



## *Great Beginnings*

### *September 2024*

Dear Families,

Welcome to MEEC & the Great Beginnings Classroom. We cannot wait to meet your children and get the school year started! This is our first monthly newsletter, which is our way of keeping everyone in the loop with classroom themes, important dates and events going on in our school.

These first couple of weeks will be a lot of getting to know your child and helping them transition away from home and into a classroom setting. Once the teachers open the door, we ask that you make your departure as we will then walk them into our classroom. They will be greeted by friends, toys, and fun activities. At the end of the day, we will bring your child out to you and let you know how their day went.

## Important Information



**Red Wagon Farm:** On **Tuesday, October 8th** our school will have an all school field trip to Red Wagon Farm. Families will meet at the farm. The morning class will start their field trip 10am and the afternoon class will meet at 11:30am. The cost will be \$10 for children and \$2 for parents. Please complete your form, enclose cash in an envelope to the shelf in the hall. Money and forms are due no later than Friday, September 27th.

**Fall Picture Day:** We are excited to have Lifetouch Photography coming to take our school pictures this year. Picture Day will be on **Wednesday, October 16th and Thursday, October 17th**. Your child's picture will be taken during class time on the day that they attend school. You will receive a proof with the option

**Family Needs Assessment** - Please return this paper in the tray in the hall outside our classroom no later than September 13th.

**Proper Shoes & Clothing** - Tennis shoes are to be worn to school. Gym activities require a rubber sole to support safe participation. In preschool, we do many activities with markers, paint, or glue, which generally wash out of clothing, but it is always a good idea to have your child dressed in clothing you wouldn't mind getting messy. Save the expensive, dressy clothing for picture day!

***\*Please send your child in with a book bag with an extra outfit, diapers, and wipes.***

**Remind App** - This app will help keep you up-to-date with what is going on in your child's class. You will also be able to communicate with your child's teacher (questions, absences, etc.). Please text the number 81010 and then in the text message the code: @meecgb

**Snack Sign up** - We ask each family to sign up for a snack. You can sign up for your child's class by following the link: [Great Beginnings Snack sign up](#)

Due to food allergies, we have a **NO NUTS OR NUT PRODUCTS** policy in the classroom. **Fresh fruit or veggies cut up are very encouraged.** Children at this age can be limited in their snack selections, so we encourage them to try new foods.

PLEASE SUPPLY:

- Snack for 7 students for the week
- Jug of Water

*\*If your child follows a special diet or has allergies, we ask that you provide an appropriate snack for your child with their name on it and hand it to a teacher.*



# Daily Schedule

**Free Play:** Kids will be able to choose from a variety of cause and effect toys and open-ended toys, etc. Teachers will facilitate parallel play and engagement with friends.

**Circle Time:** All the children will meet back at the table/carpet for language-based lessons and music activities. We will sing a "Hello" song that greets everyone individually. We incorporate fingerplays, read a story.

**Gym:** We will then go to the gym for gross motor work and group games and return to the classroom for circle time.

**Fine Motor:** Children will meet at the table for a variety of fine motor activities and other development skills.

**Movement Break:** The students will work outside the classroom on various movement activities. This movement break will allow their bodies to increase their blood and oxygen flow which will then positively affect their cognitive development.

**Art:** The students will meet at the table and work on a variety of art skills that go along with our theme for the week.

**Snack/Dismissal:** Snack time children work on table manners, making choices, and drinking from an open cup. This is a great time to create conversations with teachers and peers as well.

## Birthdays

Rowan- 9/6

# September Songs

Every month we will share the words or links to the songs we will be singing at circle time. We hope that as a family, you will sing these songs together. This will help the students become more familiar with what they are learning at school, and also provide a connection to home and school environments.

## Hello Song

We're Happy We are Here

We're Happy We are Here

Let's Smile and Wave and say hello

We're Happy We are here

## Songs from Youtube

[Shake Your Sillies Out](#)

[Brand New Day](#)

[This is the Way We Make Friends](#)

## Friends in the Dell

(Name of Child) in the Dell

(Name of Child) in the Dell

Hi-Ho the derry-o

(Name of child) in the Dell

(Name of Child) picks a friend

(Name of Child) picks a friend

Hi-Ho the derry-o

(Name of child) picks a friend

## Apple Tree Song

Way up high in the Apple Tree

Five little apples smiled at me,

I shook that tree as hard as I could,

Down came the apples

MMMM were they good!

# Classroom Activities

September Themes: All About Me, Family, Friends, Apples

Shape of the month: Circle

Color of the month: Red

## Week of 9/3: All About Me

1st Day of school handprint/crown

Person Craft



## Week of 9/9: Family

Family Tree Craft

Family House Craft

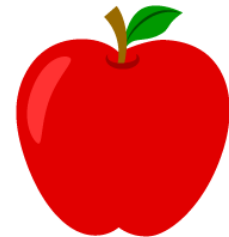
I love my Family Craft

## Week of 9/16: Friends

Friends Wreath

Friendship Coloring

Friendship Heart



## Week of 9/23: Apples and Leaves

Apple Craft

Leaf Wreath

Leaf painting



Please feel free to contact us at any time with any questions or concerns. We are a family that works well together. We cannot wait to watch your child grow here at MEEC!

Thank you,

The Great Beginnings Staff

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