

MEET THE TEACHER

Miss Olivia





ABOUT ME

I am from Dana Point, California and I went to College in Tucson, Arizona at the University of Arizona. I have my bachelors degree in Early Childhood Education and I was so interested in learning about how to educate children that I chose to further my education even more! I am currently completing my masters degree in Early Childhood Ed. at Chestnut Hill College! I am also planning to become a certified yoga instructor! Namaste.

INTRODUCTION

Hi friends! I am the new lead preschool teacher at The Children's School. I am beyond excited to explore, play, and learn with each and every one of you this year! This year, I have added a new center to our classroom under the rainbow on the cozy clouds. This center will be a safe place to express some of those big feelings that we sometimes have! I think it is very important to feel those big emotions so we can understand our feelings and learn how to identify what it is that we need in those moments. This space in our classroom will always be open to visit! It will also offer different ideas for learning selfregulation techniques, movements, and activities, but co-regulation will always be an option as well. Our classroom will be an environment where we will be encouraged to be curious, explore the beautiful world around us, respect others boundaries, embrace our own uniqueness, and have fun while doing it!

HOBBIES

In my free time, I like to go to the beach in Ocean City, NJ. I love to surf, make jewelry, and do yoga. I also love to cook and bake.



CONTACT INFORMATION:

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MEET THE TEACHER

Miss Emily



INTRODUCTION

Hello families! This will be my second year teaching preschool at Saint John's and I couldn't be more excited to get to know each and every one of our new students! I have a passion for making sure our students feel safe and free to express themselves during these early milestone years of their education. Cheers to a wonderful year of preschool!

ABOUT ME

I was born and raised in West
Chester PA, and then graduated
from Penn State in 2018 with a
bachelors degree in psychology. I
have since moved to Philadelphia
and began graduate school at Saint
Joseph's University to obtain my
masters degree in special education
for deaf and hard of hearing children.
I love when the seasons change, and
spending quality time with my
family and friends and my
dachshund Moose.



HOBBIES

I love to cook, read, and snowboard



CONTACT INFORMATION:

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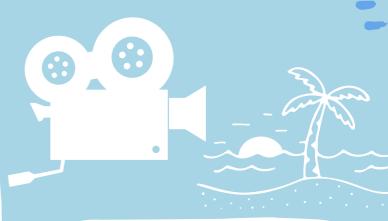
MEET THE TEACHER

Miss Doris



INTRODUCTION

Hello Parents! I am thrilled to be the new Teaching Assistant at the Children's School!



ABOUT ME

I have a bachelor's degree from Cabrini
University and many years, in and out of the classroom, at St. Bernadette's School and most recently Devon Elementary.

I am also a mother of four wonderful daughters.

HOBBIES

Spending time with my family and friends is my greatest joy. I also love the beach, playing with my dog, great restaurants, and old movies.

I can't wait to meet you and your precious little ones!



CONTACT INFORMATION:

dorishhurd@yahoo.com

How Do I Get Ready For Preschool?

ALL ITEMS MUST BE CLEARLY LABELED WITH YOUR STUDENTS FIRST AND LAST NAME

- <u>A Lunch Box</u>: One of the ways that we practice independence is by having our friends set up their lunches independently. Bento style lunch boxes work great. Easy to open containers/Tupperware are also convenient.
- A Thermos Container: Thermos containers are great to store food that should stay warm. If you would like to pack warm lunches for your child, be sure to place the food in a thermos container so it'll stay warm until lunch time!
- <u>A Water Bottle:</u> A clean water bottle every day is so important to keep your child hydrated throughout the day. Students are able to refill their water bottle with the easy to use water tank provided in our classroom.
- Change of Clothing: Accidents, spills, and messes
 happen! Please plan to bring 3 changes of clothes.
 This includes shirts, pants/shorts (depending on the
 season), a sweatshirt/jacket, a few pairs of socks, at
 least 3 pairs of underwear, and an extra pair of
 shoes. Part of their school cubby contains a change
 of clothes bin that should be changed out seasonally.
- <u>Sunscreen and Bug Spray:</u> Please have all bottles clearly labeled with your child's full name and store the bottles in a ziplock bag that is also labeled with your child's full name.
- <u>Backpacks/Folders:</u> We also ask that your child has an appropriately sized backpack every day that can fit a folder in it so they can bring their work home.
- Face masks: Optional, not required!















HOW DO I GET READY FOR PRESCHOOL?

***ALL ITEMS MUST BE CLEARLY LABELED
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NAME***



Nap Time Necessities:

• Small Nap Mat: At nap time, students sleep on a cot that they use for the entire year. They will sleep with a nap mat on top of their cot that will be sent home every Friday to get washed and should be sent back to school on Monday. If you are looking to purchase a nap mat, try Amazon, Walmart, or Target. Some friends may already have a nap mat from the previous year. That works perfectly fine!



• Security Blanket/Lovey: If your child sleeps with a special blanket or stuffed animal, they are more than welcome to sleep with it during nap time. We do ask that the stuffed animal is small and able to fit in your child's backpack. They can have a designated school blanket/lovey or they can pack it up each day to bring home.



OUR DAILY SCHEDULE

- 7:00am-9:20am: Drop-off, sign-in, Free play/Outside play (Block Center, Transportation, Reading Center, Art Center, Manipulatives and Puzzles)
- 9:20am-9:30am: Clean up time!
- 9:30am-9:45am: Circle Time
- 9:45am-9:50am: Bathroom/Wash hands
- 9:50am-10:00am: Morning Snack Time
- 10:00am–10:30am: Special of the Day (Music, Spanish, Yoga, Tumble Tots)
- 10:30am-10:40am: Introduce the days topic/activities
- 10:40am-11:10am: Daily Activities (Art, Sensory/Science, Math, Writing)
- 11:10am-11:15am: Bathroom/Wash Hands
- 11:15am-11:55am: Free play/Outside play (weather permitting)
- 11:55am-12:00pm: Come inside/Bathroom/Get ready for lunch
- 12:00pm-12:45pm: Lunch time
- 12:45pm-1:00pm: Clean up lunch/ Bathroom/ Wash Hands
- 1:00pm-3:00pm: Nap time/Quiet time
- 3:00pm-3:30pm: Quiet Table Activities
- 3:30pm-3:45pm: Afternoon Circle Time
- 3:45pm-4:00pm: Afternoon Snack/Bathroom/Wash Hands
- 4:00pm-6:00pm: Free play/Outside play (Weather Permitting)

Special Activities

- Monday-Music
- Wednesday-Yoga
- Thursday- Tumble Tots
- Friday-Spanish

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

Music

Every <u>Monday</u> morning, our friend Mr. David, will come to the school to sing fun, familiar, and educational songs with the preschool. Mr. David enjoys when our preschool friends sing along and dance with him! At the end of each session with Mr. David, he draws a special picture for the class. Throughout the week, we practice our coloring skills by coloring in the lines of the picture he drew for us!



Yoga

Every <u>Wednesday</u>, our preschool class will participate in Yoga with Ms. Katie. Ms. Katie teaches beginner's yoga by showing the preschoolers breathing exercises, fun yoga poses, and how to exert and feel some positive energy! Preschool will take their shoes off during our yoga class, so be sure to dress your child in shoes that are easy for them to put on and take off!



Tumble Tots

Every <u>Thursday</u>, we will have Tumble Tots with Ms. Dana. Ms. Dana always has fun "courses" for the class to go through. Rather than walking right through the course, preschool is instructed to crawl, jump on one foot, slither, and much more. Please dress your child in sneakers on Thursday's for Tumble Tots.



Spanish

Every <u>Friday</u>, a Spanish teacher will come to the school. During these interactive sessions, the preschool class will learn some basic Spanish! Throughout the year, our friends will learn colors, days of the week, numbers, weather patterns, and even more vocabulary words in Spanish!



<u>Drop Off</u>

When dropping off your child, please make sure to sign in at the front desk. After signing in, walk your child upstairs to the classroom. Once inside the classroom, your child will unpack their backpack by putting their lunch box in the bottom of their cubby, placing their water bottle in the water bottle bin, and placing their clean nap mat on the stacked cots (on Monday's). After unpacking their backpack, your child will wash their hands and then sign in. One teacher or more will be in the classroom when your child is getting dropped off and we are happy to help them get settled into the classroom!



Health and Safety

Please adhere to our updated policies regarding health and safety. If your child is feeling sick, even a little bit, it is best to keep them home! If your child has a temperature over 100.4 degrees, please follow our health and safety protocols. Children must be fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medicine before returning to school.



Hand Washing

Hand washing is the best way to prevent the spread of germs! Each morning, as you enter the classroom, your child will be prompted to wash their hands. Throughout the day, friends will be guided to continue to wash their hands (after entering the classroom, after using the bathroom, after eating lunch/snack, after moving from each activity.)



Free Play

During free play, your child has the opportunity to choose what they would like to play with (that is offered by the teachers) in the classroom. This is a great opportunity to socialize with friends while playing with familiar and favorite toys. This is also a great way to develop necessary social skills and communication skills through dramatic play, sharing, and talking through some possible disagreements. Teachers will always be observing and encouraging friends to play, explore, communicate, and have fun. After free play is over, the preschool teachers will promote responsibility by having them clean up the toys that they used and put them back where they belong.



Outside Play

Outside play will also occur throughout the day (weather permitting). Some days we will play on the field with field toys (rings, balls, small bean bags, and cones). Other days, we will play on the playground where there is a jungle gym, see–saw, swings, and a sandbox. We follow a temperature chart to see if it is too hot or too cold to go outside.

Depending on the weather, temperature, and humidity, we will decide if it is too hot or too cold to go outside. If that happens, free play will occur inside.



Circle Time

Every morning we will have circle time together as a class. During circle time, we will say, "Good Morning" to all our preschool teachers and our friends. We will also have a calendar which will be filled in daily. At the end of circle time, I will read a book that relates to our days activities/theme of the week.



Snack and Lunch Time

The Children's School provides a morning and afternoon snack. Some examples of morning snack are cereal, fruit, or yogurt. Examples of afternoon snack are cookies, goldfish, crackers, or pretzels. If your child has an allergy or sensitivity to a particular food/ingredient, please alert the teachers and the front office and bring in an alternative snack. It is also necessary to fill out an allergy form.



Nap Time/Quiet Time

Nap time/Quiet time is scheduled from 1pm to 3pm. Each friend will have their own labeled cot and should bring in their clean nap mat every Monday. The nap mats will be sent home every Friday to be washed. If your child does not nap, we encourage them to rest their bodies quietly on their cots for the beginning of nap. After a while, they will be permitted to read books quietly on their cots. In the previous year, some friends brought in educational activity books such as letter tracing, color by number, or number tracing books, which are also welcome.





Show and Tell

Every Friday, we will have Show and Tell! Students will be allowed to bring in one item on Friday's and our friends will have the opportunity to ask questions about their item! These items will stay in their backpacks until Show and Tell time and only the owner of the item will be allowed to touch it. This is a great way for our friends to show a part of themselves and discuss something that matters to them, to the class. Show and Tell will be an opportunity for the class to ask questions about the special item and the student can teach and answer their friends questions.



Medicine Log

If your child needs to be administered medicine throughout the day, a medicine log will need to be filled out. This log is in the classroom binder. Provide the name of the medicine, when it should be given, the amount that should be given and your signature must be on the log. If you would like to leave any medicine in the classroom, it must be labeled with your child's name and the prescription label must be attached to the bottle. This will be placed in the medicine bin, located on the emergency shelf.



Evaluations/Assessments

The preschool students will be evaluated on their progress twice throughout the year. The first evaluation period will happen in November and will consist of a developmental checklist and summary that describes your child's progress up to that point. In May, an assessment is sent out for each child. This includes an updated developmental checklist and a summary of your child's growth. It will also include their strengths and the areas that may need improvement. After assessments are sent out, you may request to have a meeting with the teacher to go over the assessment and answer any questions or concerns you may have.



Communication

We believe that communication with our student's parents is necessary. Every weekend, Miss Olivia will send out an email describing what the week will look like for your child. This email will include what activities we are going to do that week and if there are any special visitors. Each day at pick-up, one of the teachers will verbally relay messages about your child's day. Please never hesitate to reach out to us with any of your questions or concerns. Your communication will also make our classroom run smoothly! Contact information is provided on the "Meet the Teacher" page in the beginning of this packet.

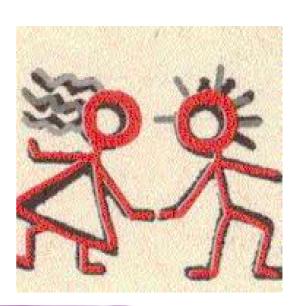


Staff Meetings

The following dates are days that the school will be closing early. These early dismissal days are necessary to conduct staff meetings. Since The Children's School is an NAEYC accredited school, we are required to have regular staff meetings. Staff meetings are utilized to help keep the staff informed about all of the upcoming events and to communicate and share with other teachers about what activities or lessons have been working well in the classroom. This also gives the mentor teachers of the school, the opportunity to offer suggestions and guidance on child development milestones for the different ages. The mentors at The Children's School will also assist in reinforcing the importance of positive communication amongst the children and parents.







SPECIAL EVENTS CALENDAR 2022-2023

September 6, 2022: New Classroom Visitation Day

September 7, 2022: First Day of School

October 10, 2022: Staff Meeting **4:30pm Early Closing**

October 31, 2022: Halloween Parade (4:00pm Outside)

November 23, 2022: Thanksgiving Feast (11:30am Upstairs) **Early Dismissal @ 3:00pm.**

November 24 & 25, 2022: Thanksgiving Holiday & Day After **SCHOOL CLOSED**

December 16, 2022: Holiday Show (4:00 PM The Women's Club)

December 26-January 2, 2023: Winter Holiday **SCHOOL CLOSED**

January 16, 2023: Staff Meeting **4:30pm Early Closing**

March 6, 2023: Staff Meeting **4:30pm Early Closing**

April 15, 2022: Spring Break **SCHOOL CLOSED**

April 18, 2023: Parent Breakfast (7:00am-9:00am Downstairs)

April 19, 2023: Grandparents Day (10:00am in Classrooms)

May 12, 2023: Mother's Day Tea PreSchool (4:00pm Outside)

May 26, 2023: Staff Development Day **SCHOOL CLOSED**

May 29, 2023: Memorial Day **SCHOOL CLOSED**

June 15, 2023: Happy Hour with Dad (4:00pm in Classrooms)

June 12, 2023: August 29, 2023: Summer Program

July 3 & 4, 2023: Fourth of July **SCHOOL CLOSED**

August 30 & 31 & September 1, 2023: Cleaning Days **SCHOOL CLOSED**

September 4, 2023: Labor Day **SCHOOL CLOSED**









We will make every effort to adhere to the above schedule. However, new events may be added as the year progress and event date may need to be changed from above. We will notify you immediately when this occurs!

PARENT INFORMATION

At The Children's School, we are here to guide children and help them prepare for Kindergarten. We all believe that children need to be actively involved in learning through play and have opportunities to explore and succeed through the principles of growth and development. As educators, we are here to educate the children and to work with the parents to further assist the children with their development. When we are unsure if we are doing everything we can to assist a child's development, with a parent's approval, we will look to the community or educators who can help the child and the teachers in the classroom.

Here are two resources we rely on:

- 1. Dr. Lisa Dissinger, a consulting psychologist who works for the Lower Merion School District at the Bala House. Dr. Dissinger is a licensed psychologist and certified school psychologist who specializes in preschool children. Her consulting practice includes psychological assessments of children and adolescents, consultation to parents, and educators.
- 2. Montgomery Intermediate Unit. Early Intervention is available to help a child's educational development in cognitive skills, adaptive (self-help) skills, social emotional skills, communication skills, and/or gross and fine motor skills.

THE LETTER PEOPLE CURRICULUM IS DIVIDED INTO 5 THEMES:

ALL ABOUT ME

Mr. N: What's My Name?

Mr. W: What Will I Wear?

MS. P My Body

Mr. H: I'm Healthy

Mr. M: All About My Senses

MS. A: We All Have Feelings

GETTING ALONG WITH OTHERS•

Mr. B: We Share

Ms. K: We're Kind

Mr. D: Families Help Each Other

Ms. F: We're All Different

Mr. O: What Is Opposite

EVERYONE HAS NEEDS

Mr. C: Everyone Needs Food

MS. E: Everyone Needs Exercise

MS. Y: Everyone Needs Rest

Mr. G: Everyone Needs A Home

Ms. T: On The Go Safely

ANIMALS, ANIMALS, ANIMALS

Ms. S: Animals At Home

Mr. R: Animals On The Farm

Mr. Z Animals At The Zoo

Mr. I: Insects Everywhere

Mr. Q: Dinosaurs Long Ago

NATURE ALL AROUND US

Ms. V: Seeds And Plants

Ms. L: Light and Dark

Ms. U: Water

Ms. J: Sounds

Mr. X: Planets And Stars

