

Frequently Asked Questions

What is "Meet & Greet"?

This is an important day for you and your child. Together you will have the opportunity to explore your child's new classroom. The teacher and teacher assistant(s) will be in the room to introduce themselves and answer any last-minute questions you may have. Mrs. Max & Miss Sherry will also be available for any questions. While you are here, we suggest that you and your child play with some of the toys and talk about the first day of school. Explain that the next time your child comes, "mommy or daddy will leave for a while, and you can stay and play". Remember which toys were their favorite and if your child is apprehensive before school, mention these toys to encourage him/her to attend school. Please see our Meet & Greet Sign-up email and select a time that works for you. Please remember to bring any outstanding required forms including medical immunization records to the Meet & Greet. We are looking forward to seeing you!

Meet & Greet
September 11th, 2023
Please see your email for the
"Meet & Greet" sign up

What is a typical day like?



After the children are dropped off, they have a few minutes to chat with their classmates and the teacher while the assistant goes through backpacks, empties out the folders and helps the children get settled. After everyone has arrived, the class will do their Circle Time or will come to the Fellowship Hall for community sing time. Together we all sing songs, play games, listen to stories, and/or watch skits. The director leads community Sing Time. Each day the children salute the flag and sing a patriotic song. Birthdays are also celebrated at Sing Time by asking the child to

stand up front and hold the flag for the salute. Afterwards everyone joins in to sing Happy Birthday. Parents are invited to attend community sing on their child's birthday. Each teacher follows a daily schedule; planned exclusively for her class. Each class will spend time in the gym room weekly. Every day, weather permitting, the children will play outside on the playground and/or take a short walk around the school property. Class time is fun and busy! The children will work in small groups while painting, learning new skills, mastering old skills, making crafts, play-acting, exploring letters and numbers, doing science experiments, and socializing with friends while playing with our educational and stimulating toys. Children eat lunch with his/her classmates in the classroom. If your child is a Chick-

a-dee or Duckling and he/she is here for a full day, they will rest on a mat in the Fellowship Hall for twenty minutes listening to quiet music or watching a Story Book video.

What is the Bathroom Policy?

Before the children go outside or have lunch, they take a trip to the bathroom (one small group at a time with the teacher or teacher assistant). If your child needs help with snaps, zippers, or buttons, she is there to assist. If a child requests to use the bathroom at any time, he/she is taken immediately. The teacher will also ask if anyone else would like to visit the potty at this time. This is a good reminder for those children who get so involved in play that they forget to ask or those that may be too shy to ask. The teacher or assistant changes children still in diapers (Chickadees & Ducklings) at the changing table when needed.

What do I pack for snack and lunch?

Pack anything that you know your child will eat or drink. Please, however, do not send candy or soda. Some suggestions are sandwiches, cut up fruit, or cheese and crackers. Yogurt, pudding, and Jell-O are also good, but they tend to spill, so, if possible, only pack the small portions and remember to pack a spoon. Grapes must be cut in half and hot dogs must be cut into bite size pieces to prevent choking. We are unable to refrigerate or microwave lunches, so plan accordingly. All students will need to bring in a lunch and snack daily. Please label the snack in a separate bag within the lunchbox. We also require a reusable water bottle brought in each day. This bottle must have the child's name labeled on the top and bottom

What is the arrival policy?



of the bottle.

We will open the doors 3 minutes prior to your child's scheduled arrival time. There are 2 doors being used, the front door near the gardens and the back door close to the playground. Parents and children who are using the upstairs classrooms will come in and line up in the hallway their respective classes. Teachers will be at the classroom door to greet the children and bring them into the class. The children in our downstairs classrooms (A, C, H-3, H & K) will arrive and dismiss at the back door due to space constraints. All other classes will use the front doors for arrival. Please note: We train our staff to have a "Quick" arrival and dismissal time, especially at the beginning of

the year. The children are anxious to get into the classroom at arrival time and are looking forward to seeing their pick-up person at the end of the day. If you should have any questions or concerns, please do not address them at this time. Please come to the office or look in the hallways for Mrs. Max or Miss Sherry. If you have a question for the teacher, please put a note requesting she call you in your child's folders and put it in the backpack.

What is the dismissal policy?

The front and back entrance door will be locked throughout the day until your scheduled dismissal. Once the door is opened the parents will walk to their children's classroom and form a line outside. The teacher will dismiss one child at a time. If you have any questions for the teachers, please wait until all the children are dismissed before approaching them. The parents of the children who attend classes in our downstairs classrooms (A, C, H-3, H & K) will use the back door for dismissal. All other classes will use the front door for dismissal. For safety reasons, the children are not allowed to run in the hallway. Also, we love for our parents to socialize but be aware the children tend to run in the parking lot. This has caused us much concern for their safety.

What is the snow policy?

In case of severe weather, and there is a school closing or delayed opening, as soon as a decision has been made you will receive an email blast or you can watch channel 12, News12 NJ.

If, during the morning, a delayed opening changes to a closing, you will receive a second email blast informing you of the change. If the Bridgewater Public School delays or closes, we will also delay or close on that same day. Please be sure you are receiving our emails by saving our email address in your contacts.

How do I pay tuition?

We determine the yearly tuition by calculating the hours and days your child attends school, we estimate our expenses to care for your child on these days. We then come up with a yearly figure and break the payments into ten monthly payments. Please be advised that you are making ten payments and not paying for each month. This explains why the payment is the same in September as it is in October even though we meet fewer days in

September. After sending in your payment before the 1st of June you will have already made two of the ten payments, with eight remaining. During the last week of September, you will receive a tuition envelope in your child's folder in his/her backpack. Tuition is due the 1st of each month starting in October. You will receive a new envelope each month. Your last payment will be due May 1st. There will be no tuition refund if your child is absent from school due to illness or family vacations (even extended vacations that the child will be away for months).

What if my child has allergies and/or medical condition?

If you stated on your child's registration form that he/she has any type of allergy and/or medical condition, we must provide you with the proper medical/allergy form for your doctor to fill out.

• Please provide the school office with any changes to/or additional necessary medication at any time during the school year. We cannot have any medication on the premises without the paperwork. All medication must be stored at school – in the office or classroom.

In addition: If your child has a food allergy, we would like you to send in a bag of "Special Snacks" that he/she can eat when we have holiday parties and birthday celebrations. The teacher will label the bag and keep it in a safe place in the classroom.

What are the updated COVID 19 Regulations?

What happens if my child tests positive or is a close contact of someone with COVID?

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic it has been of the utmost importance to us at the Giving Nest to follow the regulations given to us from the State and our local health department and to keep you, our families, updated with any changes to these regulations.

• If your child tests positive for COVID-19 or presents symptoms, he or she must stay home for at least 5 full days after the onset of symptoms, or if asymptomatic after the positive test. NOTE: (the onset (or first day) of symptoms is considered as day 0; if asymptomatic, the day the test is performed is considered day 0). If they are symptom free after 5 days, they can return to school but must wear a mask for an additional 5 days. If after symptoms, you may return to school after day 5. A high-quality mask is recommended for the next 5 days.

• If a household member tests positive for COVID, per the new regulations, children are no longer required to quarantine but it is strongly recommended that the child wear a high-quality mask for 10 days, be monitored for symptoms and get tested on day 5.
• If someone in your child's class tests positive for COVID you will be notified by the school that your child is considered a close contact. Per the new regulations, children are no longer required to quarantine but it is strongly recommended that the child be monitored for symptoms and get tested on day 5. The Test to Stay regulation is no longer in place.