



AUGUST 2023 NEWSLETTER

A Notes From Your Principal

The summer is not over yet, and we have lots of fun events still planned. Stay tuned for an End of Summer Spirit Week. We are grateful for the opportunity to watch our students serve others these next few weeks. August 1st our school is hosting an Alex's Lemonade Stand from 3:00-4:00 with homemade lemonade from our school age campers. From August 14th-28th, back to school essentials are being collected for families connected with Aim High Studio/Norristown Soup Kitchen. Thank you in advance for your generous donations and helping us reach our goals!

Sincerely,
Mary Ellen Diggory

August 2nd
Nat'l Icecream Sandwich Day

August 4th
Nat'l Water Balloon Day

August 9th
Book Lover's Day

August 14th – 28th
Kids Helping Kids

August 18th
Scholastic Book Orders Due

August 21st - 24th
Final Days of Summer Spirit Week

August 24th
Last Day of Camp

August 25th
CLOSED

**CHESTERBROOK ACADEMY
ELLIS PRESERVE**

3841 West Chester Pike,
Newtown Square, PA, 19073

484.428.3029

Ellispreserve.chesterbrookacademy.com

7:00 AM- 5:30 PM

Did You Know?

Learning to follow directions is important for success at school. With guidance and support from teachers, our students participate in clean-up routines, accept redirection, and interact through play with peers.

Online Family Communication

As we get ready to kick off a new school year, we want to make sure you're kept in the know. In addition to this newsletter, the "For Parents" section of our website also includes links to our menu, monthly calendar, and school year calendar. If you're not currently receiving photos and daily reports for your child, you can easily change this by downloading the Links 2 Home app on your phone. After downloading, you can register with the same email address that you used to enroll your child in our school.

Splash Days

We have several water play days planned for our students this summer and can't wait for your child to participate! Children should come to school in their swimsuit and with a towel and a change of dry clothes. Please remember to apply sunscreen to your child before you drop them off. Our scheduled splash days for July are **Tuesdays and Wednesdays**.

Kids Helping Kids

As we do every summer, we will be participating in our Kids Helping Communities initiative to give back to communities in need. This year, we will be **partnering with Aim High Studios by collecting back to school supplies in draw string bags** for children. **This will begin August 14th and continue through August 28th**. Keep an eye out for more information via Links 2 Home.

Vacation Reminder

Heading out of town for spring break? Let us know if you are planning on using your vacation time this month.

Family Referral Bonus & Open House

Do you know a colleague who has recently had a baby, a friend in need of care who just relocated to the area, or a family member who is seeking a new preschool for their child? Invite them to our Open House on **August 5**. When you refer a friend and they enroll, you're eligible for a **free week of tuition**. Ask us for details!

Love Our School? Review Us

In today's connected world, many families turn to online reviews to learn more about the reputation of schools. Just a reminder that you can find our school on Facebook, Google, Yelp and other online directories. We'd love more families like yours, so please consider spreading the word about our school.



Chesterbrook Academy Ellis Preserve



CBAEllisPreserve



Thriving Through Play: Gross-Motor Activities for Growing Preschoolers

Children grow tremendously from birth through age five, so it is vital that we are there to support them. At our preschool, we help children with balancing skills, hand-eye coordination, and how to stay healthy and safe. It's all part of our comprehensive Links to Learning curriculum, designed to help every child thrive.

Our dedicated teachers promote wellness through daily learning experiences that encourage children to climb, run, hop, dance, and practice rhythmic movement. Games like *Freeze Tag*, *Simon Says*, and *Red Light/Green Light* help children develop gross motor skills while having a blast!



It's not all about physical play – we know the importance of building social-emotional skills too. Following directions, teamwork, and taking turns are all part of the fun during our activities. Plus, we also introduce children to basic nutritional and safety concepts, setting them up for a lifetime of healthy choices.

Below, we have compiled a list of age-appropriate outdoor activities that you can do with your child to help continue the development at home.

1. Infants (0 – 1 year)

Grass provides a natural and forgiving environment for your infant to explore safely. Take your baby outdoors and allow them to practice movement and balance. Place rattles, soft balls, or textured toys a few feet from your infant, and encourage them to reach and grasp the items.

2. Toddlers (1 – 2 years)

Grab a bunch of colorful balls and head outside. Encourage your toddler to roll or kick the balls on various surfaces like soft grass, squishy sand, or smooth pavement. Watch their eyes light up as they discover the different textures and improve their coordination along the way.

3. Beginners (2 – 3 years)

Place a few hula hoops on the ground for a series of exciting jumping games. Ask your child to jump from one hoop to the next using both feet. Then, ask them to hop from one to the next on one foot. Lastly, challenge your child to hop from hoop to hoop alternating between their left and right foot.

4. Intermediates (3 – 4 years)

Provide your child the opportunity to demonstrate smooth body control through different yoga poses. Lay out a mat, and introduce poses named after animals they are familiar with, such as cat, cow, dog, and frog. Perform the pose first and encourage your child to mimic what they see.

5. Pre-K / Pre-K 2 (4 – 5 years)

Use chalk to write various numbers and letters in your driveway. Ask your child to perform a variety of movement by saying phrases such as, “Bear crawl to the letter K” or “Tiptoe to the number 5.” This activity not only fosters gross motor skills, but also encourages letter and number recognition and following directions.



Links to Learning

