyn Gilbert (my dedicated steady presence). These women of God make teaching young children look easy. Their expertise and patience are an example of grace working through them every day. I have learned so much from each one of them and I will carry that knowledge and bond of friendship with me. Ladies, may you continue to share the light of Christ with these families and the ones to come for many years ahead. You have a very special gift that is not easily taught. It is felt with the heart. 😊

I love you dearly AND I will truly miss each one of you!

First Presbyterian Church offers many community resources that may be of interest to you and your family or someone you know. Please share this information. In partnership with Midwest Food Bank, FPC offers **free food boxes every Friday morning from 8am to 9am**. No specific qualifications needed. Everyone is welcome. The Church also opens their **free clothing closet** during the same time for families and individuals to come pick out 5 items of clothing per person per visit. This is a wonderful resource that helps to keep costs down for anyone needing a gently-used pair of shoes, clothes or accessories. No qualifying, everyone is welcome. Additionally, the Church is hosting a **monthly community dinner, free of charge for the whole family**. This is a year-round program and is scheduled on the First **Wednesday of every month from 5:00-6:00pm. FREE!** All are welcome! Please call the Church office for more info (480) 964-8606