



## Back to School

Thank you for joining us at the Meet the Teachers picnic. It was such a joy to see so many kids playing and families connecting with each other! We cannot wait to welcome families back to DCP for the General Membership Meeting on Thursday, Sept 8 and the first week of classes Sept 12-16.



***Please remember to have your child(ren) bring one wallet photo of them***

***portrait style and one 4x6 family photo to the first day of school. Preschool students also need to bring a folder and a labeled, fresh water bottle each day.***

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## KEY DATES AHEAD

**September 8, 6:30pm - September General Membership Meeting.** *At least 1 parent/guardian per household must attend.* Please bring a chair to sit on, we'll meet in the parking lot.

### **September 12-16 - FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL**

**September 12-16** - Morning coffee chats after drop-off. Coffee and pastries will be provided from Fresh Start.

**September 16** Final day to order DCP apparel through the [school store](#).

**October 6, 7pm** - Board of Directors Meeting

\*Visit your [Jovial Family Portal](#) to download and submit necessary forms, and the [22/23 School Year Information Center](#) for additional information. All paperwork **must** be completed prior to your child's first day in order to adhere to licensing requirements. Any questions, please reach out to [communications@dcpkids.com](mailto:communications@dcpkids.com)

## Full Calendar

### Our Inaugural GMM is Almost Here!

Our General Membership Meetings are once every few months and provide a forum for all members to gather, exchange ideas, vote on current issues, and collaborate on plans for the future.

Our first GMM of the year is this upcoming Thursday, September 8, at 6:30pm. **At least one family member from each active household is required to attend the GMM.**

We'll review the state of the Cooperative, vote on current business, and meet our committees to plan for the school year. Children are welcome to play in the gated, grassy courtyard. After the GMM, committees will be meeting briefly. See you there!

Location: Delaware Cooperative Preschool parking lot (weather permitting), lawn chairs are welcome. In the event of inclement weather we will use the Asbury UMC McCoy Room.

If you have any questions, please contact [communications@dcpkids.com](mailto:communications@dcpkids.com).

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### School Apparel



As we kick off our school year, we have some new school spirit in the form of tie-dye t-shirts and other DCP apparel! Please visit our [SCHOOL STORE](#) to place your orders by September 16. Items will arrive within a few weeks and will be available for pickup at DCP once they're available.

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### Frequently Asked Questions

We have a lot of frequently asked questions, so here are a few along with a link to the [FAQ on our website](#) where you can find even more helpful information.

- *Are masks required this year?*  
As long as community levels are Low or

Medium, the use of masks by students, staff and parents in the classroom is optional. For those students whose parents/guardians choose to continue mask use at school, teachers will continue to provide support as needed.

- *How can I connect with the teachers?* Our preschool classroom will be utilizing an app called Bloomz, there is more info on this below. You'll also be able to chat with

your  
teachers  
during  
drop-  
off  
and  
pickup.

- *How  
do  
we  
know  
if  
we  
have  
"done  
everything"  
paperwork  
wise?*  
Our  
office  
manager,  
Jen,  
is  
working  
tirelessly  
on  
processing  
the  
paperwork  
that  
has  
been  
submitted  
in  
jovial  
and  
in  
person.  
She  
will  
let  
you  
know  
if  
there  
is  
something  
that  
you  
are  
missing.  
Checking  
our  
[Information  
Center](#)  
on  
our  
website  
is  
a  
great  
resource  
as  
well  
as  
in

your  
[Jovial  
Family  
Portal.](#)

- *Is the COVID policy on the website accurate?*  
Yes.  
We will follow the CDC's operational guidance of Prek-12 schools and early care and education programs to support safe in person learning, which is linked at the bottom of our website [here](#).  
When you sign in your child at drop-off, you will be required to acknowledge your child has not been

experiencing  
any  
symptoms  
in  
our  
**Communicable  
Disease  
Checklist.**

- *How  
do  
bathroom  
breaks  
work  
in  
the  
preschool  
room?  
Does  
my  
kid  
really  
need  
to  
be  
potty  
trained?  
Potty  
breaks  
are  
encouraged  
several  
times  
throughout  
our  
day.  
As  
we  
transition  
from  
circle  
to  
snack,  
then  
snack  
to  
outside,  
and  
any  
other  
time  
we  
are  
having  
a  
big  
change,  
we  
individually  
ask  
the  
children  
if  
they  
need  
to  
go.*

This  
new  
atmosphere  
with  
new  
materials  
and  
friends  
can  
be  
very  
distracting  
and  
children  
will  
forget  
until  
it's  
too  
late.  
We  
make  
every  
attempt  
to  
intervene  
before  
that  
point.  
Occasional  
accidents  
are  
part  
of  
any  
preschool  
classroom,  
but  
daily  
ones  
become  
disruptful  
and  
embarrassing  
to  
the  
child.  
Reach  
out  
to  
your  
pediatrician  
if  
you  
feel  
stuck  
in  
the  
potty  
training  
process.

- *How  
does  
is  
work  
if*

*your child is in diapers in the toddler room?*  
Parents should send in any diapering necessities and a full change of clothes each day. Staff will confer with families on arrival to discuss when children might need a diaper change or toilet break.

- *What are the snack guidelines?*  
Snacks are provided by the parent volunteer for the day. Because some children may have life-threatening reactions



to  
certain  
food  
items,  
please  
**do  
not  
provide  
any  
snack  
items  
with  
blueberries,  
nuts,  
or  
peanuts.**  
Please  
see  
the  
handbook  
for  
more  
information.  
The  
handbook  
is  
currently  
being  
finalized  
for  
the  
upcoming  
school  
year.

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## Coffee Chat

Feel free to hand out after drop-off during the first week of school for coffee and pastries. It will be a great time to meet other parents, ask any questions you may have, and enjoy some food and coffee provided by Fresh Start.



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## Classroom Volunteering

If you completed your background check at the Meet the Teacher event, please monitor your email for notification that your background check has processed. Once this occurs you will need to go to our websites [Information Center](#) and view instructions under September 7- OCCRRA Non-Ratio Employee Request is Due- Part 1 of 2. Both parts of this process must be completed before you can volunteer in the classroom.

*What are the responsibilities as the classroom volunteer?*

- \* Please bring a healthy snack for the whole class ([see snack guidelines in FAQ](#))
- \* Classroom volunteers must arrive by 9:00 AM for Preschool and by 9:15 AM for Toddler Time.
- \* During the class period: complete cleaning duties as outlined.
- \* During the class period: complete tasks as requested by the teacher.
- \* Enjoy your time with your child and his/her classmates in the classroom.
- \* Complete closing cleaning duties, as outlined on the daily cleaning checklist.

To view a more detailed list, visit our [Policies & Procedures](#) page.

***For anyone who still needs a background check, you can come to the GMM at 6pm to receive one.***

[Classroom Volunteer Signup - Toddler Time](#)

[Classroom Volunteer Signup - Preschool](#)

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## Jovial Family Portal

Jovial is the software that DCP will be using for paperwork, attendance, and tuition collection. It will also be our hub for registrations, forms, fundraising, etc. so it is essentially a one-stop-shop! When you login to your [Jovial Family Portal](#), you will see requirements for your students' file, tuition balances due, etc. Tuition payments are now available in the family portal, however we also accept checks and money orders through traditional mail or the school drop box. Families have the option to pay in 3 invoice installments or the entire year at once.

If you have any questions about Jovial, please email [communications@dcpkids.com](mailto:communications@dcpkids.com) or [treasurer@dcpkids.com](mailto:treasurer@dcpkids.com)

[Jovial Family Portal](#)

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## Wanted: Classroom Substitutes



As DCP prepares for the 2022-2023 school year, we are always looking for people interested in substitute teaching for our Preschool and Toddler Time classrooms. If you have interest in subbing for DCP this year, please contact Jen Rahde at [communications@dcpkids.com](mailto:communications@dcpkids.com) to get started on the process! We'd love to add you to our amazing substitute list!

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## Preschool Classroom Communication - Bloomz App

Bloomz makes it easy for teachers to securely share photos and classroom updates, reach parents through messaging, and coordinate events. The preschool class will be using the Bloomz app to communicate with families.

Sign up using this code: 2HR9C7

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## Montessori Moment

### Easing the Transition for Parents and Children

In [Daniel Tiger: Life's Little Lessons](#), they will focus on how you can help children work on feelings about separation and independence, memory skills, developing self-control, and expressing feelings.



This exciting time of year can come with a lot of anxieties and worries. Another way to help prepare your child(ren) for school is to talk about school and what to expect. A good children's story is "The Night Before Preschool," you can watch it being read [here](#) with your child(ren).

Also, please stop by the coffee chat after drop-off each morning during the first week of school. You can connect with other parents who are going through this new transition as well as chat with board members.



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