



## Arcola Christian Preschool

"Let the little children come to Me . . . for of such  
is the kingdom of God."  
(Luke 18:16 NKJV)

# January 2024

### Director's Note

Happy New Year!

I hope you had a holiday season full of joy. We certainly enjoyed the Family Christmas Sing-along a few weeks ago. Your children are delightful!

I am happy to be back at school and able to see your children's happy, smiley faces. They are full of news for us about special times spent with their families and they are excited to reunite with their friends which is always fun. The teachers have many wonderful learning experiences planned for this month.

Registration for the 2024-2025 school year begins soon. Returning students are guaranteed a seat, but there is a lottery for class placement. Please help us spread the word about registration! Information sessions and tours are available for new families shopping for a preschool. When the church makes a Facebook post about the preschool, it is very helpful if you share it.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

*Barbara*

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703-327-7878 x222

### 2024-2025 Registration for ACP

Registration for the 2024-2025 school year begins January 8. Information and forms can be found on the website and a copy is attached to this newsletter in case you need it or want to pass it on to a friend.

**If your child is a current student interested in returning next year, you will need to register again.**

All applications must be received by **noon** on **February 8, 2024**, to be included in the lottery.

[www.ArcolaChurch.org/Preschool](http://www.ArcolaChurch.org/Preschool)

### Enter in Good Health

As a reminder, when you enter the building or send your child into the building, you are confirming that you or your child do not have symptoms of a contagious illness. Please stay home if you are unwell!

### ACP Calendar

January 15 - NO SCHOOL (MLK Jr. Birthday)  
January 22 - NO SCHOOL – LCPS & ACP Closed  
January 25 & 26 - Pajama Days  
February 9 - NO SCHOOL – LCPS & ACP Closed  
February 14 & 15 - Valentine's Day Celebrations  
February 19 - NO SCHOOL (Presidents' Day)  
Feb 29 & Mar 1 - School Pictures

### Lunch Bunch

Lunch Bunch is an optional program that requires advance registration and payment. It offers the opportunity for regularly registered students to extend their school day until 1:30pm while enjoying lunch, friends, and play. **The sign-up for January dates was emailed on Saturday, December 16.** Check your spam/junk mail if you don't see the email, or let me know and I will [send you the link](#).

## Clothing

Please be sure to label all clothes, jackets, and school bags with your child's name. Many children do not recognize their own belongings when there are several others that look similar. Especially new jackets!

## Snack

All snacks must be nut free – that includes peanuts and tree nuts. We cannot serve items that have been processed or packaged in a facility that also processes or packages nut products. Snacks must be store bought with labels we can read and be unopened. **Thank you for your cooperation in keeping all our students safe.** We will send home any snack that doesn't meet our guidelines.

## Tuition

Thank you for your timely tuition payments. They are **due the first of each month.** The best way to pay is on the preschool [payment page on our website](#).

## Absences

If your child is going to be out of school due to illness or travel, please email your child's teacher or the preschool office.

## Scholastic Books

Does your child love books? Reading to your child is the most important thing you can do to help them succeed in school.



**Books make great gifts!** Each month, new flyers will be posted. Please take a few moments to explore the selection together and let your child help choose books he or she is excited to read. Orders will be submitted toward the end of each month (Scholastic sets the deadline.) Thank you for supporting your child's reading both at home and in the classroom! Your books will ship directly to our preschool, and we will send them home with your child.

### **SHOP OUR CLASS PAGE:**

<https://orders.scholastic.com/GZVWY>

**SHOP FLYERS:** <https://clubs.scholastic.com/prek>

## 50 Ways to Show Kids You Care

1. Notice them.
2. *Smile a lot.*
3. Seek them out.
4. *Remember their birthdays.*
5. **Ask them about themselves.**
6. *Look in their eyes when you talk to them.*
7. Play with them.
8. *Read aloud together.*
9. Tell them their feelings are okay.
10. *Be honest.*
11. Be yourself.
12. **HUG THEM.**
13. *Play outside together.*
14. Surprise them.
15. *Stay with them when they're afraid.*
16. Suggest better behaviors when they act out.
17. **Surprise them.**
18. Feed them when they're hungry.
19. *Delight in their discoveries.*
20. Send them a letter or a postcard.
21. Follow them when they lead.
22. Call them to say hello.
23. *Hide surprises for them to find.*
24. Give them space when they need it.
25. *Laugh at their jokes.*
26. Kneel or sit so you're at their eye level.
27. *Answer their questions.*
28. Learn what they have to teach.
29. Hold hands during a walk.
30. Apologize when you've done something wrong.
31. *Keep your promises.*
32. Display their artwork.
33. Thank them.
34. Tell them what you like about them.
35. *Catch them doing something right.*
36. Ask for their opinion.
37. **HAVE FUN TOGETHER.**
38. Be curious with them.
39. *Meet their friends.*
40. Let them tell you how they feel.
41. Tell them about yourself.
42. Let them act their age.
43. *Praise more and criticize less.*
44. Be consistent.
45. *Give them a nick-name.*
46. Tell them you're proud of them.
47. *Unwind together.*
48. Be happy.
49. Ask them for help.
50. Believe in them.

## **Arcola Church Happenings**

Arcola Church is an active church with opportunities for Worship, Sunday school for all ages, a variety of bible studies, music groups, support groups, and opportunities to donate to the Hygiene Pantry and the Dulles South Food Pantry. For more information, check out our website or ask me to point you in the right direction. You do not need to be a member of Arcola Church to participate in any of our programs.

### **Playgroup for Parents & Children Newborn to Preschool Ages**

Come join the Parent & Child Playgroup on Thursday mornings from 10-11am in Room 104. Bring your children, ages newborn to preschool, for a casual get together where kids can play, and adults can enjoy the company of others raising young kids! We welcome all caregivers: parents, grandparents, nannies etc. Please reach out to [Jessalyn](#) or [Julia](#) with any questions. Sign-up here: <https://arcolachurch.org/event/20308348-2024-01-04-playgroup-for-parents-and-children/>

### **Dates With a Purpose**

**Saturday, January 6, 4:45pm**

Need a date night? DWAP provides an intentional way to do just that. Start your date out at the church with a mini (20 minutes or so) relationship-building discussion and conversation topics for your date. The rest of the evening is yours! Childcare provided; please select when you register.

Register here:

<https://arcolachurch.org/event/22875215-2024-01-06-dates-with-a-purpose/>

### **Wednesday Prayer Service**

**Resumes January 10**

**Every Wednesday @ 11:30am** (finished before Preschool pick-up) **Pearson Chapel**

This service is 30 minutes and designed to strengthen us until Sunday comes. During this service, we will sing some good hymns, hear a brief message, pray and share communion together. Contact [Tianna Durbin](#) with questions.

### **Mental Health & Teens**

**Living Well Presentation**

**Sunday, January 7, 10am**

Join us at 10am in Room 110/112 to hear Julia Riedel and Anne Terry speak on detecting mental health issues in our youth and ways to help them. No reservations required.

### **Arcola United Methodist Church**

**Pastor:** Chris Riedel

**Web site:** [www.arcolachurch.org](http://www.arcolachurch.org)

**Worship @ 9am & 11am** (Preschool & Nursery available)

**Sunday School** for Kinder-5<sup>th</sup> grade @ 9am

**Youth** (grades 6-12) Sunday School/Fellowship @ 10am