Preschool Classes

Three year old classes
are offered on Thursdays and Fridays. Children MUST be 3 by September 1st and MUST be completely toilet trained (no pull-ups).
There are two classes available:
9:30–11:30 a.m.
12:00–2:00 p.m.

Four year old classes
are offered on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays. Children MUST be 4 by September 1st.
There are two classes available:
9:00–11:30 a.m.
12:00–2:30 p.m.

Pre-K class
is offered Mondays–Fridays.
Children MUST have attended preschool for 1 year prior and will attend Kindergarten in the following fall.
There is one class time available:
8:30–11:00

PARENTS' PRESCHOOL HISTORY

The school year 2016-2017 marks the 48th anniversary of Parents' Preschool. During these past 48 years, over 3900 children from our community and surrounding communities have attended the school.

In the summer of 1968, when it was known that a previously established preschool of Ellwood City would no longer be operating, a group of parents who felt a real loss began to meet. They wanted a place where children could experience a broad variety of activities with their peers in addition to helping them meet their individual needs.

It was from a sense of mission to their community and their children that they organized and founded the Cooperative Preschool of Ellwood City. Since then the school has grown considerably. It became incorporated on February 3, 1975 and legally changed its name to Parents' Preschool of Ellwood City, Inc. This name was chosen because it reflected the basic nature of the school.

The purpose of our preschool remains the same: that from a sense of mission to our community, we are here to provide mental, spiritual, physical, emotional and social support to our preschool children. We teach them to do the very best they can every day.

The first few years of operation saw the preschool with one class of mixed ages including 3 and 4 year olds. The school operated on a shoestring budget with tuition being the only source of income. The church provided some furniture, toys were donated and some special equipment was handmade to equip the rooms. Although the preschool operated independently of the church, Christ Presbyterian Church was its main, although indirect means of support. Generously, all utilities, janitorial services, and special help from the church secretary were provided by the church. This generosity continues to be true today.

The school struggled financially but continued to grow. In 1970 enrollment increased enough that a second class and teacher were added, allowing the classes to be broken down into ages.

Christ Presbyterian Church continued to offer financial support for several years. That support, in conjunction with a steady increase in enrollment, enabled the school to become financially secure. At about the same time, a few dedicated parents formed a Parents Club to be the fund raising arm of the Directors, Teachers, Aides, and Parent Volunteers. The school has approximately 75 students enrolled with 5 classes, 2 Teachers, and 3 Aides.

We invite all interested parents to give their preschool children and themselves an opportunity to be a part of what we offer – Excellence in Preschool Education.
WE FOLLOW PENNSYLVANIA’S LEARNING STANDARDS FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD

PRE-KINDERGARTEN (36 months - 60 months) including but not limited to:

**MATHEMATICAL THINKING AND EXPRESSION:**
Count to twenty. Name numbers to ten. Sort objects by two or more characteristics. Demonstrate awareness of length, volume, weight, time, temperature and distance.

**SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT:**
Know and state independent thoughts and feelings. Recognize and label basic feelings. Begin to understand the consequences of own behavior. Play cooperatively with other children. Perform self-care tasks.

**CREATIVE THINKING AND EXPRESSION:**
Use imagination to express self through music and dance. Represent fantasy and real life experiences through dramatic play.

**HEALTH, WELLNESS & PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT:**
Name body parts. Exhibit balance and strength. Use hygiene routines independently. Identify practices for good health. Move and stop with control.

**APPROACHES TO LEARNING:**
Demonstrate an eagerness to discover a growing range of topics. Attempt to accomplish a difficult task on own. Try several ways to complete a task. Complete a multi-step task. Use senses to explore and learn.

**LANGUAGE AND LITERACY DEVELOPMENT:**
Identify letters. Differentiate words and letters. Recite rhymes, songs & familiar text while tracking. Create letter forms using a variety of materials. Use new vocabulary when speaking.

**SCIENCE THINKING AND TECHNOLOGY:**
Name common animals. Identify plants and animals have life cycles. Discuss observations and discoveries. Recognize the different types of matter.

"YOUNG CHILDREN LEARN BEST WHEN THEY ARE ABLE TO BUILD KNOWLEDGE THROUGH MEANINGFUL PLAY, ACTIVE EXPLORATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND THOUGHTFULLY PLANNED ACTIVITIES."

**SOCIAL STUDIES THINKING:**
Follow and state rules and consequences. Identify solutions to a problem. Identify family members. Show interest in leadership opportunities. Demonstrate knowledge of community workers and their roles.