



Loving. Learning. Leading.

4's Parent Handbook

2021-2022



Age Requirements

Children enrolled in the three year old class, must be age 3 by September 1 of the current school year.

Children enrolled in the four year old class, must be age 4 by September 1 of the current school year.

All preschool children must be toilet trained prior to beginning preschool.

Required Paperwork

Please complete and bring the following to the first week of school: JCS Child Information/Emergency

Card, Green Health Form (including up-to-date immunizations), and Parent Notification of the

Licensing Notebook. If you are choosing not to immunize your child, we will need a valid waiver from

the health department before starting preschool.

Dismissal from Program

Reasons for removal from the program include (but not limited to): Uncontrollable destructive and vi-

olent behavior, non-payment, failure to return required enrollment and health forms and unable to

use bathroom independently.

Admission Requirements

Mission

Jenison Christian School strives to serve God through our programs. Through a curriculum that weaves faith into every aspect of life, Jenison Christian builds a community of students who are prepared to live lives which glorify God. Jenison Christian exists to: Embrace our community with the love of Christ, foster academic growth that is distinctively Christian and empower God's children for a life of Kingdom service.

What we Believe

We believe God created the universe and all creatures. He continues to guide the course of history through events and people to the coming of the fullness of His Kingdom. We also believe that Sin separates us from God, our neighbors and the world, and alters our view of the true meaning and purpose of life. Jesus Christ is the Son of God and our only Redeemer. Only through Him and the work of the Spirit are we guided in the truth and recommitted to our original calling.

Through the Bible, God reveals Himself and enlightens our understanding of Him, our neighbor, ourselves, and His creation. His word directs all of our relationships and activities. And through Christ, we have salvation, experience hope and truth.

Purpose

The purpose of our preschool is to provide a loving Christian atmosphere that is stimulating and enriching for each child. In preparation for later academic learning, we provide a program that will nurture the preschool child's social, emotional, physical, intellectual, and spiritual growth.

Program Mission and Purpose

Child Release

Children may be released to parents or designated guardian only. For your child's protection, your child will only be released to a person who appears on the Jenison Christian Child Information/Emergency Card. If there are any changes in names of people authorized to pick up your child, you must send a written note.

Arrival and Dismissal Procedure

Preschool parents will use the car loop for drop off and pick up. At all other times, you must use the entrance off Graceland Ave by the office. While waiting in the car loop, please unbuckle your child so they are ready to get out of the car when you park. Children should be let out of the car in the designated area and preschool staff will walk the children inside where the aides will monitor them. For pick up, each family will receive a card with their last name and assigned number. If someone else is picking up, please give them your card. **Please be brief when getting your child back into their car seat so our car line can continue to move in a timely manner.**

Teachers will begin getting preschoolers from cars at 9 am and will start bringing preschoolers out at 11:30 am.

Please be considerate to our teachers by being on time to pick up your child.

Absences

If your child will be absent on their preschool day, please call or email your child's teacher by 9 am with the reason they are absent. If it is due to illness, please let us know the symptoms as we report these to the state. Teachers will take attendance each day.

Attendance & Absences

Field trips

4's preschool takes 3 field trips: Apple Orchard in October, Recycling Tour in February and the Critter Barn in March. We are working on dates and times and will let you know ASAP.

Birthdays

Your child's birthday is a very important day! To make the day special for your child, the teacher will give him/her a birthday crown to wear at school and to take home on their special day. If you wish to supply a treat for the class, we ask that the treat is able to go home in backpacks. Treats are not to be used or eaten at school. Small toys are preferred to avoid any allergy complications. If your child's birthday falls in the summer, plan to celebrate his/her half-birthday.

Classroom Celebrations

We celebrate a variety of different events throughout the school year as a class. This includes: Christmas, Valentine's Day, and the last day of school. These celebrations happen from 10:30-11:30. We are praying that we'll be able to have parents in the classrooms this year but it will be dependent on COVID regulations at that time of the event. During this time, classes will play a game, do a craft or activity, and have snack together.

Family Events

The JCS preschool staff plan and host a family event for preschoolers and the special people in their life! Our Dudes and Donuts event is in November, we host a Christmas Program in December, Grandparents day is in April, and we have a Mother's Day event in May. Again, we are praying we will be able to host these events as normal but it will be dependent on COVID regulations.

Field Trips & Celebrations

Behavior Management

Jenison Christian Preschool aims to create an environment of love and respect towards oneself and each other, just as God wants us to. Staff will use positive, developmentally appropriate methods to discipline which encourages self-control, self-direction, self-esteem, and cooperation. Our whole school policy is to use the Love and Logic approach to discipline. Rules are communicated in a positive way as children are encouraged to consider others. They are also communicated in simple and specific language to help children understand. Children will be encouraged and guided when needed to make choices. If a poor choice is made, children will receive a logical consequence to their choice. When children use their actions before their words, children will be guided to verbalize their feelings and given alternative ways to settle a conflict.

Severe Weather & School Closures

If Jenison Christian School is closed due to severe weather or building problems, preschool will automatically close. If there is a 2-hour morning delay, preschool classes will be canceled. Please listen closely to the local television or radio for information on school closings. The Jenison Christian website, www.jenisonchristian.org, will also post closings on the homepage.

Emergency Procedures

In the event that there would be severe weather or building problems during the preschool day, children and staff will take the appropriate precautions. We will stay in a safe area until an "all clear" is announced. Fire, tornado, and lockdown drills are held several times throughout the year. Please talk to your child about what they are, why they are important, and what you would do at home in these situations. Staff will explain that each child God created is important and we need to practice in case the real thing ever happened.

Emergency procedures and routes are posted in each preschool classroom.

Illness policy

If your child is showing signs of illness, please keep them at home. **A child with an illness or fever should be fever-free (without fever reducing medication) for 24 hours before returning to school.** If your child develops a communicable illness, please inform the school as soon as possible so we can inform parents that their child may have been exposed to a communicable disease. This includes chicken pox, measles, pink eye, head lice, scarlet fever, strep throat, etc.

If a child is injured or gets sick at school, the procedure is as follows: either the teacher or aide will stay with the injured/sick child while the other adult will then call the persons listed on the child information card; if needed, additional adults will be called to stay with the other children in the class.

Emergency Procedures

9:00 Welcome/Choice Time

9:10 Circle Time

Weather, Calendar, Introduce theme, theme book etc.

9:20 Art Activity

9:50 Clean up

9:55 Bathroom/Wash Hands/Snack Time

10:15 Free play/Small Group

Children choose from a variety of centers: Listening center, large muscle activities, table games, dramatic play, blocks, sensory, painting, coloring, playdoh, and more...

While children use learning centers, teachers and aides help children in the learning centers, help children socialize, work with individuals and small groups on readiness skills and Handwriting Without Tears, patterns, etc.

10:40 Spanish (1 day a week)

10:50 Large Group Time/Free play

11:00 Bible story, Bible memory, songs, prayer

11:10 Outside play

11:30 Dismissal

Classroom Schedule

As a licensed preschool we are required by the State of Michigan to serve only nutritionally valuable snacks. Healthy eating habits are important to the growth and development of your child. Your help is necessary for us to accomplish healthy eating habits in preschool. The school provides milk or water for the drink, while parents provide the snacks. A snack list of approved healthy snacks can be found below and will also go home with your child prior to the start of a new month. Please follow the list closely.

Snack Star

On most school days, children will take a turn being the star of the day. As the star, your family will provide the snack for the class and your child will be the teacher's special helper for the day. If you are unable to provide the snack for financial or other reasons, please contact your child's teacher in advance and the school will help out by providing the snack for the class on your scheduled day.

Allergy Policy

Jenison Christian School has the following allergy policy for 2021-2022 school year. If your child has an anaphylactic allergy, you will have to fill out the school's Anaphylactic Form, have it signed by their doctor, and the classroom will be free from foods with those allergens. If your child is sensitive to certain foods, you will have to fill out the Accommodation form and you will be asked to bring in safe foods in case an unsafe snack is brought in.

Here is a list of suggested snacks:

- Fruit: banana halves, grapes (washed and off the vine), apple slices (don't brown as quick when placed in a bowl of water), fruit cups (please bring a spoon), or apple sauce pouches
- Vegetable Sticks (carrot, celery, green pepper, or cucumber) with or without ranch dressing
- String Cheese/Cube Cheese and Crackers
- Yogurt cups or **frozen** go-gurt
- Goldfish
- Teddy Grahams
- Graham Crackers
- Pretzels
- Skinny Pop Popcorn
- Veggie Straws
- Mini muffins
- Cheez-its
- Animal Crackers
- Raisins

Snack Information

September

13- MW, MWF, and MTWTH classes' Child & Parent orientation sessions (60 minutes)

14- TTH and TTHF classes' Child & Parent orientation sessions (60 minutes)

14- MTWTH regular class begins 9:00am - 11:30am

15- MW and MWF regular classes begin 9:00am- 11:30am

16- TTH and TTHF regular classes begin 9:00am - 11:30am

27-Oct. 1- Spiritual Emphasis Week

27- Early Childhood Night at Post Family Farm 5:30-7:30 pm

29-30 - School Pictures (specific days coming soon)

30- Community Picnic 5:30

October

TBD- Picture retake day

4-5- Fire Truck Visit to school

11 - MW Field trip to Grandview Orchard

12 - TTh Field trip Grandview Orchard

13 - MTWTh Field trip to Grandview Orchard

19- Goodies Factory Fundraiser Begins

20-22- No school – Teacher In-Service & CSI Teacher's Convention

November

4- Dudes and Donuts night at JCS 6:00-7:00 pm

11- Goodies Factory Fundraiser Due

24-26- No School – Thanksgiving Break

December

1- Goodies Factory Fundraiser item pick up at JCS

6- MW and MWF classes' Christmas Program- 6:30pm

7- TTH, TTHF and MTWTH classes' Christmas Program- 6:30pm

8- MW and MWF classes' Christmas Party from 10:30am- 11:30am

9- TTH, TTHF, and MTWTH classes' Christmas Party from 10:30am-11:30am

10- January 2- No School- Christmas Break

January

TBD- Vet Visit to school

TBD- Early Childhood Open House

3- School resumes

February

8- MTWTh Field trip to the Recycling Center

9- MW Field trip to the Recycling Center

10- TTH Field trip to the Recycling Center

14- MW, MWF, and MTWTH classes' Valentines Day Party from 10:30am-11:30am

15- TTH and TTHF classes' Valentines Day Party from 10:30am-11:30am

21-22- No school- Mid-Winter Break

March

TBD- Critter Barn Field Trip

April

1-8- No school– Spring Break

11- School Resumes

21- TTH, TTHF, and MTWTH Grandparent's Day

22- MW and MWF Grandparent's Day

May

4- MW, MWF Mother's Day Tea from 10:30am-11:30am

5- TTH, MTWTH Mother's Day Tea from 10:30am- 11:30am

25 Last Day of MW and MWF Preschool; Celebration from 10:30 am - 11:30

26- Last Day of TTH, TTHF and MTWTH Preschool; Celebration from 10:30 am - 11:30

Month/Day To Be Determined

Kindergarten Screening

Parent Teacher Conferences

4's Calendar of Events