

METHODIST DAY SCHOOL

JANUARY 2021

Happy New Year!! I don't think I've ever been so relieved for a new year to come. I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas season and are ready to face 2021 with a renewed sense of enthusiasm, love & good health! Thank you for all the Teacher Luncheon, gifts & goodies during the Holidays~ we appreciate you so much!

In the new year, you will begin to see a big learning spurt in your child; he/she will come home saying/doing things you don't remember showing them... They are always watching! Our school is one with a variety of experiences that allows for lots of play...one of the most significant avenues of learning available to young children. Playing and learning are one and the same. These months ahead will build a good foundation for their years ahead. We look forward to all the excitement a new year brings ☺

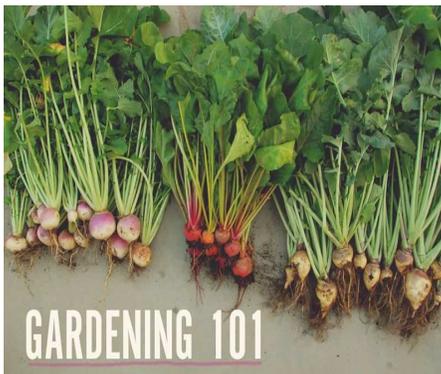
Jamie

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Did you know child care tuition expenses are a tax credit???



I have emailed out the 2020 MDS Statements for your taxes. If you need a hard copy, come by the office or email me at mds@portlandmethodist.org and I can get one printed for you. It includes the MDS Tax ID which is 74-2631979 in the upper right corner of the statement.



We will be starting our Spring Garden soon!
If you are interested in helping with it, let me know!!!



UPCOMING EVENTS

- 1/11: Welcome Back to School! Happy New Year 2021
- 1/18: MLK Day, No School
- 1/21-22: Pajama Days!
- 2/1-2: 100 Days of School
- 2/4-5: Heart Health Week
- 2/11-12: Valentine's Day Parties
- 2/15-16: President's Day & No School
- 2/25-26: Dental Days



Connecting to Community...Special Events



“POP into the NEW YEAR!”

January 8th from 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Visit the Bill Whittington Library for a goody bag & popcorn!!

CHILD FIND

There is significant research that shows when appropriate supports are put in place for children with any developmental delay or disability, the sooner you begin services for that child, the faster they progress toward their milestones! If you suspect your child needs additional support, we will work with you to help!

If your child is 0 – 35 months,
Call ECI at
361-661-1192
To schedule an
evaluation.

If your child is 3 – 5 years old, call
your local school
district, GPISD is
361-777-1091 and
ask for Barbie Ezell.

Help Your Child Build Fine Motor Skills

Many of your child’s daily activities—like getting dressed, eating, and writing—require control of small muscles in the hands. We call these skills fine motor skills. Your child can do more things for himself when he has opportunities to practice these skills. There are lots of activities that can increase muscle strength and coordination, preparing children for more advanced skills, from writing with a pencil, using a computer mouse, or playing a musical instrument. Help your child build fine motor skills at home by providing opportunities to...

- **Set the table**
- **Hold knives, forks, and spoons to eat**
- **Pour juice into a cup**
- **Wipe the table with a sponge**
- **Help with meals—stir, shake, chop, cut, and mix**
- **Get dressed—button, zip, snap, buckle, and fasten**
- **Use Velcro tabs**
- **Open and close containers with lids**
- **Cut with child-safe scissors**
- **Finger paint**
- **Use a paintbrush**
- **Play with playdough and clay—roll, smoosh, pat, pound, and use tools like popsicle sticks or stamps**
- **Draw, scribble, or write with crayons, pencils, and markers**
- **Put together puzzles**
- **Place pegs in a board**
- **Build with small blocks**
- **Play board games**
- **Play with puppets**

Source: Adapted from "Getting a Grip on Things: Building Fine Motor Skills," Message in a Backpack, 2010, *Teaching Young Children* 3 (5): 26–28.

CAR SEAT SAFETY CHECKS!

**DID YOU
KNOW???**

**4 out of 5 car seats are incorrectly
installed.**

**Let nationally certified technicians
at Driscoll's Injury Prevention
Department help you properly
install your seat!**

**Now accepting applications for
families who need help obtaining
a car seat.**



**Give us a call at
361.694.6700 to
schedule your free car
seat safety check and
education!**



Driscoll
Children's Hospital

Car Seats available for the following counties:

Aransas, Bee, Goliad, Jim Wells, Karnes, Kleberg, Live
Oak, Nueces, Refugio, and San Patricio



FOR PARENTS

subscribe
now

Hey, parents! Here's a look at what we're covering with your kids this month so you can help your kids continue growing at home during the week.

GROW AT HOME THIS MONTH

WEEK 1

This week, kids follow the story of **why Jesus came to the world.**

- THE BIBLE: John 1:1-18
- THE BIG IDEA: We can know God through Jesus.

WEEK 2

This week, kids follow the story of **Jesus being baptized by John the Baptist.**

- THE BIBLE: Mark 1:4-11
- THE BIG IDEA: We know forgiveness because of Jesus.

WEEK 3

This week, kids follow the story of **Jesus calling Philip and Nathanael to be his disciples.**

- THE BIBLE: John 1:43-51
- THE BIG IDEA: Jesus knows us.

WEEK 4

This week, kids follow the story of **Jesus calling Andrew and Peter to be his disciples.**

- THE BIBLE: Mark 1:14-20; Luke 5:1-11
- THE BIG IDEA: Jesus wants us to follow him.

WEEK 5

This week, kids follow the story of **Jesus helping a suffering man, who was tormented by an evil spirit.**

- THE BIBLE: Mark 1:21-28
- THE BIG IDEA: The message of Jesus is powerful.

**MEMORY VERSE OF THE
MONTH:**
John 14:6 (NIV)

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Go to growcurriculum.org/John14-6