

*Welcome
to
Children of Joy!*



We are located beside Bush Elementary
Our address is:
7550 Crownridge Drive
The Woodlands, TX 77382

We are so delighted to have you tour our school!
Please feel free to contact us at (936) 242-1826 with any questions.

Table of Contents

Picture of Transition Classroom	p. 3
Transition Daily Schedule	p. 4
Transition Curriculum	p. 5
Music and Movement	p. 6
Spanish	p. 7
Chapel	p. 7
Snack/Lunchtime	p. 8
Assessments	p. 8
Communication	p. 9
Fun Friday	p. 10
Playground	p. 11
Speech Therapist	p. 12
Security	p. 13
Drop off and Pick up	p. 13
Registration Information	p. 15
Before and After School Programs	p. 15

Transition Classroom

M-TH Geckos
Ratio 2:14



M-TH Geckos Daily Schedule

Gecko's Daily Schedule

9:00 – 9:10	Welcome/ Table Activity
9:10 – 9:40	Circle Time
9:40 – 10:00	Bathroom/Snack
10:00 – 10:30	Playground
10:30 – 11:50	Group Activity/Centers
11:50 – 12:20	Bathroom/Lunch
12:20 – 12:30	Quiet Reading
12:30 – 1:45	Shared Reading/Shared Writing/HWT Practice
1:45 – 1:50	Clean Up/Back Packs
1:50	Dismissal

****12:30 – 1:00 Tuesday's – Music and Movement**

****9:15 – 9:30 Thursday's – Chapel**

****9:30 – 9:45 Thursday - Gecko Chapel**

****1:00 – 1:30 Thursday's - Spanish**

Transition Curriculum

Our Transition program is offered Monday through Thursday and is intended to help children develop the necessary skills needed for Kindergarten. This program is a step above our Pre-K program and is offered to children who may miss the September 1st cutoff date or who parents feel may not need the demands of a 5 day per week Kindergarten program, but need something more challenging than Pre-K.

The Transition program focuses heavily on academic development as well as socialization and independence. Our students move at a much quicker pace than the Pre-K classrooms and begin early reader books as well as sight word recognition. This program challenges the children on an individual level as well as a group level. The classroom has maximum of 14 students with 2 teachers to give the children a small classroom environment to prepare them for a Kindergarten setting while still maintaining a lot of individual attention when needed.

The Transition program uses the Handwriting Without Tears curriculum to develop proper upper and lowercase letter formation and pencil grip.

Throughout the school year, your child will be introduced to the following concepts:

Basic Skills:

Says full name, age, sex, gender, birthday, telephone number, date and address; can name parts of the body; independent with self-help skills; prints first and last name; can follow three step directions; follows classroom rules and routines

Social and Emotional Skills:

Shows respect and concern for others; accepts and responds to teacher authority; shows empathy towards others; demonstrates confidence and pride in self and work; can work and play independently; shows responsibility for personal belongings; interacts with peers in a socially appropriate manner; engages in cooperative play with small groups of children

Reading and Language Readiness:

Writes and copies letters, shapes and numbers using the correct formation; recognizes print and stories progress from left to right; responds to a story by asking questions; orders pictures in a sequence; distinguishes between vowels

and consonants; draws and colors within the lines; identifies and produces rhyming words; identifies names and sounds of upper and lower case letters; can recognize some basic sight words; can create words using word families

Math and Science Readiness:

Identifies and writes numerals to 30; can match numerals to quantities; can copy and create patterns; can name opposites; understands concepts of more, less and equal; identifies and draws shapes; recognizes concepts of a calendar (day of the week, month, year, etc.); can do simple addition using manipulatives; explores the natural and physical world using the 5 senses; uses simple tools to manipulate objects in their environment; makes predictions to experiments; collects and records data; observes and describes simple seasonal and weather changes; observes and describes the properties of different kinds of objects and how they are used

Social Studies Skills:

Recites the “Pledge of Allegiance”; identifies similarities and differences in people; begins an awareness of map concepts including classroom, school, state, country and world; understands the meaning of celebrated holidays and special days in our community; recognizes community helpers and their importance

Fine Motor Skills:

Claps in a rhythm; holds scissors correctly and can cut straight, curved and zigzag lines; draws horizontal, vertical, curved and diagonal lines; applies glue; can weave or lace; strings small beads; builds a puzzle 12 pieces or larger; uses proper grip with markers, pencils and crayons

Music and Movement

Ms. Lesly, who has been with our school for several years, leads our Music and Movement program. Ms. Lesly meets with each classroom on an individual basis to ensure each child has enough time and one-on-one attention each week to complete all of the activities. Our Music and Movement program takes place on Mondays and Tuesdays for 30 minutes once a week. The children do a variety of activities using music and movement to develop gross motor skills.

Our goal for our Music and Movement program is for the children to be introduced to a wide variety of music and movement activities in a fun and active environment. As the children's skill levels increase, the curriculum will be adjusted to challenge their gross motor skills.

Gross Motor Skills taught in Music and Movement include:

jumping, running, throwing, catching, bouncing a ball, kicking a ball, balance, flexibility, and more.

Spanish

Our Spanish Curriculum is introduced to our three and four year old classes. The Spanish teacher visits classes each week and focuses on oral language development.

Preschool is the perfect time to start learning a second language. A little effort now can provide a foundation for lifelong success in Spanish. If your child develops a foundation now, they can rapidly accelerate their knowledge of Spanish in later years by tapping into readily available resources like music, books, cartoons, games, software and videos.

Our Spanish teacher uses music, books, games, activities, crafts and videos to introduce and reinforce key concepts in Spanish. The teacher will send home a weekly newsletter about the concepts they are learning in class.

Chapel

Ms. Shannon, who has been with us for several years, leads our Chapel program. Chapel meets every Thursday and Friday. Ms. Shannon meets with each classroom to help them develop their love for Jesus. Each class participates in discussions, hears stories from the Bible and relates them to their level in an age appropriate way. The teachers continue to extend the monthly Bible verse and curriculum in their classrooms.

As a Christian-based preschool, it is important the Christian values and teachings are not limited to Chapel time, but are ever present in our program on a daily basis. Our children pray before snack and lunch each day. In addition, the Bible verses, stories, songs and cheers are visible in the classroom, and activities are used to extend the lessons that are being taught.

Finally, to ensure parents are well versed in the topics discussed in Chapel, we send out a monthly newsletter with our school newsletter. Having ongoing communication available ensures parents are able to reinforce the topics discussed.

Snack/Lunch

Each day your child is required to bring in a snack and lunch that does not require heating or refrigeration. The children will eat their snack and lunch in their classroom with their teachers. Children of Joy is a “nut free” campus. We do not allow peanut products of any kind. If your child brings in a peanut product of any kind in their snack or lunch, it will be sent home unopened. Many parents use sun butter as a substitute for peanut butter. If you do, please make your classroom teacher aware. This helps protect any of our friends who have a peanut allergy.

Assessments

Preparing our children for Kindergarten and instilling a love of learning is very important to us. We have assessments twice a year. Assessments cover basic readiness skills, social and emotional development, language and literacy skills, reading and writing skills, math skills, fine motor skills, and gross motor skills for every age group. The first assessment goes home in the fall (early November), and the second in the spring (April). The spring assessments are accompanied with parent teacher conferences. Each classroom spends one or two days conducting conferences with parents going over the assessments and answering any questions parents may have. If you have any questions or concerns throughout the year about your child’s development, you can contact your child’s teachers at any time to schedule a conference.

Communication

We use several different forms of communication. Information is typically sent out in more than one format.

Tell the Teacher More- At the beginning of the school year we will hold Tell the Teacher More meetings. Parents will receive a brief questionnaire to complete and bring with them to the meeting. This short 15-20 minute meeting is your opportunity to talk with your child's teachers and tell them your expectations for the school year. Tell the Teacher More meetings will be in August before the start of the year.

Parent Orientation- We will hold a parent orientation for two days before the start of the school year. Your child will get the opportunity to meet their teachers and explore their classroom while parents meet with administration, specials teachers, and the Preschool Team in the sanctuary. This orientation will help parents gain valuable information about the school year.

Shutterfly- Every class has a private Shutterfly account. The teachers will post pictures weekly, send out their newsletters and post school events. Shutterfly allows you to see what is going on in the classroom and gives you an opportunity to talk with your little ones about their day.

Remind- Remind is a text/email-based app. Each class has their own Remind account, as well as an account for all COJ Parents. This allows teachers and administration to send out information and documents quickly via text.

Daily Folder- Every child will receive a folder at the beginning of the year. This folder goes from school to home and back every day. The daily folder can be used for communication between parent and teacher, as well as sending home daily work and important information.

Newsletters- Each month the Director will email and text out a newsletter of all events happening at the school. Classroom teachers also send out newsletters weekly or monthly, depending on the classroom, sharing information about what is being learned.

Fun Friday

Our Fun Friday program is a unique program that we offer to our Pre-K and Transition classes with a maximum group size of 10 students with two classroom teachers. Children can enroll in this extracurricular program you can enroll in on a monthly or yearly basis. These classes are designed to offer a fun-filled option for families who may be looking to add an additional day to their child's two or four day schedule.

Our class is called "Fun Friday" for the reason that kids will be having so much fun they'll hardly notice how much learning is actually occurring. Our biggest goal is for the children to enjoy themselves, and to discover the wonders and fun of learning all about the world around them.

Every month the teachers in each classroom focus on a different science or social studies based theme that will be explored in depth. Each Friday we offer the children a variety of hands-on activities and projects that serve to reinforce the concepts covered for that particular week. Many stories, dramatic play, free centers and playground time are included in their schedule.

Examples of Monthly Themes:

Blast Off!, Construction Zone, Art Through the Ages, Our Amazing Bodies, Dinomania, Surf's Up!, and Rumble in the Jungle

Playground



Speech

We are very blessed to have our own Speech Therapist working in the building. We provide Speech and Hearing screenings each year for our children ages 4 and up. If you notice your child (at any age) is having any difficulty with speech, please let us know and our Speech Therapist will be happy to do a free observation of him/her. If your child is already enrolled in another speech program you are not required to use our services, but the option is available for those who choose to use her services. You can also have Ms. Yvonne work cooperatively with your other therapist to provide the best opportunities for your child. She meets with the children once a week in a one on one private environment. She also does evaluations and parent conferences throughout the year. Speech services are not part of your annual tuition, but a separate fee you pay to her directly.



SPEECH & LANGUAGE THERAPY Yvonne C. Avocato MCD; CCC-SLP

Hello and welcome to COJ! Please allow me to introduce myself and tell you about a service that is available at Children of Joy!

My name is Yvonne Avocato and I am licensed Speech-Language Pathologist. My husband and I live in The Woodlands and have two young boys who attend school in the area. I hold a Bachelor's degree in Psychology and a Master's degree in Communication Disorders. I have worked and treated pediatric patients since 2003 in a variety of settings (private practice, school system, home health, and preschools). My passion is to help toddler/preschool age children make gains towards age-level speech, language, and social communication skills.

I am available during school hours for speech and language screenings, evaluations, and therapy. My primary goal is to assist children in strengthening their overall communication skills. A major benefit of my on-site therapy service is that it provides you more time with your children after the school day is through (for those parents with students needing speech/language services).

Feel free to email or call me with any questions that you may have, or if you would like to schedule a consultation/evaluation for your child. Please note that while services will be provided on site at Children of Joy, all future payments and inquiries should be sent directly to me.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions that you may have. I look forward to another amazing school year here at Children of Joy!

Sincerely,

Yvonne C Avocato MCD; CCC-SLP

AvocatoSpeech@gmail.com

832-683-0002

Security

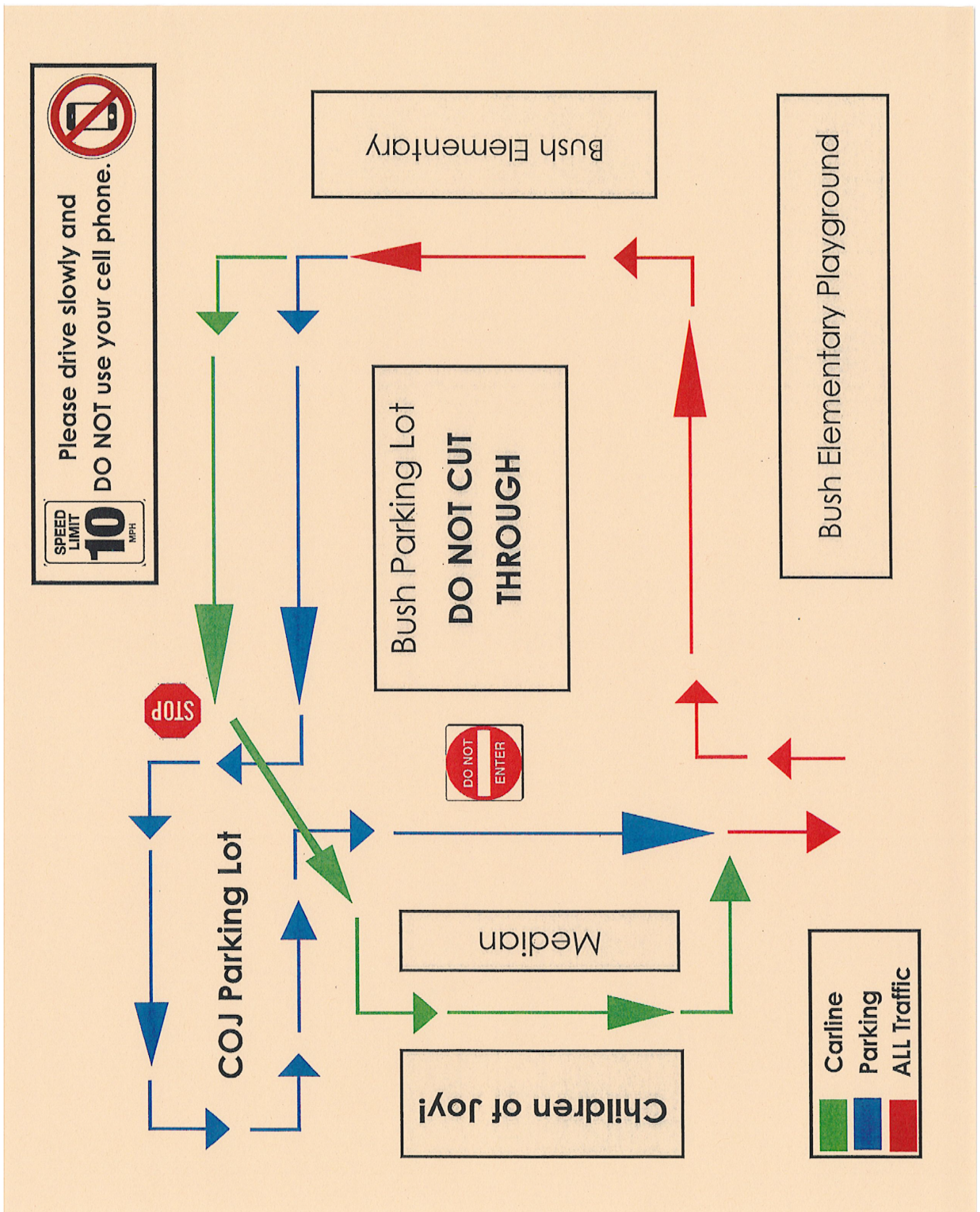
Our doors are locked every day at 9:10 and unlocked again at 1:45. During morning or afternoon carline, you may use either door to enter or exit. During school hours you may only use the door located under the porta cache. To enter the building, ring the doorbell and a member of the administrative staff will let you in. Teachers do not open doors to parents and other visitors because their main focus is your children during school hours. You are also required to take a badge and sign in and sign out. This helps us know who is in the building at all times.

Drop off and Pick up

School begins at 9:00 and ends at 2:00 each day. There are two options for drop off and pick up. You may walk your child in and/or out every day, or use our carline.

If you plan on coming in to drop off your child in the morning, please wait until 9:00 to bring them back to their classroom. Before 9:00, teachers are preparing for the day and attending a brief staff prayer time beforehand. There is a lobby area with children's books for you to share with your child while you wait.

Carline is a great option if you don't want to have to park and come inside. Carline begins at 9:00 and 2:00. Every child will receive a carline sign at the beginning of the year. Please hang it in your window for carline. Teachers and administration will be outside under the porta cache to get your child(ren) out of the car every morning. In the afternoons an administrator will call your child(ren)'s name(s) and a teacher will bring them out and put them safely in your car. In carline, there is never a need to have to exit your car.



Registration

We are currently accepting registration for the 2020-2021 school year. To register your child, please see the “Registration Information” button on our webpage. This page will give you a links to our Parent Portal for registration, and all of the required paperwork.

A non-refundable registration fee of \$150 is due upon enrollment. Your registration fee will not be processed until your child has a confirmed spot in a classroom. Tuition is calculated on an annual basis and divided into 10 equal installments. The first installment is due May 1, 2020. This installment guarantees your placement in the fall. Withdrawal after May 31, 2020 will result in the loss of prepaid tuition. The second installment will be due August 1, 2020 and each month thereafter ending in April 2021.

A Supply Fee is due for the Fall Semester on August 1, 2020 and for the Spring Semester on January 1, 2021.

Before and After School Programs

For parents who need a little extra time in the mornings or afternoons, Children of Joy! Preschool offers before and after school enrichment programs. Before school programs begin at 8:25 and end at 9:00. The instructor walks children to their respective classrooms. After school programs begin at 2:00 and end at 2:45. Parents must pick up their children at 2:45 from their program's classroom. No carline is offered for before or after school programs.

Before and after school programs include: On the Move, Cooking and Science, Art Club and Gymnastics. If you would like to see more information about these programs, please refer to the “Before and After School Programs” button on our webpage.