

The CHILDREN'S School

2025-2026 BULLETIN



WELCOME

The teaching staff of The Children's School warmly welcomes all children and parents. We are just as excited as you are for the upcoming school year!

We've prepared a full program for your child, and we look forward to working together to make this preschool experience enriching and enjoyable. Your suggestions and support are always welcome throughout the year.

NOTE: This information is very important. Please take the time to read it carefully before school begins.

PREPARING FOR SCHOOL ...

The excitement of the school year is in the air! This is a special and sometimes challenging time for both your child and you. School begins on **Monday, September 8th, or Tuesday, September 9th**, for some in Play Group.

On the first day, you are welcome to walk your child into the classroom or to the playground if they are in Play Group. After the first day, teachers will begin meeting children at their designated entrances.

Only the children and the staff will be in the school during class hours, unless special arrangements are made.

If you are purchasing school supplies, a backpack or bag to carry belongings would be helpful, as well as a water bottle for children in Miss Rachel and Miss Donna's classes.

Please make sure we have your children's Health Forms, the cut-out that was sent home for them to decorate, and a photo for their cubby. (Play Group also needs a photo on their sunflower). The teachers will create a thread to share general, not personal, information with you and the class.

DIRECTOR - Kathy Bishop holds a B.A. & M.S. degree in Early Childhood and Elementary Education from Long Island University, as well as an M.S. in Educational Leadership.

OFFICE MANAGER - Sotiria Souhrada has a B.S. degree in Marketing/Management and is currently pursuing an M.S. in Early Childhood Education.

TEACHING STAFF

***Pre-K/Nursery 5 Day Program 9 AM - 12 Noon**
Taught by **Donna Ledogar**, assisted by **Karina Ordonez**. Donna holds a B.S. in Education, N-6 from St. Joseph's College, and an M.S. in Education from Long Island University. Karina has been her assistant and serves as our Spanish teacher for the school.

***Nursery 4 Day Program 9 AM - 12 Noon**
Taught by **Rachel Bishop**, assisted by **Tiffany White** and **Kim Halsey**. Rachel holds a B.S. in Elementary Education from Southampton College.

Tiffany is certified in General and Special Education B-6 from St. Joseph's College. Kim has a degree in Science from Hofstra University and has been assisting for the past two years.

***Play Group 9 AM - 12 Noon**
Taught by **Kira Lysogorski** and **Felicia Burke**. Kira is certified in General and Special Education B-6 from St. Joseph's College. Felicia Burke is the assistant and art teacher for both classes.



ACTIVITIES

At The Children's School, every part of your child's day is designed with purpose. Our activities support key areas of early childhood development, helping children grow socially, emotionally, physically, and intellectually through joyful, hands-on learning experiences. Below are the core areas we focus on to build a strong foundation for lifelong success.

Language Development

Children expand vocabulary and communication through storytelling, conversation, songs, and dramatic play. These experiences build the foundation for strong literacy and social connections.

Physical Development

Daily movement—both indoors and outdoors—supports gross and fine motor skills, coordination, and body awareness. Activities like climbing, dancing, and drawing help strengthen both muscles and focus.



Social Development

Through group play, turn-taking, and cooperative tasks, children develop empathy, problem-solving skills, and learn how to build healthy friendships. Consistent routines and positive guidance support social growth.

Self-Awareness

Children grow in confidence as they recognize their feelings, needs, and personal strengths. Activities such as role-playing, sharing, and classroom jobs support a healthy sense of identity and belonging.

Self-Discipline

We help children develop self-control and independence by teaching routines, offering choices, and setting clear boundaries. Children learn to manage their emotions, follow directions, and take responsibility in a safe and supportive environment.

Science Readiness

Hands-on exploration invites children to observe, question, and experiment with the world around them. Nature walks, sensory bins, and simple experiments spark curiosity and early scientific thinking.

Reading Readiness

Story time, letter games, and language-rich play introduce children to the rhythm, sounds, and structure of language. These activities build phonemic awareness and early comprehension skills.

Math Readiness

Through counting, sorting, building, and engaging in pattern play, children begin to develop a foundational understanding of basic math concepts. We introduce numbers and logic in ways that feel natural, visual, and engaging.



MISS DONNA & MISS KARINA'S CLASS NEWS ... Laying the Groundwork for Lifelong Learning

Our Pre-K/Nursery Program, designed for children who are or will be 4 years old by February, helps your child develop into a curious, confident learner, ready for kindergarten and beyond.

- Monthly themes bring learning to life through books, art, music, science, and math
- Topics like “All About Me” and “Holidays Around the World” connect personal interests with new ideas
- Hands-on projects and guided play develop reading, writing, and problem-solving skills

We blend academics with movement, creativity, and fun: Baking, building, singing, dancing, discovery, and pretend play. Local field trips that turn classroom themes into real-world exploration. Your child will develop a strong academic foundation, a love of learning, and the social-emotional skills to thrive.

The class will be **greeted at the side door to the church**. Parents may bring the children into the classroom for the first day. Parents are also encouraged to talk to the teacher ahead of time about any separation problems, allergies, bathroom habits, or any other health issues.

**Remember, the class will have an altered schedule of 2 hours on the first day to ensure a positive experience and minimize any separation difficulties.*

Please leave a change of clothing, including socks, in a zip-lock bag with your child's name on it, for your child's cubby.

MISS RACHEL, MISS KIM, & MISS TIFFANY'S CLASS NEWS ... Building Confidence Through Exploration

Our Nursery Program encourages independence, imagination, and joyful learning. Your child will be given many opportunities to develop their language skills, as well as grow socially and intellectually.

- Thematic learning introduces new ideas like “Fall Changes,” “Animals in Winter,” and “Spring Gardens.”
- Children explore language, art, science, math, cooking, drama, and music through stories and hands-on experiences, such as cooking
- Play, build, create, question, and discover
- Sing, dance, act, participate in group activities, and take field trips
- Move their bodies outdoors with ball play, climbing, riding, and swinging

We create a nurturing space where curiosity is encouraged, and every child feels seen and supported.

The Nursery class will be **greeted at our Red Door**. Parents may bring the children into the classroom for the first day. Parents are encouraged to talk to the teacher ahead of time about any separation problems, allergies, bathroom habits, or any other health issues.

**Remember, the class will have an altered schedule of 2 hours on the first day to ensure a positive experience and minimize any separation difficulties.*

Please leave a change of clothing, including socks, in a zip-lock bag with your child's name on it, for your child's cubby.

*** Friday Friends:** If enrollment is not full in the 5-day class, children from other classes may join the class on Fridays.



PLAY GROUP NEWS

Gentle Beginnings. Big Milestones.

Our Play Group offers a warm, supportive introduction to the school experience. It's the perfect first step for young children, allowing them to spend time away from home in a nurturing and engaging environment.

- Small group activities focus on social skills, independence, language development, and fine motor skills
- Daily routines include singing, building, painting, storytelling, cooking, and dancing
- Outdoor play on our adventure playground builds large motor skills and confidence

Children are gently guided by caring teachers as they learn to express themselves, form friendships, and explore the world around them at their own pace.

Our Play Groups will be greeted at the **gate to the playground**, (at the red door on rainy days). Parents may bring their children to the playground and view the classroom for the first day.

Parents are also encouraged to talk to the teacher ahead of time about any separation problems, allergies, bathroom habits, or any other health issues.

To best meet the needs of our two-year-olds. **The group will come for one hour on the first day and then for two hours each day for the rest of the week.** The second week, we will begin from 9 to 12. This will maximize the child's opportunity to have a positive first experience at school.

Two-year-olds are not expected to be potty-trained when school begins. However, as the year goes on, they will be encouraged on an individual basis. If they are very recently potty trained, you must put on a pull-up for the first week and clothing that is easy to minimize accidents. The teachers will still remind them to use the bathroom. Please send in some diapers and a change of clothing, including socks, in a zip-lock bag with your child's name on it.



CLASS TIME

Arriving on time will help your child participate fully in our program. Please pick your child up on time as well. If an emergency occurs, please try to notify us. Chronic lateness will be charged to your bill. Be sure to notify the teachers in advance if someone other than yourself will be picking up your child. Children will not be released to anyone without prior notice from a parent.

Aftercare ... Some of our teachers are able to provide aftercare on an individual basis. If you are interested, arrangements must be made between you and the teacher.



CALENDARS AND NEWSLETTERS

Your child will bring home a month calendar outlining classroom themes and important highlights. In addition, you'll also receive *The Children's School Newsletter* at least once each season. Both are valuable tools for keeping you informed about what's happening in the classroom and what's coming up.

Teachers will also share photos throughout the year, and, at the end of the school year, your child will receive a special personalized yearbook- a keepsake filled with their artwork and photos capturing their preschool journey.



SNACKS

The children are given nutritious snacks such as fruits, vegetables, cheese, crackers, yogurt, and, of course, Goldfish. Please **do not send your child with his/her own snacks** unless medical needs require you to do so or arrangements have been made with the teacher. Children and staff eat **family-style**, and we use this opportunity to encourage good manners and consideration for others. Gum, candy, peanuts, or chocolate are not permitted in school.



TOYS FROM HOME

We kindly ask that children not bring toys or books from home, except on special occasions. Play Group children may bring a comfort toy if needed to help ease the transition.

The classroom is stocked with a wide variety of fun, engaging toys—all of which are sanitized daily for your child's safety.



BIRTHDAYS AT SCHOOL ...

We love celebrating birthdays in the classroom! Please make arrangements with your child's teacher *in advance*. If you are providing a birthday snack, we kindly ask that you *avoid chocolate and candy*. Great alternatives include *fruit, bagels, muffins, or ice cream cups*.

Please remember that ***some children have peanut and dairy allergies***, and ***we are a nut-free facility***. Your cooperation helps keep all of our students safe.



FIELD TRIPS ...

This year, Miss Donna's and Miss Rachel's classes will enjoy some fun field trips to local places of interest! Please note that Playgroup classes do not participate in field trips. For safety, *all children under the age of four must have a car seat or booster for transportation*.



SICK DAYS ...

For everyone's safety, teachers will do a quick daily health check each morning. If your child becomes ill at school, we will contact you. Please make sure we have your current emergency numbers.

If your child has a fever, cough, or any other contagious symptoms, they must stay home and remain out for 24 hours after symptoms end or after starting medication. This helps keep everyone healthy.

Please call us at **631-488-4140** if your child will be absent or has symptoms.



SNOWDAYS ...

In case of bad weather, we will send a text or email. Please be sure we have your updated contact information.

If Southampton Schools close for the weather, we likely will too.

We rarely have delayed openings, but if we do, or if we need to close after the day has started, we will notify you right away with any changes to pick-up.



Get Involved

PARENTS INVOLVEMENT

While classroom participation isn't required, we love finding ways for families to get involved! Sign-up sheets for class parents will be available at Open House.

Field trips and special days are also a good way to get involved.

Teachers are always available for questions, and Parent/Teacher Conferences are held annually.

FUND RAISER

Our fundraising events are an important part of supporting the program- and they're lots of fun!

Last year's Tropical Soiree was a big success with auctions, dancing, and great food. Special thanks to all the parents who helped make it so special!

These events help keep our program running smoothly, and we would love your help making this year just as amazing.

Stay tuned for details, and feel free to share your ideas!



TUITION PAYMENTS

We've divided the yearly tuition into 10 monthly payments, due on the 1st of each month (September-June). Your deposit will go toward June's payment.

Please include your payment coupon each month, and mail your payment to:

**P.O. Box 292
Southampton, NY 11969**

Or drop it off at **160 Main Street**. Need more coupons?

Just let us know! If you would like a **different payment schedule**, please talk with Kathy. If you would like us to charge your credit card, fill out the credit card section on your payment booklet.

Reminder: September's payment is due **before the first day of school**. If you take your child away for a vacation, please note that tuition must be paid to hold their spot.

ANY QUESTIONS ????

September will be dedicated to helping the children adjust to their new environment and building friendships. We've planned a variety of "getting acquainted" activities and projects to support this transition.

In our next newsletter, we'll share more details about upcoming activities.

If you still have questions about the start of school, the curriculum, or the first day of class, please feel free to contact Kathy Bishop or Ria Souhrada at **631-488-4140**. Our email is:

TheChildrensSchoolSouthampton@gmail.com