



October 2025



We will be going on a whole school field trip to

Wildlife West Nature Park

Located in Edgewood,
on Wednesday, October 8th
from 10:00 am — 12:15 pm

The preschool will be closed that day from
9:30 am — 12:45 pm while we attend the trip.

Children will need to be transported and
accompanied by a parent or other adult family
member on that day, so be sure to
mark your calendar.

The admission fee for each attending adult and
children ages 2 and older is \$5.00.

Details and a permission form
were sent out last week.

Permission forms and fees are due to your
child's teacher, no later than
Friday, October 3rd.

Please let us know of questions you may have.

You can learn more at
Wildlifewest.org.

SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

**Tuesday, September 30: Permission Forms and \$10.00
Due For Albuquerque Speech Language Hearing
Screenings**

**October 1: Tuition due — A \$15 late fee will be accessed
for payments received after October 5th.**

**Entire Month of October: Coat Drive for Janet Kahn
School of Integrated Arts (see pg. 4)**

**Wednesday, October 1: Albuquerque Speech Language
Hearing Screenings**

**Tuesday, October 7: Fire/ Property Evacuation Drill —
11:15 am**

**Wednesday, October 8: Whole School Field Trip to
Wildlife West Nature Park — The Preschool Will Be
Closed From 9:30 am — 12:45 pm**

**Thursday, October 9 & Friday, October 10: Fall Break —
No School**

**Tuesday, October 21: Zoom Preschool Committee
Meeting At 7:00 pm**

**Wednesday, October 22 & Thursday, October 23:
Preschool Village — 11:45 am-12:00 am (see page 3)**

**Wednesday, October 22 And Thursday, October 23:
Shelter-In-Place Drills — 10:30 am (see page 2)**

**Thursday, October 30 and Friday, October 31 at 9:15 am:
Costume Parades And Pastries For Parents (see page 2)
The KinderPrep class will only participate on Friday,
10/31.**

**Monday, November 10 and Tuesday, November 11:
Parent/ Teacher Conferences — No School (see page 2)**

**Wednesday, November 26 - Friday, November 28:
Thanksgiving Break — No School**



Parent Resources

Be sure to stop by our

Parent Resources Library

just outside of the preschool offices.

Articles and resources are available for you
to take, and books are available for
you to check out.

St. Luke Preschool is **OPEN** on the following days
that APS is closed:

Monday, October 13: Indigenous Peoples Day

Tuesday, November 4: Election Day

Tuesday, November 11: Veteran's Day (St. Luke is
open for Parent/ Teachers Conferences Only)

Monday, November 24 & Tuesday, November 25: APS
Parent/ Teacher Conferences

Shelter-In-Place Drills

Now that children are feeling comfortable with Fire/ Property Evacuation Drills and Get Quiet (lock down) Drills, we are ready to introduce one last drill that will be practiced every other month, the first being on October 22 and 23. These will be Shelter-in-Place Drills where children and staff sit on the floor for a short period of time in the interior hallways or in the large gymnasium space, away from windows and doors. The purpose for Shelter-in-Place Drills is to make sure everyone knows what to do in the event of a severe weather-related emergency. As always, we use the same calm demeanor and words whenever we are talking with children about drills and assisting them during drills. The words we use are: "We are practicing so we know what to do if there is an emergency."

Please let us know of any questions and/ or concerns you may have.



On Monday, November 10, and Tuesday, November 11, we will be holding Parent/ Teacher Conferences. There will be no school either of those days, so teachers can meet with parents one-on-one to discuss each child's progress and goals. A Sign Up Genius will be sent by email approximately 2 weeks prior to conferences, so you can choose the day and time that works best for you.

With different goals than our Meet and Greet times, conferences are a time for adult conversation. As such, we ask that children not attend. Be watching for more information about conferences in the November newsletter.

Costume Parades

Children are invited to dress up in costumes on Thursday, October 30th, and Friday, October 31st, to participate in our annual costume parade. Parades will take place outdoors at the preschool at 9:15 am. Parents are invited to stay and watch the fun and enjoy the Pastries for Parents that will be provided prior to the parades those mornings.

We ask that costumes **not** include weapons as accessories, or be violent, scary, or inappropriate. Please have your child wear play clothes under his/ her costume.



See your child's class newsletter for additional information.

Please note: KinderPrep's parade will be on Friday only.

PASTRIES FOR PARENTS

Please join us on the mornings of Thursday, October 30th, and Friday, October 31st, at the preschool for coffee and pastries as we anticipate costume parades from the cutest children ever! Drop your costumed child off in his or her classroom, and join us out front. The costume parade will head your way at approximately 9:15 am and will last about 15 minutes or so. Younger siblings, grandparents, and family members are welcome to join us!

Please note: KinderPrep's Pastries for Parents will take place on Friday only.



Children's Worship

- Thursday, October 2: The Story of Noah (Genesis 6:9-9:29) - God cares for us and keeps His promises
- **Monday**, October 6: The Story of Noah
- Thursday, October 16: Moses (Exodus 1:8-17, 7) - God takes care of us
- Friday, October 24: Moses



You may wish to read these stories with your child from a children's bible. Perhaps you can remember God's promises by making rainbows together with sidewalk chalk, water color paints, or markers. Looking at baby photos can start a conversation about how God took care of Baby Moses.

This month, we will be singing "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands". You and your child can listen to this classic, first published in 1927, on Spotify.

Perhaps you and your child can think of other verses.

He's got the little bitty babies...
He's got the mommies and the daddies...
He's got the stars and the moon...
He's got the wind and the rain...

Parents and Family Members Are
Welcome to Join Us!

KinderPrep (Kathy & Sydney) - 9:30 am
Mondays and Fridays only

Older Multi-Age (JoEllen and Moriah) and
Intermediate Multi-Age (Kelly & Daisy)
10:45 am

Monarchs (Jessica and Jena) 11:15 am in the
classroom

Swallowtails (Laura & Aaliyah) 11:30 am in
the classroom

St. Luke Preschool Village

The Preschool Village Meet-Ups provide an opportunity for parents and guardians to meet, make connections, and enjoy each other's company, all while children are playing!

**Join us at the courtyard gate from 11:45-12:30
On Wednesday, October 22 and Thursday, October 23!
Activities will be provided for children.**

Younger siblings of preschoolers are welcome to join with a parent/ guardian.
Please do not have your preschooler miss class to come to this event.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to
Mary Fidler, mefidler@gmail.com, or Allie Brandt, stluke.abrandt@gmail.com.

We look forward to seeing you there!



St. Luke Preschool is joining St. Luke Church to provide coats for students in need, at Janet Kahn School of Integrated Arts. Janet Kahn is an APS elementary magnet school, located near the preschool, and serves children in pre-k — 5th grade.

New and gently used children's coats, sizes S-XL, will be collected throughout the month of October. A collection bin for donations is located near the preschool front entrance. For questions, please contact Holly Trujillo at 505-238-3609 or htrujillo1624@gmail.com

Your kindness and generosity truly make a difference.

Food Safe Environment — Food Allergies

Thank you for partnering with us to provide **morning snacks** that are safe, with respect to food allergies children in the class may have, as well as our no nuts policy.

If your child brings **breakfast** to AM Extended Care or stays for **lunch**, we ask that breakfasts and lunches be sent from home and be made in accordance with our no nuts policy. This means packaged food items in your child's lunchbox are free from the following language on the ingredients label: "contains nuts or traces of nuts, may contain nuts, or processed on the same equipment as nut products". Home-made food items (muffins for example) can be placed in your child's lunchbox, but need to be labeled as "no nuts" so we know they are safe to serve. Sun butter and soy nut butter sandwiches need to be labeled as well, so we know they are safe to serve.



We are always happy to celebrate birthdays at school with a special **birthday treat**, however, treats from home to share with the class must be store bought, sealed with the ingredients listed by the manufacturer on the package, and not contain nuts. We are not able to serve homemade items that are brought in to share with the class.

We know all of this can be challenging, particularly at the beginning of the school and we thank you for helping us with the safety and well being of all the children in our care!

More detailed information about food safety can be found in the Family Handbook, starting on page 15.

Illness Policy

Thank you for your help with the health and wellness of the preschool community.
Together we make a difference!

- **Send a Brightwheel message or an e-mail to both Lori and Jane any time your child will be absent, even if he/ she is not sick, as we are required to track absences.**
Lori — stlukesc@thuntek.net Jane — stlukepreshool1956@gmail.com
- In order to return to the preschool following illness, children (and staff) must be: **fever free (without medication), diarrhea free, and vomiting free for 24 hours, and able to participate in the school day successfully with respect to energy level and engagement. Children with excessive amounts of mucus and coughing should remain at home to help minimize illness at the preschool.**

If your child becomes ill while at school, you will be called to pick him/ her up within 30 minutes of receiving the call. Please be sure to keep your local contact information updated with us. If we are unable to get in touch with a parent, we will continue calling down the list of emergency contacts until we reach someone.

More detailed information about illness, health, and safety can be found in the Family Handbook starting on page 20.



Upcoming St. Luke T-Shirt Spirit Days!

- Thursday, October 2
- Wednesday, October 8
- Thursday, October 16
- Friday, October 24

Your child can wear his/ her St. Luke t-shirt for Spirit Days or any day!



If you are able to participate in **United Way** through your employer, consider directing your United Way contributions to St. Luke Preschool. Contributions that we receive go directly to our Tuition Assistance fund, which creates the opportunity for children to attend preschool, who might not otherwise be able to.

Thank you to all families who have contributed to our Tuition Assistance program through United Way.

This year to date,
we have received \$537.25!

Together we make a difference!



Read Together to Support Early Literacy

Children who have lots of experiences with books absorb the rhythms and patterns of language and, at surprisingly early ages, begin to imitate the language and gestures their parents and caregivers use while sharing stories, sometimes turning pages and murmuring as they “read” the pictures.

While we can't expect infants and toddlers to learn to read and write yet, they are nevertheless developing skills that provide a foundation for later literacy. When you share books with your very young child you support emerging literacy as you:

- help your child learn that pictures and words are symbols that can be interpreted;
- expose your child to new words, thereby increasing his/ her vocabulary and
- familiarize your child with the conventions of print.

Understanding pictures and print as symbols

Within their first 18 months, most infants who have explored and shared books with adults show an understanding that pictures symbolize things in the real world, an understanding that is uniquely human (Barton & Brophy-Herb 2006). For example, at around 12 months, an infant seems to understand that the cup in a picture on the page represents a cup like the one she drinks from every day. She may tell you about the connection she is making by looking at the picture and pointing to a nearby cup. Another child, age 17 months, enjoying the book *Goodnight Moon* with his dad may murmur, “Hush,” when his dad turns to the page about a quiet old lady who was whispering, “Hush” (Schickedanz 1999). Understanding that pictures are symbols of real things is a first step toward understanding that print also represents ideas of items in the real world.

Children may begin to notice print in addition to pictures between 15 and 20 months, and by 32 months a child may move a finger or her whole hand across a line of print and verbalize her memory of what the text says (Schickedanz 1999). Although we might find constantly answering the question, “What say?” exhausting, children's recognition that pictures and print convey meaning is an important step in emerging literacy that we need to support by responding to their inquiries (Neuman, Copple, & Bredekamp 2000).

Increasing vocabulary

Sharing books will expand your very young child's growing vocabulary. Storybooks often use words in ways that are different from how we use those same words in everyday conversation. Books also use words that are generally absent from day-to-day speech. *The Napping House*, for example, contains many descriptive words related to napping, such as slumbering, snoozing, and dozing, which adults may rarely use in a conversation with a child. By hearing new words in the context of a story and having them explained by an adult, children's word comprehension will grow, and they will eventually incorporate new words into their spoken vocabularies.

Learning the conventions of print

Through early exposure to books, children begin to learn about the conventions of reading in their own language. For example, very young children using books in English learn that they are read from front to back, from the left of the page to the right, and from the top of the page to the bottom. Books in some other languages have different print conventions. Children learn that books have names (or "titles") and that they are written by "authors." Some older toddlers might be interested in books whose layouts break the rules; for example, books that are read from back to front, from right to left, or up and down the page in vertical columns.

Article from NAEYC for Families

References

Barton, L.R., & H.E. Brophy-Herb. 2006. "Developmental Foundations for Language and Literacy from Birth to Three Years."

In *Learning to Read the World: Language and Literacy in the First Three Years*, eds. S.E. Rosenkoetter & J. Knapp-Philo, 15-60. Washington, DC: Zero to Three.

Neuman, S.B., C. Copple, & S. Bredekamp. 2000. *Learning to Read and Write: Developmentally Appropriate Practices for Young Children*. Washington, DC: NAEYC.

Schickedanz, J. 1999. *Much More than the ABCs: The Early Stages of Reading and Writing*. Washington, DC: NAEYC.

Adapted from Birckmayer, J., A. Kennedy, & A. Stonehouse. 2008. *From Lullabies to Literature: Stories in the Lives of Infants and Toddlers*. Washington, DC: NAEYC, 45-46.

