



Learn & Play Christian Early Learning Center  
September 2018

Welcome to a new school year! It's hard to believe that the summer has ended and that we are ready to take on a new school year. We would like to welcome back those families that were off for the summer and those families that are new to Learn & Play. We are glad that you have joined us and are confident that both you and your child will enjoy all we have planned for the year.



**Communication:** We will do our best to keep you informed of all the happenings and important announcements at Learn & Play. There are several ways that you can communicate with us. Of course you can call us at 203 488-4028. If we are not available to personally take your call, you may leave a message and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

Please check your child's folder in their classroom daily. Not only will you find their classroom work, but notices of things that are happening at Learn & Play.



**Newsletters:** Each month you will receive a newsletter that informs you of all the activities taking place at Learn & Play. Weekly, you will receive an email newsletter, specific to the activities taking place in your child's class. If you have not provided us with an email and would like to receive this information from your child's class, please be sure to speak to your classroom teacher.

**Facebook:** We have both an open facebook page where we post announcements and general information, and a closed page that is just for parents and grandparents where we post pictures of activities that may be going on in the classes. To receive announcements please go to your facebook page and search for Learn & Play Christian Early Learning Center (be sure to use the & and not the word) and "Like" us. You will then receive notification when announcements are posted. To be able to view pictures, go to the facebook page and search for Learn & Play Christian Early Learning Center! (notice the ! at the end) and request to join. Once confirmed you will be able to view pictures. NOTE: Please Do Not tag or share these pictures with other people! Please do not ask to "friend" a teacher as it is against our personnel policy to be friends with parents. (Sorry!)

**Email:** Each classroom is set up with an email system to further communications between parents and teachers. While teachers will not have constant access to their computers and emails, they will check their email daily. Please note that communication should be related to classroom questions only. Anything related to schedules, tuitions, vacations, hours or program concerns should be addressed to the director. Email addresses are as follows:

Main Email: [learnandplay@snet.net](mailto:learnandplay@snet.net)

Program Assistant (Dawn Longley)

pc.learnandplay@yahoo.com

Infant Class:

[infantclassatlearnandplay@yahoo.com](mailto:infantclassatlearnandplay@yahoo.com)

Waddler Class:

[waddlerclassatlearnandplay@yahoo.com](mailto:waddlerclassatlearnandplay@yahoo.com)

Toddler Class:

[toddlerclassatlearnandplay@yahoo.com](mailto:toddlerclassatlearnandplay@yahoo.com)

Threes Class:

[threesclassatlearnandplay@yahoo.com](mailto:threesclassatlearnandplay@yahoo.com)

Fours Class:

[foursclassatlearnandplay@yahoo.com](mailto:foursclassatlearnandplay@yahoo.com)



September is always a busy month at Learn & Play. If you have not already returned your paperwork, please be sure to do so. The State requires that we update information yearly even if it has not changed. Please keep in mind if you change your address or phone number during the course of the year, send us, in writing, the updated information.



Some housekeeping issues:

**Schedules & Tuition:** Tuition is due the first day that your child attends Learn & Play each week. A \$10.00 late fee is applied to your account if tuition is not received by Thursday MORNING of each week. An account that is behind three weeks may result in your child not being able to attend class until tuition is current. There is no tuition credit for sick days, personal days, holidays or inclement weather closings. If you need to change your child's schedule, please notify us in writing a minimum of two weeks in advance. Changes are not guaranteed and are contingent on space availability in your child's class.



**Snacks and Lunches:** Please remember that we are a nut-free school. Absolutely no peanut butter, trail mixes (with nuts), peanut butter cookies, granola bars or crackers! We also ask that you help us by providing a nutritious snack and/or lunch for your child. **NO DUNKIN DONUT muffins, donuts, candy, sweet cookies (pre-packages of Oreos)**, non fruit fruit snacks etc. Morning snack must be a non sweet snack. Good choices would be yogurt, cheese, bagel, fruit or vegetables. We do heat up lunches but do not cook as in mac & cheese bowls, oatmeal etc. Teachers will be sending home snacks that are too sweet for school consumption. Please DO NOT send your child to school with a donut to eat as their breakfast. If you want your child to consume a breakfast donut, it must be done before entering the school. Also, please no slurpee-type drinks or coolatas.



**Birthday and Special Snacks:** Please be aware that due to the risk or allergic reactions, we will no longer serve home baked snacks in our classrooms. Please check with your classroom teacher **2 weeks**

**prior to a birthday celebration** for an appropriate snack to share, if you desire. Good suggestions would be fruit and dip, watermelon slices or a packaged snack such as mini muffins. If you provide a packaged snack, please provide us with the package so that parents of any child that has a food allergy can check the ingredients for their child.

Going forward, any time a special snack either for a celebration or when classes prepare a snack as part of their lesson plan is planned, we will post a permission slip next to the sign in/out sheet. The snack and its ingredients will be posted at the top of the form. Any child with special dietary needs will be listed on the sheet. A parent must sign the form giving permission for the child to consume the snack. Any parent that would also like to be included on this permission slip for each special snack, should speak to their classroom teacher.



**Arrival and Departure:** It is important that you arrive and pick up your child at the designated hours. **Please do not arrive before your scheduled time.** Due to teacher scheduling, if you are early to your class, it may make the class out of ratio. Also, if you are going to be more than 15 minutes late past your arrival time, please call to let us know. If you are more than one hour past your scheduled arrival without notification, a classroom teacher may be sent home if not needed for class ratios. In that event, your child would not be able to stay upon arrival. Please be sure to pick up your child on time. If you are late picking up not only does it make your child anxious (even the babies sense when it is time to leave), but our teachers that are scheduled to leave for the day will have to rearrange their schedules outside of L&P to accommodate the late pick up. Many of our teachers are taking classes at the end of the day that they need to leave for or have their own family obligations. Please be respectful of their schedules. There is also a late pick up fee that will be charged if you are consistently late picking up. (Check Parent Handbook for fees) In the event of an emergency that will make you late, please notify us at **203 488-4028**.

**Please be sure to sign your child in and out each day on the sign in sheet in each room.** Please use your full name (not mom, dad or grandma) as these are records maintained for the State.



**Sickness:** Reminders that your child may not attend school with a fever over 100 degrees, vomiting or diarrhea. Symptoms must be gone for 24 hours (without fever reducer) before they can return to L&P the following day. Also, if symptoms occur while at L&P, we will call you to pick up your child. We know that this can be an inconvenience for working parents, but it is necessary for the health of the children and staff. **Per state regulations, all children are required to have an annual flu vaccine before December 31<sup>st</sup>. Children not in compliance will be omitted from attendance until the vaccine is obtained. Effective July 1, 2015, when a parent objects to an immunization on religious grounds, such objection must be accompanied by a statement from the parents that the immunization would be contrary to the religious belief of the child or parents. The statement must be notarized and updated annually.** (State of CT Public Act 15-174)

**Absences:** Please notify us if your child is going to be absent from L&P . You may leave a message at any time on our voicemail (203 488-4028) or send an email at [learnandplay@snet.net](mailto:learnandplay@snet.net)



**Curriculum** is created on an age appropriate level for each class with monthly themes and weekly sub themes and Bible lessons based on individual needs, benchmarks and the State of Connecticut Preschool frameworks for kindergarten readiness. Each class posts weekly lesson plans in their rooms for you to see. Under threes also have a daily contact form that is sent home with activities that they took part in each day.

This year we will build on the Bible faith point of the Fruits of the Spirit. Each month we will focus on a new “fruit.” In September we will be talking about Bible stories that emphasize the fruit of love. Our traditional themes will be “All About Me”, Families, Friends, Pets and Apples.



**Chapel Days** are Wednesdays at 10:00am. This is a time that your child will learn to worship through songs, skits and prayer emphasizing our monthly Bible story. Parents are welcomed to attend as they are able. We would love to see you.



**Grandparents' Day celebration** will be held on Wednesday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am in the sanctuary. All grandparents are welcomed to attend. You should meet us in the sanctuary for a brief chapel service followed by light refreshments and an activity in the classrooms. If your child does not have a grandparent that is able to attend, a significant adult would be welcomed also.



**Enhancement Programs:** Again, this year we are very excited to have with us Ms Dorota Xeller of Twinkletoes Music providing us with weekly (Mondays) music and movement opportunities. Each week Ms Dorota will conduct a thirty minute class (one for under threes and one for threes and fours) exposing us to different styles of music, musical terms and movement. We are very excited to have her and look forward to our classes. This program is offered to all children at no extra cost to families. We anticipate our start date in mid- September.



**PLEASE LABEL EVERYTHING!!!!** With the number of children here at Learn & Play, we ask that you label everything in obvious places for the teachers to see.....backpacks, lunch bags, nap bags (no plastic grocery bags per State regulations) food containers (tops and bottoms), extra clothes (both the bag and the clothes), jackets, when we get to hats and mittens. Please understand that we get quite a few Frozen lunchboxes and Spiderman Sweatshirts that we have no way of knowing who they belong to if they are not labeled. We also want to be sure that your child eats the food that

you have sent for them so please label your containers as sometimes containers get moved around on a table and your child does not know which container is theirs.



**Back To School Night.** This year we will conduct a Back To School Night on Monday, September 17 at 6:30pm. This is your opportunity to meet with the Learn & Play Board, visit your child's classroom and meet not only your child's teachers but also other parents in a relaxed atmosphere. New, revised Parent Handbooks will be distributed . A fun activity is planned with a prize worth coming out for!!!! You will want to be here! More information to come soon. This is an adults only evening, please.



Mark your calendars! Monday, October 15 (Tentative time 5:45pm)) Family Movie and bring your own picnic dinner night. We will be showing a family friendly Veggie Tales Movie and providing light refreshments. You bring your family and picnic dinner (if desired) and a blanket to sit on. This will be a joint event with The United Methodist Church of Branford. More info coming soon on this also!



**Door Code.** We will be changing the door code this week. A separate notice will come home with the new code. Please do not give the code out to anyone that may be picking up your child. Please have them ring the doorbell at the right of the door. Also DO NOT allow children to enter the code to the door nor tell them the numbers to the code. If the code is entered incorrectly more than twice, it will lock the device. These measures are for everyone's safety. Thank you for your cooperation.



We would like to welcome Miss Lisa and Miss Melissa to our Learn & Play family. Many of you have met Miss Lisa already this summer. She will be working in our Pre-K room with Miss Tina. Miss Melissa will be working as a floater, covering lunches and helping out wherever needed. We are happy to have both of them join our Learn & Play family. Please take a moment to introduce yourself to them and welcome them to our school.

We look forward to a fun year. Communication is key to our success. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any concerns or questions you may have. Together we will lay the foundation for your child's successful academic and spiritual years.