

# PLATO ACADEMY

## PRE-KINDERGARTEN NEWSLETTER

### SEPTEMBER 8, 2017

Hello Families!

Another busy, fun filled week of explorations! We tried a new recipe for play dough and it was not as smooth as the other one that we made. Some of the students thought it felt like the salt that we used when making it. So we added more water and flour and it became smoother. We think there is a science experiment in our future to find out why the play dough became smooth!

We walked and visited two new places in our school neighborhood this week! On Wednesday after lunch, we walked to the library. Some of the class have been there and knew exactly where to go. There is a nice children's section on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. We decided to spend some time there to explore the area. Some of the students wanted to borrow books so we added them into a cart we brought and checked them out for our classroom library. They will not go home with students. A few were confused but I think they understood when we explained. After the library, we walked to the park. That is why we had a cart with us! On Thursday, we walked over to the play lot behind Immanuel Lutheran School just south of us on Lee St. across from the church. We call it the red park because it has red slides as opposed to Central Park which has blue slides. It is a nice size for our group.

Here are some books that we read as a group this week: *From Head to Toe*, and *10 Little Rubber Ducks* (We listened to an audio recording of whales singing) both by Eric Carle, *Gingerbread Man Superhero!* By Dotti Enderle, and *Superheroes; The Adventures of Max and Pinky* by Maxwell Eaton III.

Thank you to everyone arriving to school by 8:45. It's wonderful to start the day with the whole group and learning the Pledge of Allegiance that is lead by Plato students every morning. We know it's sometimes a struggle to get 1 or 2 or more kiddos out of the house in the mornings! Kudos to you!

And finally, we know it's tough to see your little one sad, clingy, and even crying in the morning at drop off. Leaving quickly is actually best even if they are crying. Please know that we are here for them and it really doesn't last long. We can't always send a text to reassure you, but we will try. And please relay this message to other family members who might drop off.

Reminders:

\*Picture Day is Tuesday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. Please arrive to school on time 8:45 as we will probably be the first group to go.

\*Gym shoes that close all around the foot are important. Water shoes, dressy shoes, crocs and sandals are not to be worn in school. They do not have good traction for running and climbing and the wood chips get stuck in them. The black shoes that the girls have been wearing with their dress uniforms are fine as long as they have the rubber sole for traction.

\*\*Please send healthy PEANUT AND TREE NUT FREE foods for lunches and snacks. **Please... no chips, cookies and candy.** They do not provide the nutrition and energy needed for the day. Examples of some healthy snacks are: fruit (cut up in bite-sized pieces), veggies, pretzels, graham crackers, yogurt/gogurt/danimals, oatmeal or granola snack bites/bars as long as they do not (may) contain peanuts or tree nuts. Tree nuts are, but not limited to: cashews, pecans, pistachios, hazelnuts, walnuts, almonds. Those are the most used in snacks and other food products. Please help us protect all students! We share the lunchroom and other common areas with the other classes and there are students with severe allergies in the school. Please know that the staff follows the same protocol.

\*If your child will be in Aftercare for an hour or more, please provide extra snack so that they aren't getting too hungry.

Please, please, please... Make sure that your child has eaten breakfast before coming to school. It is important that they are energized for the morning. They exercise their bodies and brains before lunch at 11:20. That is a long time to go without nurturing our bodies. We do not have the accommodations for students to eat or finish breakfast in the classroom.

We are starting a WISHLIST. The below items are wanted for future various activities in the classroom. This list is for items that you may have around the house and don't use anymore. It is not intended for a family to go out and buy them new:

Used sippy cups  
Newspaper  
Old towels, any size

Please contact us with any questions or concerns. Texting is best since we can usually reply quicker.

Thank you for allowing us to be a part of your child's life!

Ciao!

Noel and Soraya  
[Noeln23@yahoo.com](mailto:Noeln23@yahoo.com) 773.610.6352  
[sorayacastrof@gmail.com](mailto:sorayacastrof@gmail.com) 312.869.0945