Immanuel Lutheran Preschool

501 Glad Street Schleswig, Iowa 51461 (712) 676-2235 immanuelschleswig@gmail.com

Dear Immanuel Preschool Family,

Welcome to the 2022-23 school year! Are you ready to watch God move? I believe part of the joy in our classroom comes from the anticipation and expectation of what He plans to do in and through each of us. I am looking forward to seeing how He will bring His plans to fruition in the children and the staff. I would encourage everyone to be preparing for the year by praying and seeking God for the children. The beginning of the year can be a time of great excitement but it can also be partnered with an element of anxiety. Please join me as we ask our Heavenly Father to cover the littles with His peace that passes all understanding. We want everyone's first days to be filled with the awe of Jesus' great love for them!

We will be hosting our fall Open House/Supply Drop-Off on Tuesday, August 23rd from 5:00-8:00 p.m. During this time, you will meet with our preschool administrative assistant, Lisa, in the church library to turn in your forms for the year. Please be sure all forms are completed in full. You will be asked to pay your first month's tuition and to provide a blank check for automatic withdrawals in the future. We request that you be certain to have at least two check blanks along with you to complete these two items of business. Your initial check will include tuition, an optional photo book, and an optional class t-shirt. The t-shirts are worn by the class in the Calf Show Day Parade in September. The process moves along much more smoothly if you have all forms from your packet completed. Once you have turned in your forms and paid tuition, you will be able to drop off your school supplies (list is in your packet, available on Facebook page, or on the church website under Preschool and forms) in the Sunday School room/coat room and the preschool will be open for the children to reacclimate themselves. I will be available to answer any questions you may have for me.

The State of Iowa requires all students in the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program have the opportunity for home visits from their teachers. I and my associate will plan to conduct these visits on Monday, August 22. I will include a link for sign-up. This applies only to students who attend the afternoon class. If your child attends the morning session, we will wait and visit your home next year. The visit will last about 15 minutes. The goal is simply to connect with your child in their home environment where they feel comfortable and safe. It is typically a highlight of the year for the children. We will answer any questions you have for the upcoming year and visit about program expectations. I realize that not everyone will be available on that Monday and if you would prefer to connect during Open House on Tuesday, I completely understand. Please just send me an email on Seesaw or at <u>lesliegustafson@schleswig.k12.ia.us</u> and let me know. If you have your forms ready at your home visit, I'd be happy to take them with me and Lisa can go through them prior to the Open House. She has indicated this would be helpful to avoid congestion. I will provide a link for Home Visit sign-ups. The link will lead to a Google Doc. This will open best in Google Chrome. If you have another browser, you may need to copy and paste the link rather than just click on it. <u>Home Visit Sign-Up Sheet</u>

All students who attend in the afternoon and live in the district are eligible to ride the bus to school. The school graciously runs a pick-up route prior to the afternoon session and in the afternoon the children ride home with the "big school" children. Those children attending in the morning who live in the district are also eligible to ride the bus to school. There is no bussing available upon dismissal. If your child will be attending Under the Son Daycare, I will know more in the next week regarding transportation available following preschool. Lila Bubke is a community and church member who is also very gracious to provide transportation following the morning class. You may contact her directly. All students who will be riding a bus will need to contact the Schleswig Community School and let them know. They will be working on bus routes in the near future and the sooner they know the more helpful it will be for the transportation director. The number for the school is (712) 676-3314.

If you have not yet signed up for your Seesaw account, please be sure to check your SPAM for the invite or request a form at Open House. You should have received your invite in the spring but with varied registration times we may have missed someone. We apologize if this is the case. Also, if you did not receive a packet of forms, please contact the church office ASAP. Your child will need a physical prior to the first day of class. I apologize for any inconvenience, however, due to State laws we are unable to make exceptions. We MUST have the physical and all paperwork prior to attendance on the first day. If we do not, your child will need to delay their first day of class until it has been received.

Also, if your plans have changed for the upcoming school year, please let us know. We do have a Waitlist for our morning class. If your child is unable to attend, we want to let those on the Waitlist know with ample time to complete their paperwork. And finally, I want everyone to know we consider ourselves family. We want you to know we will not only be loving on your children for the next nine months, but we want to do all we can to come alongside your whole family. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to assist you during the year. We love to listen, pray, and encourage your whole family. If your child has siblings, we want to get to know them too. God has made us brothers and sisters through Jesus. Please don't hesitate to let us know how we can help!

Serving Him with you,

Mrs. Gustafson

Prayer: Father God, I cannot thank you enough for the opportunity to share Your love with the children. I ask as we head into the month prior to the beginning of the school year that each family knows Your peace. I pray for a joy beyond earthly words, patience as everyone adjusts to new schedules, and an overwhelming sense of Your love as the transition to the year is made. I pray for parents as they may be leaving their children at school for the first time. I ask that You ease all anxiety and fill their children with an expectation and excitement which is contagious. I ask that Your Holy Spirit will fill each child and parent who attends Immanuel, and we will all walk in the fullness of knowing how very much You love us! Thank You, Father for the gift of Your Son and providing us with Your Spirit to guide and fill us. We ask Your wisdom, protection, and blessing upon the school year. In Jesus' name, Amen.