

# **HONEY MACCALLUM CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL**

**A ministry of  
PATUXENT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
23421 Kingston Creek Road  
California, MD 20619**

**Preschool: 301-863-8600  
Church Office: 301-863-2033**

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## 2020-21 Calendar

**(subject to change and current calendar found on [www.hmcpreschool.com](http://www.hmcpreschool.com))**

**We follow the St. Mary's County Public Schools calendar for most, but not ALL, scheduled days off.**

- For inclement weather, we follow SMCPs for closures. [www.smcps.org](http://www.smcps.org)
- We start at **9:45 AM (2s)** or **10 AM (3s & 4s)** on 2 hour delay start days.
- Visit our website for school closure updates: [www.hmcpreschool.com](http://www.hmcpreschool.com).

9/2	Wednesday	Orientation MMO
9/3	Thursday	Orientation MMO, 3s, 4s
9/4	Friday	Orientation 3s & 4s
9/7	Monday	No School – Labor Day
9/8	Tuesday	1 <sup>st</sup> Day TTH MMO & 3s, PreK 4s
9/9	Wednesday	1 <sup>st</sup> Day MWF MMO & 3s
9/25	Friday	No School – SMCPs Prof. Day
11/11	Wednesday	No School – Veterans Day
11/23-11/27	Mon. – Fri.	Thanksgiving Break
12/21-1/1		Christmas Break
1/4	Monday	HMC Resumes Classes
1/18	Monday	No School – MLK Day
1/29	Friday	No School – SMCPs Prof. Day
2/15	Monday	No School – Presidents' Day
3/29-4/5		Easter/Spring Break
4/6	Tuesday	HMC Resumes Classes
5/27	Thursday	Last Day T/Th MMO & 3s
5/28	Friday	Last Day MWF MMO & 3s, PreK 4s PreK Graduation

Welcome to Honey MacCallum Christian Preschool! We are so glad that you have become part of our family. The teachers and I truly love our school and we hope that you will feel the same way. We take great pride in what we do and provide a loving, safe, Christian environment for your child to grow and thrive. If you are a returning family, we thank you for continuing to put your trust in us for the education and nurturing of your children.

Communication is very important between school and home. If you have any feedback, problems or concerns, please feel free to give me a call, email me or come by the office at any time.

Blessings,  
Diane Byers  
Director  
thedirector@hmcpreschool.com

### **HMC Staff 2020-2021**

#### **Mothers Morning Out**

Cherie Crescini  
Donna Dursee  
Trish Murph

#### **AM PreK 4s**

Anna Bean, Teacher  
Rosie McEwan, Assistant  
Carolyn Piland, Teacher

#### **T/TH 3s**

Tricia Sowa

#### **Administrative Asst.**

Erika Wolfe

#### **MWF 3s**

Heather Boynton  
Tricia Sowa

## Our Philosophy

The preschool and kindergarten years are the most significant in the development of children. It represents a time when learning is swift and curiosity is at a peak.

The mission of Honey MacCallum Christian Preschool is to provide a safe, loving, and enjoyable Christian learning environment for your children.

The children will have an opportunity to develop an awareness of the presence of God in their world. The children will learn that God is loving and forgiving and that the church is a warm and inviting place where they can feel happy together.

For children to fully develop, they need to explore at their own pace in an atmosphere of security and love. Curiosity and wonder need to be stimulated to help build self esteem. During this formative time independence, creativity and thinking need to be encouraged.

Above all, children with the help of caring, loving trustworthy adults will come to know that God is loving, caring, and trustworthy.

## Our Goals

**To grow in independence:** To help children grow and develop as unique individuals, learning to do things themselves and make right choices.

**To learn to get along with others:** Children need to learn to work together and to share.

**To develop self control and self discipline:** Children need to know there is appropriate behavior in dealing with each other, stressing good manners.

**To encourage curiosity, wonder, and self esteem:** Teachers need to listen to children, respect their needs and compliment them sincerely, thereby encouraging them to feel good about themselves.

**To nurture faith:** Children need the help of adults to develop an awareness of the presence of God in themselves and others.

**To form healthy relationships:** Children need to form healthy relationships by learning about family, self, and friends.

## Our Program

Honey MacCallum takes the “whole child” approach to learning. Intellectual skills are an important component of our learning program. We place great importance in social, emotional, and physical development. We also feel it is very important to enable the children to learn as small children do – through play! Our program is structured, but children also self direct, and we use teachable moments as available. These activities include art, music, movement, language, math, science, social studies, and devotions.

We are licensed by the MSDE (Maryland State Department of Education) as a childcare center. Our Director is a Qualified Director of Preschool and teachers meet Lead Teacher Qualifications for Preschool ages. This means that we are inspected yearly and must remain in compliance with the MSDE regulations. A copy of these regulations and your rights in regulated childcare are available near the Preschool Room and online at MSDE or our website. See below.

## Maryland Guide to Regulated Childcare Brochure

This brochure can be found posted in our preschool or online at:  
<http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/NR/rdonlyres/84577FAC-09F7-4933-8A9C-649D7CB04678/14988/ParentBrochureMSDEDecember2007.pdf>

## Enrollment

- To enroll, a registration form must be filled out and submitted with a NON-REFUNDABLE registration fee of \$140 and September’s tuition, if past May 1.
- Parents receive a folder of paperwork that must be completed and returned to HMC by August 1st.
- Each student is required to have a complete physical, a lead screening and all shots must be up to date.
- **If your child receives additional shots during the school year, please bring proof of immunization to the office to have your child’s records updated.**

## Withdrawal

- Parents must give written notice prior to withdrawal of their child.
- Tuition will not be refunded for partial months, however a prorated payment may be arranged with the Director prior to the month of departure.

## Tuition/Fees

- Regular tuition and fees are paid in full, regardless of your child's attendance or the number of days the school is open that month.
- Credit is not given for vacation, sick days, holidays or weather closures.
- Tuition is automatically either drafted by ACH from your bank account or charged via credit card on the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month October through May. September tuition is paid on May 1 or date of enrollment if after May 1.
- You may change your method of payment at any time by contacting the Director.

## Inclement Weather

- We follow the St. Mary's County Public Schools schedule for closings. If St. Mary's County Public Schools are closed, we are closed. **If there is a two hour delay, Honey MacCallum will begin drop off at 9AM for 2s and 9:15 for 3s/4s.**
- Email notification from teachers may occur, but it **is not guaranteed**, due to unpredictability of weather situations.
- Check [www.hmcpreschool.com](http://www.hmcpreschool.com), HMC Facebook page, local radio stations, local news or visit [www.smcps.org](http://www.smcps.org) to get current information regarding school closures or delays.
- Per school policy, we do not make up snow/inclement weather days.

## Drop Off/Pick Up In Car Line

- Dismissal for MMO (2s) is 12pm and 3s/4s is 12:15pm.
- Car Line Procedure document is on our website under Documents.
- Pick up for all classes is **PROMPTLY** at dismissal time.
- No child will be released to anyone other than parents, guardians, or those persons specified on the Authorized Release Form. We will ask for ID if someone we haven't met is picking the child up, including a parent.
- If you are aware in advance that someone else will be picking up your child, please send in a note, email the Director or your child's teacher.
- **DO NOT leave any children/babies in your vehicles unattended at any time.**

## Absences

- If your child will be absent for an extended period of time, (vacations, etc.) please inform your child's teacher.
- If you know your child will be absent, it is recommended, but not required, that you email the child's teacher or the Director.

## Illnesses

- Please notify the Director if your child or someone in your household tests positive for Covid 19.
- If your child becomes sick during school, you will be called to pick him or her up immediately. A fever of 100.5 degrees orally or 101 temporally (forehead thermometer), is cause to be sent home or be kept at home.
- **If your child has been home due to illness, they must be 24 hours free of fever, fever reducing medication, vomiting, and diarrhea, before returning to school.**
- If your child has contracted a communicable disease (i.e. pink eye, fifth disease, chicken pox, etc). you must notify the school, and a doctor's note of treatment and/or clearance must be brought to the office before your child is readmitted to school.

## Injuries/First Aid

- If your child has a minor injury, i.e. bump, small cut, parents will be notified at pick up time or you will be called, if necessary.
- If your child should become severely injured or ill, standard first aid will be administered, and parents will be contacted immediately. All staff are CPR/1<sup>st</sup> Aid certified.
- If needed, 911 will be called and your child will be transported to the nearest hospital. Please be sure that all contact information is kept current on your child's emergency cards.

## Emergency Preparedness Plan

- HMC has an Emergency Preparedness Plan, and staff have been trained to handle various types of emergencies.
- Always update any changed contact information with the Director. Email is acceptable.
- **In the event that we have to vacate our building, your child will be taken to the Riversong Daycare Center at Our Father's House church down the street (toward Rte. 235) for pick up.**

## Medication/Allergies

- Make sure all allergies are documented in child's paperwork where requested.
- Only emergency medication will be administered at HMC. (i.e. Epi Pen, inhaler)
- Parents must have a physician complete a Medication Authorization Form.
- Medication must be in the original container with your child's name, date, dosage, doctor's name, doctor's phone number and expiration date.
- Please be sure medication is not expired and replace if it expires during the school year.
- All medication is to be turned in to the Director.
- DO NOT leave medication in your child's tote bag or lunch bag.

## Snack Time

- Pack a healthy snack and drink each day in a paper sack or washable hard container.
- All drinks must be in a **spillproof** container.
- Do not send sweets or candy as snacks.
- Avoid snacks that spill. (i.e. applesauce cup vs. pouch or fruit cup w/juice vs. fresh fruit)
- Include a napkin and any necessary utensils.
- NO peanut products allowed.

## HMC Tote Bags

- All students receive an HMC embroidered canvas tote bag. This cost is covered by Registration Fee.
- MMO 2s students need a change of clothing (changed for seasons) and shoes, 3 diapers and baby wipes in their tote bags.
- 3s and PreK 4s are recommended to provide a change of clothes in their tote bag in case of an accident.

## Birthdays

- Birthdays are special, and we try to make your child's birthday special at school too.
- We invite you to donate a new hardcover book on your child's special day to add to our lending library.
- You may inscribe the cover to HMC in honor of child's name on his/her birth date.
- Bring it wrapped and your child may present it at circle time. (The class will sing Happy Birthday regardless of whether a book is donated.) We will read the story and then add it to our lending library for all the children to enjoy.
- We discourage sending in food treats on birthdays, however, a treat bag to go home is ok. Please arrange this in advance with your child's teacher.



## Field Trips (currently uncertain for 20-21 school year)

- We do not transport the children to field trips, so we ask that parents come and enjoy the field trips with us. Please check your email for notification of cancelled field trips due to inclement weather.
- Your teachers will give prior notice and dates will appear on the calendar in your child's folder.

## Scholastic Book Orders

- Reading to your children is SO very important!
- HMC offers a monthly Scholastic book order flyer to parents.
- Orders may be placed online and books will be delivered to school.
- HMC also hosts a Scholastic Book Fair each fall. (uncertain for 20-21)

## Clothing/Personal Items

- Children should wear clothing that will not be ruined if paint, glue or other materials used in class were to get on them.
- Sneakers are the best shoes for school due to the playground mulch.
- **NO sandals or shoes with holes are permitted.**
- Send sweaters, coats, gloves, and hats for outdoor play. **All items should be labeled with your child's name.** We go out every day except for extreme cold or rain, etc.
- If you wish for your child to have sunscreen on for outdoor play, please apply before they come to school.

## School Rules

We try to limit our rules to just a few, aimed at ensuring a safe and pleasant school environment for your child.

1. Be a friend.
2. Listen.
3. Share.
4. Walk, Don't Run.
5. Help Clean Up.

## Parent Resource Library

- A Parent Resource Library is available in the Director's Office.
- Please stop by if you need a special book or information about behavior issues, parenting, childhood diseases, grief, and more.

## Parent/School Communication

- Each classroom sends a monthly newsletter/calendar via email.
- Each class has a private, closed Facebook group where information is also shared. It is not required but is a good way to connect with other families and the teachers.
- Our website is a great resource for calendar, email addresses for teachers and the Director, church mailing address and more. ([www.hmcpreschool.com](http://www.hmcpreschool.com))
- If you would like to discuss concerns about your child's progress or other questions, please feel free to email your child's teacher or the Director to schedule a phone or in-person conference.

## HMC Discipline Policy

- At HMC, we base our discipline policy on the approach outlined in the book, 123 Magic by Dr. Thomas Phelan and the concept of Conscious Discipline by Dr. Becky Bailey.
- To a child, rules and boundaries mean love. The goal of discipline is self-control. At HMC Preschool we use this general method of correcting misbehaviors.

1. Discuss misbehavior with the child to make sure he/she understands what the rules are and why the rules are necessary.
2. If misbehavior continues, redirect child to another play area.
3. When appropriate, a child may be given a "time out" from his play, not to exceed one minute per year of the child's age.

If a child exhibits serious misbehaviors which cannot be corrected by the above procedures, parents will be notified and be asked to assist us to correct the behavior or withdraw the child from the school. Our goal is to discipline a child while supporting him emotionally and guiding him toward self-discipline and self-control.

## Screen Time Policy

Honey MacCallum Christian Preschool does not use any passive screen time in our programs. Videos are used occasional for special programs in limited quantity.