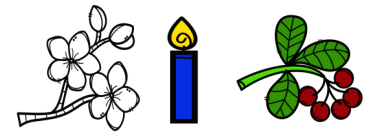




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# Best Beginnings Preschool Family Newsletter December 2023



December is a month filled with different celebrations; some are celebrated by the families here at Best Beginnings. As a school we do our best to be respectful and inclusive of the holidays celebrated in your homes during this time. If you have a special holiday you celebrate, we invite you to share it with your child's class. It is a wonderful time to learn and share holiday traditions from around the world. During the next few weeks, our students will hear about traditions, create art projects, and hear stories about Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Diwali, and Las Posadas celebrations. Please contact your child's teacher if you are interested in sharing your special celebration.

The staff and I wish you all a wonderful holiday season. *Happy Holidays ~ Kerry Lodge*

## 2024-2025 Registration

Get ready for an exciting new year at our school! We're thrilled to announce that registration for the 2024/2025 school year will begin in January. We've made some exciting changes to our classes for next year, including increasing our 3's class time from 2.5 hours to 3 hours. Our survey conducted earlier this year found that most families would prefer a slightly longer day for their 3-year-old, so we're excited to offer this change.

While we do our best to keep our tuition prices at a reasonable level, the price of everything we need to run our school efficiently has gone up over the past few years. We're committed to providing the best education possible, which is why we're increasing our tuition price. We understand that this may be a concern for some families, but we believe that the benefits of our program are worth the investment. We're also committed to taking care of our incredibly talented and well-educated teachers. To maintain these wonderful women and acquire new staff from time to time, we need to increase our pay scale. We appreciate your continued support and look forward to another great year together!

## Alumni Incoming 3's

The registration form for our alumni families with incoming 3 year old for the 2024-2025 school year is now available on our website, <https://bestbeginningspreschool.com>.

Registration forms and the non-refundable \$100 registration fee will be accepted starting January 4th.

## Current 3's Class Students

Registration for students currently enrolled in our 3's classes moving on to our PreK classes will begin on January 5th. Forms will go home in your 3's students bag on January 2nd and 3rd.

Registration forms and the non-refundable \$100 registration fee are due by January 24th to be considered for alumni placement. On February 1 registration opens up to new students and we can not guarantee your class selection.

\*\*Please be sure to mark your first and second class choice. We do our best to place everyone in their first choice class but some classes fill faster than others.

## Transitional Kindergarten 2024/2025

Students who are currently enrolled in our PreK classes, do not make the district birthdate cut off, have had a year in a 4's preschool class, and will turn 5 by 12/31/23, will begin registration on January 6th. Registration forms and the non-refundable \$100 registration fee must be submitted by January 27th to be considered for placement. On February 1 we open up registration to new students. Talk with your child's teacher if you are unsure about registering for TK or sending your child to kindergarten.

# Thank You

A Big “THANK YOU” to those families that have donated items from our Amazon Wish list. Thank you to the Madhan, Moran-Hodge, Egger, and Nollen Families. We have received a couple of items without names and we thank you as well.

Thank you for helping us add new or replace some of our heavily loved toys for our classes. The students are enjoying these new items.



## Important Dates

- December 18th - January 1st  
Winter Break - No School
- January 2nd - First Day Back
- January 2 & 3 - 2024/2025 Registration  
Forms sent home in bags/backpacks
- January 5 -Registration form and fee accepted
- January 15<sup>th</sup>-Martin Luther King Day  
No School
- February 19 - 23 Mid-winter Break  
No School

*(please note Mid-Winter Break follows the Northshore calendar and not the Lake Washington Calendar)*

## Parenting Classes Offered by Kindering

Kindering’s Parent Education and Family Support program offers evidenced-based, culturally respectful information and strategies for raising children in the early years. Our classes are designed to support and strengthen parents, grandparents, and caregivers in areas where they may be challenged, or needing new insight or guidance. Classes allow participants to ask questions, and to get feedback, resources, and support.

### **The Art of Effective Praise and Encouragement**

Parents and caregivers will learn ways to use praise and other social attention to strengthen positive behaviors in young children. Curriculum is from the Incredible Years [www.incredibleyears.com](http://www.incredibleyears.com)

December 4, 2023, from 6:00 – 7:30 pm

### **Community of Practice – Raising Young Children**

Join other parents, foster parents, grandparents, grandfriends, and other caregivers of young children, birth to age 8 to share in a conversation about the joys and challenges of raising young children.

There will not be a set topic in this session, but participants will be able to share ideas, ask questions and learn from each other.

December 6, 2023, from 1:00 – 2:00pm

**All classes are FREE and presented virtually via Zoom**  
**STARS hours are available to early childhood educators who are also parents to young children**

More information can be found at

<https://kindering.org/portfolio-items/parenting-plus/>

Or contact

[Cristina Wheatley, M.Ed., IMH-E®](mailto:Cristina.Wheatley@kindering.org) (pronouns she/her)

Parent Education and Family Support Manager | [kindering.org](http://kindering.org)

## Tuition Information

We will return to school on January 2nd. All tuition is due the first class day back after break.

Automatic withdrawal will be deducted on January 5th.