

September 2024 Newsletter

Hello parents; here is your September newsletter. Before we get into the announcements and news, I want to take a moment to wish all of you a Happy Labor Day!

1. I am sounding an alarm bell. We need a toddler teacher NOW; I have been looking since April. I am asking you to think about potential candidates in your social circle. Do you know anyone who is looking for a job? We have paid health insurance, retirement, AND, you get to work with some pretty fantastic people! Please take some time to think about and pray for the right person to complete our staff. Kate will continue to be the steady presence in the toddler room; she is a rock star. I will continue to schedule other assistants to work with Kate until we find a permanent full-time staff member.
2. By now you may know, we have ceased using Procare Parent Engagement, so feel free to delete the app from your mobile device. Please let me know if you are having trouble getting in to your child's GroupMe classroom. GroupMe is the platform that we will use to share photos and information about your child's day. Some GroupMe guidelines:
 - This app is used for school functions only; sorry, please do not post information about your child's birthday party
 - Each class is open only to Mom and Dad; we will not let grandparents, aunts or uncles into the group.
 - This app is used predominantly for group/class messaging. It is best to email or text me with individual questions or notices.
3. If you are a new family and need to get a receipt for payments made to TUMP, please email me a request and I will get you the details on how to set up an account with Tuition Express. You will be able to print monthly receipts as well as year-end tax documents.
4. We are excited about our first mission project of the year! We will be collecting items as well as assembling them into snack packs for our neighbors experiencing homelessness. Please see the attached flyer for specific details and place items on the table in the preschool hallway. Our goal is to collect enough items to fill 200 snack packs!
5. Now that we have been open for a few weeks, I want to bring attention to the following areas:
 - It is important to sign in and out each day; please use your complete name and not just your initials.
 - Please text the school mobile phone or email me if you are going to be out for the day (or for extended periods/vacations).
6. Our annual Costume Party will be here before you know it! If you are able to volunteer, please let me know. We will set up game booths for the children to rotate through, and then have a dance party followed-up with trick-or-treating. We are collecting individually wrapped candy/treats and/or individual (age-appropriate) toys for trick-or-treating; if you are inclined, please drop off donations in my office. Volunteer commitment: 9:15am – 11:15am (we may end sooner).
7. Please put the following numbers in your contacts:
 - 850-224-8992 (Landline) Please use this when calling us. (If you miss a call from us, do not hit reply. We have several outgoing lines and the call will be forwarded upstairs to the office.)
 - 850-694-2473 (mobile) Please call or text this line when your child is going to be out of school. Returning families, this is NEW for you! ☺
 - FOR EMERGENCY USE ONLY: The number to the church is 850-222-1120; please use this number only in an emergency.

8. Are you or anyone in your immediate family a Veteran? Please email me at sduggar@tumct.org. We are planning to acknowledge our Veterans in November and do not want anyone left out; thank you.
9. Save the date and schedule the hair cut appointments! Our date for individual and class photos is scheduled for Wednesday, October 16!
10. We are happy to coordinate our annual speech and hearing screenings with FSU once again this year. Please note the following dates and be on the lookout for the permission slip. October 22, 23, 24, 2024. Our PK2 classes will have a hearing screening only while children in the PK3 and VPK classes will receive both the speech and hearing screenings.
11. Click here for the Florida Division of Early Learning's [Parents' Pages newsletter for September](#).