



# Mes Amis Preschool Newsletter September

Bonjour Preschool Parents,

Welcome to the Mes Amis Preschool. I am very excited about our year ahead, together. I have worked hard this summer to put together an exciting year for all the students. I am happy you have chosen Mes Amis Preschool for your children. We are going to have a fabulous year. On va s'amuser!

Our dramatic area and theme this month is construction workers. We will be doing crafts, learning at some centers and doing some sensory play all with the theme of building/using imagination in mind "construire et imaginer". Also this month, we will be getting used to the classroom routine, and some learning French vocabulary words about famille/family. In addition to learning about families, our M/W/F students will also be learning a bit more about themselves in a series of activities called "C'est Moi!" (All About Me!), meant to highlight what makes them special and get to know their interests and likes/dislikes "CE QUE J'AIME ET CE QUE JE N'AIME PAS". The students will be busy practicing their fine motor skills by learning to properly hold their pencils, trace lines and strengthen hand/eye coordination through a series of fun activities.

Every month I will place a calendar in your child's class mailbox (located on the wall to the left as you enter the classroom) "un calendrier des évènements". This calendar will indicate any events coming up, showing the name of the parent helping each day and also each child's Show and Tell days "Montre et Raconte!". These are always very special for the students. For September show and tell days, please send items and/or photos for your child to share and tells us about his/her summer ,what he/she did or where he/she went over the summer break. Your calendars will be in your child's mailbox by Tuesday September 3<sup>rd</sup> and our first day of Show and Tell will be on Monday, September 9<sup>th</sup> / Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>.

In order to get to know your children better we are starting the year off with a "personal placemat craft" Each student needs to bring 3 pictures of themselves and their family.

They will be used to make the placemats and will stay at school for the entire school year. Please bring your photos to class before the start of class on Thursday September 5<sup>th</sup> (T/Th classes) and Friday, September 6<sup>th</sup> (M/W/F classes). Thank you so much for your cooperation. Merci beaucoup

Every month, we will have a special color day where your child will wear the special color of the month. I will be letting you know in advance in the monthly newsletter and indicated on the class calendar, which color we will be wear each month and on which day. For this month, students will be wearing the color **BLUE/BLEU** on Thursday, September 12<sup>th</sup> and Friday September 13<sup>th</sup>.

We are in need of a parent or two from each class that wishes to be the "room parent". The room parent is basically a parent that I can call on should I need any extra help, whether it is simply to help with taking home some cutting for a craft or to help organize any class donations etc. Please let me know if this sounds like something you'd be interesting in signing up for. I have no problem if you decide to share the responsibility with another parent from your child's class.

Every month I like to replenish our class playdough for our playdough center. I usually ask for specific colors every month and this month I would love if a parent from each class would be willing to make a few batches of playdough for your child's class. I will need red and blue playdough this month. Please let me know if you would be willing to help out by whipping up a few batches. There are various recipes online.

Also, thank you to those who have already signed up as parent helpers. I welcome any parent or grandparent who wishes to come and participate in the classes. We have planned a very enriching year for your children and extra hands to help are always welcome. We do require at least one parent helper every class so please let me know when you are available, it will make your children's school experience that much better. All those who sign up as parent helpers will need to fill out a criminal record check with a vulnerable sector check. The preschool will give you a cover sheet to bring with you to the police station downtown. This cover sheet waives all fees in place in order to receive your criminal record check. Once you have your official document, please bring it to me and I can make a copy of it for our records (you may keep your original copy if you wish).

Things to bring the first day of class: school bag/le cartable, lunch kit/la boîte sandwich, inside shoes/les chaussons and a jacket/un veston. An extra change of clothes/un rechange can be left in a bag (named) and placed on the shelf in their locker. Please label all of your child's belongings.

**I ask that all snacks packed are nut free as we do have students with severe nut allergies. École St. Matthew is a nut free facility.** Please try to pack snacks for your child that will fill them with energy for their day at school. I suggest healthy items such as fruit, veggies, cheese, yogurt, crackers etc. Please (if possible), try to avoid packing candies and “junk food” with your child in their snacks.

Our library visits will start on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of September. The students are allowed to take one book each visit and return it the following week. Library times are as follows:

AM classes– 10:30- Mondays (M/W/F class) and Tuesdays (T/Th class)

PM classes- 2:00- Mondays (M/W/F class) and Tuesdays (T/Th class)

Please remember, if your child does not bring back their library book for their next library time I will not be able to sign out another book to them. In my experience this can be a very frustrating experience for our little ones. Please take care to remember to pack your child with their book on their library days.

Our gym time has been scheduled for Wednesday and Friday (M/W/F class) and Thursday (T/Th class) at approximately the same time as the library times. Which might even go the last 30 mins of class. All depending on the activities going on during class. We will be going outside on gym days for this month, if the weather is favourable. Please ensure your child is dressed appropriately so that they will be able to fully participate and enjoy our outside gym times.

It is important to develop a routine with the students so I have developed schedules for both the morning and afternoon classes. Sometimes we may make small changes depending on our themes, activities or special occasions. There will be a daily schedule hung in the class for the children to reference. When they arrive they can quickly look to see what the day will bring and any changes that have been made to the regular routine.

**AM Classes:**

9:00-9:20 Welcome/ thematic centers	Bienvenue
9:20-9:30 Body Break	Petite pause
9:30-9:45 Circle time	En rond ensemble
9:45-10:10 Craft/Work Time	Travail manuel
10:10-10:25 Centers/Free Play	on joue
10:25-10:30 Clean up time	on nettoie
10:30-10:45 library/gym	on va à la bibliothèque/salle de sport
10:30-11:00 washroom/snack	le goûter

11:00-11:15 quiet book time on lit au calme

11:15-11:30 Story, sharing time, songs, au revoir on raconte, on partage, on chante

**PM Classes:**

12:45-1:10 Welcome/ thematic centers

1:10-1:20 Body Break

1:20-1:30 Circle time

1:30-1:50 Craft/Work Time

1:50-2:10 Centers/Free Play

2:10-2:15 Clean up time

2:15-2:30 library/gym

2:30-2:45 washroom/snack

2:45-3:00 quiet book time

3:00-3:15 Story, sharing time, songs, au revoir

I ask parents to please try their best to have their children at school by no later than 9:20am in the mornings and by 1:05pm in the afternoons. When children arrive late to school, it disrupts the class and also robs your child of experiences and activities that he/she missed. I will open the door to the classroom for everyone to enter at 9:00am in the morning and at 12:45pm. Please do not enter the classroom until the door is opened by the teacher. Thank you so much for your understanding and cooperation.

If you have questions or concerns you can call me at school @ 659-7820 or e-mail me at [brophyg3@gmail.com](mailto:brophyg3@gmail.com). If you call the class during class times I will not answer the phone but I will retrieve messages as soon as possible.

I will be communicating regularly through newsletters and especially emails. Please remember to check your inbox for information. Merci beaucoup. I am looking forward to a great year,

Grainne Brophy.  
(Granya)