



Chickadee Newsletter

"A preschool experience providing quality early childhood education in a loving environment!"

Welcome to Wee Know's Chickadee classroom! We are excited to meet all the new Chickadee children and families! During the year your preschooler will be introduced to many interesting concepts that help them learn about themselves and the world around them in a supportive and nurturing environment. It is our belief that children learn through play and exploration and we look forward to this exciting adventure for all!

MEET THE TEACHERS

The Chickadee teaching team includes Amanda Meyer (Mrs. Meyer) & Pam Semler (Mrs. Semler). While detailed teacher biographies are posted on the Chickadee Parent Board, here is a quick introduction to our team.

- Amanda Meyer completed her Associate Degree in Early Childhood Education at WCTC and the Administrator Credential at UWM. She is currently enrolled in the Leadership Credential through UWM. Amanda has been a staff teacher in the Chickadee room and is now entering her 14th year at Wee Know. She truly has a fun way with young children. Amanda is happily married and has a 10 year old daughter and a 7 year old son.
- Pam Semler will be heading into her 20th year in the Chickadee room and brings valuable experience and organizational skills to the teaching team. She is married, has four adult children (two are Wee Know alumni), and five grandchildren. Pam holds a certification in childcare from WCTC.

DROPPING OFF YOUR CHILD

Parents who have children in the Chickadee and Canary classrooms may use our entrance on the north side of the building for drop-off and pick-up. This entrance can only be used from 8:35-9:05 AM and 12:35-1:05 PM for safety reasons our gate will be locked at all other times. This helps alleviate parking problems during our busiest arrival and departure times.

SIGNING IN /OUT

For your child's safety, **it is very important to sign your child in and out each day** on our classroom clipboard.

- Comment section on the sign-in sheet can be used for brief notes (e.g. early or late pick up, different pick up person, appointments).
- For longer or special information regarding your child, please inform a classroom teacher or school staff member.
- Be sure to make contact with one of the teachers at the beginning and end of each day. We enjoy talking with you about your child's day.

EXTRA CLOTHES

Accidents happen! Be certain your child has extra changes of clothing in their cubby baskets.

- Include socks, underwear, bottoms and tops, and extra shoes (if possible).
- **Label all clothing items with your child's name.**
- When selecting school attire for your child, remember...fun is messy and your child should be able to handle their own clothing for independent toileting (try to avoid belts, suspenders & bib overalls).

RESTROOM SKILLS

Independence in the restroom is a major area of interest for new preschoolers and a skill we promote **constantly** at school. The Chickadee children will work on these skills throughout the school year to become more independent. At home, please work with your child on self-help skills in the bathroom including, pulling bottoms/pants up and down, wiping, flushing the toilet and hand washing. The value in your child functioning on their own is immense! If your child is not yet toilet trained we will continue to introduce skills promoting independence, i.e. hand washing, pulling up pull-up/pants when ready. We will stay in close communication with you, the parent, as we travel down the “road of potty training together!”

PHOTOGRAPHS

Please bring to school by Friday, September 15th:

- **one current photo (3x5 or 4x6) of your child**
- **one family photo (3x5 or 4x6)**
- Label photos with your child’s name. **Note:** these photos will not be returned and may be cut to size.

SNACK CALENDAR

A snack calendar indicating each child’s assigned day will be sent home monthly with the school newsletter and posted on our parent board. Due to NAC (National Accreditation Guidelines) homemade snacks are no longer allowed. Prepared food being shared among children must be commercially prepared.

- Each family is asked to bring a “morning” snack for **12 children** once every month. (Extras are helpful in case they get dropped!)
- Try to choose healthy items. A list of snack ideas is posted on parent board.

LUNCHES

Helpful lunch reminders for the Chickadee class are:

- All lunches need to be packed with a **chilled freezer pack**.
- Clearly **label freezer pack & lunchbox** with child’s name on the **OUTSIDE**.
- Lunches should be placed in designated “Chickadee” basket in main hallway.
- Wee Know provides milk at lunch. Please **do not send a drink** unless your child has a milk allergy or intolerance. Please discuss this with a teacher at the start of the school year, if you have any concerns.
- Please **do NOT pack candy** in the lunch; a dessert is a great alternative.
- Two minute or less “heat ups” are allowed.
- When preparing your child’s lunch, have your child help make choices about the contents.



NAPTITUDE

Chickadee class naptitude is from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. daily. If your child will be napping at Wee Know...

- A small pillow & sleeping bag/blanket are required. Both need to be stored in a pillowcase or **non-plastic** bag.
- At the end of your child’s week, all items must be taken home for laundering.
- Blankets, soft cuddly animals or comfort items are encouraged for nap. Please no pacifiers.
- **All items must be labeled clearly with your child’s name.**

BOOK ORDERS

Scholastic Book Orders are included with this newsletter. We will share these with you each month. They offer good books printed in paperback edition at an inexpensive price. Every time our school places an order, "bonus points" are earned which can be used for free books and classroom equipment. **Ordering is completely optional.** If you choose to place an order, please put your order form & payment in an envelope with your child's name and class name on it, and place it in the "Book Order" can in the office. Book orders enclosed in this newsletter are due by Thursday, Sept. 14th. Books usually arrive within two weeks. **PLEASE NOTE: If you pay by check, make one check payable to "Wee Know" for your entire order.**

PARENT ORIENTATION MEETING

Parents (no children) are asked to attend a parent meeting on Tuesday, September 5th from 6:30-7:30 pm in the Chickadee classroom. Daily schedule, procedures and curriculum will be discussed and questions answered. This is a very informative meeting. One parent MUST attend.

FAMILY SURVEYS

Please turn in the Family Surveys to a teacher by **Friday, September 8th**. All surveys will be kept confidential. The Chickadee staff use this information to get acquainted with the children and their routines and learn parent tips & expectations. If you have any questions or concerns regarding surveys, please see a teacher.

ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

Our annual FUNDRAISER will begin on Wednesday, Sept. 27th and run through Wednesday, Oct. 11th. You will receive more information on this at a later date. Participation is voluntary. The proceeds are used to purchase new equipment for your children to enjoy at school.

SEPTEMBER'S TOPIC

During the month of September, the Chickadees will be focusing on their new school community. We will be getting acquainted with new friends, the school surroundings and rules, learning the "ins and outs" of our classroom and decorating our room.

SEPTEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER...

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| • Sept. 4 th | Labor Day...Wee Know is closed |
| • Sept. 5 th | Parent Orientation Meeting (no children) 6:30-7:30pm |
| • Sept. 8 th | Family Survey due |
| • Sept. 14 th | Scholastic Book Orders Due |
| • Sept. 15 th | Individual and Family Pictures Due |
| • Sept. 27 th - Oct 11 th | Annual Fundraiser |

Looking forward to a terrific year with all our Chickadee Families!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Meyer & Mrs. Semler

(Calendar on back)

