



HELLO 2023!


Welcome parents to 2023

Every year we like to take a look at the past year and reflect and look forward to what the new year will bring. 2022 flew right by, and we feel like it went so fast! In our personal life, we feel like life has been pretty steady. Tyler is now a Junior at Northwestern University, Kelly is a Sophomore at the University of Alabama, Lilly is in her Senior year of high school and has picked UW-Milwaukee as her university next year. Brayden and Addie are both in middle school and both enjoying wrestling and soccer. We really felt blessed to have them all home with us over the holidays.

This year at ASF we were able to gain back a feeling of normalcy, where we were able to attend field trips again and enjoyed having families attend events that we hosted. We held our annual family appreciation party this summer, and we enjoyed the trunk or treat that we had here onsite as well. It makes us so proud and warms our hearts when we see your families truly joining us to feel like extended family! This year also brought us some "behind the scenes" improvements within the center. We have added a virtual state approved curriculum to our program as well as a virtual state approved assessment tool to help our teachers to provide quality services for your family. We have also invested in our staff this year in many ways, including monthly lunches that we provide, an amazing teacher appreciation week that included gifts and cash bonus', and a fabulous holiday party including a night out in Milwaukee with ax throwing, shuffle board, drinks, and hotel stays!

We work very hard to invest in our staff so that they can love their job here at ASF, which leads to quality staff that come to work happy and relaxed and who are committed to the continuity of care for your children. We did many building space improvements as well including repainting the entire building, all classrooms were upgraded to LED lighting, all of our bathrooms had new floors put in, and many classrooms received new cabinetry as well.

As we reflect on the past year, we now look forward to the new year we have started. We are looking forward to a great year, and we have some big announcements to make. After two attempts of consideration, we have decided that we are going to begin offering Saturday care for our community. We are going to start this on February 4th. We will be sending out additional information shortly, but please contact us if you or someone you know needs care on Saturdays. This will be a sign-up required service and we are very excited to be the only center in our local community offering this service.



In 2023, we are strongly considering offering morning transportation at our KND program to ZION ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS. We used to only offer after-school transportation and we are now considering the opportunity to serve our community in more ways. We are also happy to announce that we are streamlining our parent communications and billing apps into one convenient service through Himama. You will be able to use the same app you currently use for daily classroom communication to make your payments right from your phone! We are also very excited to announce that as we move into Spring this year, we will be returning to in-person drop-off and pick-up where you will get to have daily interactions with the classroom teachers who are working with your children. We will be eliminating the drop-off and pick-up system that we currently use and will return to "pre-COVID" life!

As everyone is aware and has felt the effects, the economy is continually changing and the cost of ALL goods and services continue to increase. For example, the cans of vegetables that used to cost us \$4.00 now run us over \$8.00 each. Classroom supplies and utility costs have increased as well. In addition, we live in a state where our wages are legally forced to increase annually. With that being said we have taken this all into consideration as we move into 2023 rates. Last year we only increased our rates by \$1.00 a day. Once again we are doing everything possible to keep our annual increase minimal. Since we are increasing our prices slightly, we also tried to find ways to save you money as well. So we are VERY excited to announce that in 2023 you will NOT PAY for the holidays in which we are closed. We have realized that this expense may have put strain on families with multiple children, especially when most of our closed holidays take place between November and December. We are also very proud to remind you that we only close for a handful of holidays, and we do not follow a federal schedule of closing on days such as MLK, Veterans Day, and Presidents Day. With all of that being said, we are raising our rates by the small amount of \$2.00 per day per child this year.

Please be sure to read all of the attached documents here, they all contain important details for your family and your child! We hope that this new electronic way of signing documents will not only make it easier for your family but will save lots of wasted paper!

Thank you again for sharing your children with us, we look forward to an amazing 2023!

With Love,

Vince and Jennifer Sroka



