

LFMA Pre-Primary Orientation

Mrs. Jennifer Ward, Head teacher (can be reached through Dojo, LFMAJennifer@cfl.rr.com, or at school from 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM)

Mrs. Amy Hammer, Morning Assistant, VPK Assistant (can be reached through Dojo or at the school from 8 AM- 4 PM)

Ms. Brittany Ward, Preschool Assistant (can be reached at school from 9 AM – 5 PM)

Mrs. Tyka Price, Principal (can be reached through Dojo, lfma@cfl.rr.com or at the school 8 AM- 3:30 PM)

Schedule

8:30-8:45 AM Outside, Restrooms

8:45 AM- 9:15 AM Gathering/ Snack Time

9:15-10:45 AM Shelf Work

10:45 - 11:00 AM Gathering

11:00 - 11:30 AM Recess

11:30 - 12:00 PM Lunch

12:00 - 12:30 PM Story time/ Music

12:30 -2:30 PM Nap Time

2:30 - 3:00 PM Afternoon Gathering/Snack

3:00 - 3:30 PM Recess

3:30 PM Dismissal and/or After care

Areas of the Classroom/Shelf Work

During work time children will have the freedom to choose their own work from the shelves in all areas of the classroom. They can choose from Practical Life, Sensorial, Math, Language, Humanities, Geography, and Science. During this time we encourage the child to choose work that interests them but help guide them to works that will encourage a love of learning, build upon previous skills learned, and introduce new concepts.

Sick Child Policy

While we stress that we are a preschool and not a typical daycare, we are sensitive to the fact that our parents choose us to provide a safe, nurtured, and structured learning environment for their child while they are at work. At this age, consistent attendance is part of the process of growing and learning in our classroom, but if your child should become ill, it is in his or her best interest to stay home. Your child cannot progress when ill and will recover much more slowly without proper rest and care. If your child has a communicable disease, please notify the school immediately. Children that are experiencing contagious symptoms may not attend school. Do NOT send your child if he or she has had a fever in the past 24 hours. If your child runs a fever, begins vomiting repeatedly, or has more than one runny stool, you will be contacted to come and pick up your child. Children need to be fever free for 24 hours without a fever reducer before returning to school to ensure they are not contagious. If your child contracts head lice, he must stay home from school until he is found to be free of all lice and their nits. These policies follow the Department of Children and Families requirements for a child care setting.

Friday “Fun Days”

On Fridays, instead of shelf work we will focus on arts and crafts, science experiments and cooking projects. We will start out Friday Gatherings with Share. Each week we will have a specific letter we will study (A circle schedule will provide dates and letters). Please have your child bring a share that goes along with the beginning sound of the letter of the week, science units, or geography units. Please check the newsletter each month for this information.

Calendar & Circle Schedule

Please keep these in a convenient place for reference. If you need a new copy please let us know or check our website, lakefernmontessori.com

Class Dojo

Class Dojo is a behavioral program that runs as an app through android or the apple store, or accessed via the internet. Once you set up your account with your child’s personal code you will be able to access in real time how your child’s day is going. Your child can earn positive points throughout the day for:

- | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ❖ Being a good friend | ❖ Making good choices | ❖ Having a super star work time (+3) |
| ❖ Following directions | ❖ Being on task | ❖ Working Independently |
| ❖ Good transitions | ❖ Being on time | |
| ❖ Helping others | ❖ Playing nicely | |
| ❖ Being in uniform | ❖ Being respectful to teachers | |

However, if we see behaviors that need work, they can lose a point for:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| ❖ Being disrespectful to friends | ❖ Lack of self-control | ❖ Play fighting |
| ❖ Being disrespectful to teachers | ❖ Not following directions | ❖ Pushing Friends |
| ❖ Inappropriate use of hands | ❖ Not working | ❖ Hitting in anger (-3) |

This app will keep track of the percentage of positive points. During our trial run I had parents use this as a tool to reward and reinforce behavior within the classroom. For example, if the child stayed about 90%, they earned a treat after dinner, a trip to the library, a trip to the park, etc. We will also use points earned within the classroom to go to treasure box. If you have any questions, please ask a teacher. Also, if you have any concerns please let us know! We are always open for great ideas that haven't come to us!

Within Class Dojo, there is a messenger that allows us to send texts and pictures! We have found great success in using this messenger to get reminders out to parents, so please, have each person that needs to be "in the know" sign up! Multiple family members can use this app to keep track of their child's progress, along with receive information about what's going on in our classroom.

Supplies Needed

Your child will need a set of clothes (or 2 if not fully potty trained), slippers, sleeping bag or bedroll, a picture for his or her cubby, and a lunch box.

Uniforms

Children need to be in uniform Monday through Thursday. Shirt colors are Navy Blue, Forest Green, and White. They can be either polo or t-shirt. When updating your child's wardrobe, please make sure to only purchase these 3 colors/shades. Bottoms need to be solid colored navy blue, khaki, black, or denim. Girls may wear jumpers or skirts in Navy Blue, Forest Green, khaki, or navy blue/forest green plaid. Please have your child wear shorts under dresses and skirts. Flip flops, sandals, and cleats are not permitted as they are not safe for the playground and mulch.

Scholastic

Our school takes part in the Scholastic Reading Club. Each month flyers will be provided in your family folders. There are many inexpensive books available that make great gifts or reinforcements for good behavior. Plus, our school is able to earn free books for the classroom! Information for linking your account to our school will be provided. Orders can be placed online with credit or debit cards, or turned in and paid with cash or checks made out to Scholastic.

Birthdays

Birthdays are special occasions for children. Please place party invitations in the family files located in the foyer of the school. If you need help with names, please ask a teacher for help in person or through Dojo. We prefer not to hand them out in class, especially if not everyone is invited. This will help prevent hurt feelings. If you wish to bring a birthday treat, please let us know a day or two in advance.

Field Trips

Our preschool class is invited to join VPK on our field trips, but they are NOT required to attend. Day care is provided on a normal schedule, as a play day, with teaching assistants if your child does not attend the field trip. A parent MUST drive and attend the field trip for their child to attend, as we do not have buses. More information about these trips will be given as soon as they are scheduled so parents can plan early. Forms will be sent out closer to this date, and ARE required to be returned with information on attendance so we can plan for children not attending. If a form does not come back, we are assuming other arrangements have been made and your child will NOT be attending the field trip OR school. On Friday, May 10th we will have a schoolwide field trip to Sea World. We will not provide daycare for any students on this day. LFMA will be closed as all teachers will be on the field trip!