

August/September 2024 Newsletter



Grace Education Ministries

615 N. 22nd Street Lafayette, Indiana 47904

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Like us on Facebook to stay in touch with classroom events and special reminders.

Welcome to Grace

We would like to welcome all our new families to Grace. Please let us know if you have any questions. Please review our updated parent handbook, please read, sign, and return the signature page by 8/30. Please look for a meet your child's teacher packet on Monday, August 5th. This will give you valuable information on the classroom expectations for you and your child.

Tuition Rates

We would like to extend our gratitude for your loyalty to Grace Education Ministries over the years. Your satisfaction is important to us, and we hope we have been successful in providing you with excellent care. As operating costs rise, our board voted to increase our rates purely on budget needs. GEM strives to offer you and your family affordable, quality early childhood education and care. Effective August 5, 2024, our new rates will be:

Weekly: Infants: \$215.00 2-year-old \$195.00 3-5-year-old \$180.00

Additional Child: 10% off second child

Daily Rate: 2-year-old \$60.00 3-5-year-old \$54.00

Daily Half Day w/lunch: 2-year-old \$52.00 3-5-year-old \$44.00

Readiness Preschool: M/W/F \$135.00/monthly T/Th: \$120.00/monthly

Tuition Payment Policy

Tuition is due **EVERY** Monday and considered late and will incur a \$20.00 late fee on Friday morning. If you pay monthly, tuition is due on the 1st and considered late on the 15th and will incur a \$20.00 late fee. If you pay biweekly, payment need to be paid ahead and not in arrears. Automated payments will be every Monday/1st of the month regardless of attendance, absence, or holiday.

Upcoming Events

Scholastic Books: Order online at www.scholasticbooks.com using our school code: 120S9. Orders will process the 1st Friday of every month.

GEM Closed: 8/1 for Staff Development Day

New Rates Begin: 8/5

All About Me Due: 8/12

Family Photos due: 8/16

Wear Animal T-shirt/print: 8/23

Readiness Open House: 8/18

Readiness Begins: 8/19 and 8/20

Fall Into Grace: 8/21

GEM Closes at 5pm on this day

GEM Closed: Labor Day 9/2

**KISS: Kids invite Someone Special 9/6
7:00-9:00**

Chapel Dates: TBD

Crazy Hat Day: 9/3

Box Car races: 9/12

Student Evaluations: 9/27

Kroger Community Rewards:

Link your Payless rewards card to benefit Grace! Our school code: JJ381.

Visit www.kroger.com to enroll.

Happy Anniversary to our GEM Staff:

Ms. Sara 1 year: 8/1

Ms. Alisha 1 year: 9/6

Mrs. Maria 5 years: 9/6

Mrs. Baker 4 years: 9/9

Happy Birthday to Our GEM Staff:

Mrs. Bridget: 8/16

Ms. Bethany: 8/27

Mrs. Baker: 8/28

Our GEM Team

Administration: Ms. Marquita: Director

Program Specialist: Ms. Sara

Younger Infants: Ms. Alisha, Ms. Shalonda

Older Infants: Ms. Keely, Ms. Bria

Toddlers: Mrs. Rachael

Hurricanes: Ms. Chrissy, Ms. Hannah

Sunshine: Ms. Sydney, Ms. Emma

Raindrops: Ms. Veronica

Thunderbolts: Mrs. Maria

Readiness: Mrs. Black, Mrs. Baker, Mrs. Bridget

Support Staff: Mrs. Julie, Ms. Bethany, Ms. Adriana

Parent reminders

*Sign your child in/out daily. Conveniently, sign in/out with the QR code located on your child's classroom door or at the kiosk with your pin which are located upstairs and downstairs.

*Grace closes at 5:30. If your child is still at the center at 5:30 there is a **late fee of \$5.00 per minute, per child** and is automatically charged to your account.

*Please make sure your child has 2 sets of seasonal extra clothes in his/her locker in case of accidents or spills. Please check it weekly as our extras are limited.

*We do not allow any items from home. The only exception is on a show & share day, as determined by your child's teacher and one small, child sized naptime blanket.

*Call 765-447-2204 or send a message via Playground App if your child will be absent or later than 9:30 a.m. This helps us with our staffing and lunch counts. If you do not call, we will assume you are not coming and will not provide lunch for your child.

*If your child has been ill in the last 24- hours please keep them at home. This helps us from spreading illness.

*Please send a family photo to school by 8/16. This helps with transitions and discussing family members with teachers and classmates.

*Please send your child to school in tennis shoes, or sandals with ankle straps. Flip Flops are unsafe and prohibited for the playground.

*Please have your child finish any car snacks prior to coming into the building. This helps us monitor food policies and allergies. **We are a peanut free facility. Your child must wash his/her hands prior to entering the classroom.**

*Please check for the following Newsletter attachments: GEM annual school calendar with weekly themes, family engagements & special dress-up days, and boxcar information

*Check and empty your child's locker DAILY so you will not miss important notes and reminders.

*All nap items will be sent home on Friday to be **washed**.

*Read your attached parent handbook. Return signature page by 8/30

Morning Drop Off

Mornings can be busy and confusing at times. We want to make it as easy for you as we can. If you are having separation issues, please let us know when we can assist you. If you have trouble locating your child's group, please see his/her classroom door for the "Where are we"? Sign.

7:00 Infants Room N

7:30 Older Infants Room D

7:00 Toddlers & Hurricanes Room H

7:30 Toddlers Room E

7:00 Sunshine, Raindrops & Thunderbolts Room P





7:30 Sunshine Room O

Key fobs

Anyone that is on your pickup/drop off list needs to have a key fob. Limit 2 per family with certain exceptions. Please stop by the office to purchase extras for ALL authorized individuals. Extra fobs are \$15.00 each. All fobs' fees are non-refundable. Please note the doorbell is not monitored before 7:30 or after 4:00. If you lose your fob, you will be responsible for replacing the lost fob and be required to purchase another \$25.00. All fobs are to be returned at the end of year or when your child moves on from Grace.

Illness, Communicable Diseases & COVID-19

If children become ill during the day, exhibiting any sign of illnesses listed below or illnesses described in our normal policies, parents will be notified to pick them up and they will not be able to return for 24 hours (1 complete school day) after last occurrence. If your child misses 2 or more consecutive days of school or has symptoms of a communicable disease, we will require a doctor's note to return. **Keep children home if they have signs of the following:**

-  Fever, chills in the past 24 hours.
-  Heavy nasal discharge, or green in color.
-  Cough
-  Congestion

- ✚ Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing.
- ✚ Fatigue
- ✚ Muscle or body aches
- ✚ Headache
- ✚ Loss of taste or smell
- ✚ Sore throat
- ✚ Nausea or vomiting
- ✚ Diarrhea
- ✚ Overtired, fussy, cranky, not their usual selves.
- ✚ have symptoms of a possible communicable disease, such as sniffles, red eyes, or abdominal pain, especially if accompanied by fever and/or spots.

GEM Private Facebook Group

- ✚ We have created a GEM family private group to share pictures of classroom activities. Please feel free to join our group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/713262197682127/> . Our current Facebook page will be used strictly for public postings such as openings, employment opportunities, events and sharing developmental supports