



## Newsletter August 2023

Welcome to the Dayspring community! We are so excited to start this new school year with all the promise it brings. Here are some things to help make this school year exciting, successful and safe.

### Family Morning

Please join us on **Wednesday, August 9th between 9:00 am and 12:00 pm**, for our Family Morning. This is an opportunity for you and your child to come visit the classroom, ask questions, drop off clothes and forms, and meet the teachers and administrators. *The medical center next door will be repaving their parking lot on August 9 and 10, so access to that area may be limited.*

### Teaching Staff

We are thrilled to introduce our teaching staff for the 2023-2024 school year:

- Room 1: **Ms. Hyatt** and **Ms. Lauren**
- Room 2: **Ms. Yesenia** and **Ms. Azi**
- Room 3: **Ms. Preeti** and **Ms. Lyndia**
- Room 4: **Ms. Jyoti** and **Ms. Melia**

**Ms. Rica** will be our support staff, working with all classrooms for breaks and projects. All of the teachers can be reached through Brightwheel. **Ms. Kim** is in charge of the front desk. You can reach her at [info@dayspringpreschool.org](mailto:info@dayspringpreschool.org).

**Ms. Grace** is our Assistant Director. You can reach her at [grace@dayspringpreschool.org](mailto:grace@dayspringpreschool.org). And I, **Ms. Maria**, executive director can be reached at [maria@dayspringpreschool.org](mailto:maria@dayspringpreschool.org). We would love to hear from you, so please do not hesitate to contact us at 925-389-2044.

### Church Back to School Carnival & Picnic

Danville Congregational Church is hosting a back to school carnival and picnic on **Sunday, August 6, at 11am in the Great Hall**. There will be games, prizes, face painting and more! Plus hot dogs, popcorn and root beer floats. RSVP to Ms. Kim if you plan to attend.

## Health and Safety at School

Our primary concern is the health and safety of our students, staff and families. Please remember that Dayspring is a **no-nut facility**, so peanut butter and any other nuts are not allowed in lunch boxes, birthday treats or goodie bags. If your child likes peanut butter, sunbutter is a potential replacement that is permitted at school. There are children with severe allergies to nuts, so your compliance is highly valued.

## Health Checks

We are looking for any signs of illness, especially respiratory ones like runny nose or cough. When a child is sick he/she will not be able to perform well in school and is likely to spread the illness to other children and staff. Therefore, Dayspring Preschool strongly suggests that you **should NOT** send your child to school if he/she has:

- **Common cold** – irritated throat, watery discharge from the nose or eyes, sneezing, chills, and/or general body aches.
- **Cough** – Cough that interferes with the child's ability to fully participate in classroom activities.
- **Fever** – If the child's temperature is 99.9 degrees or higher, the child should remain at home until they are FEVER FREE for a full 24 hours without medication.
- **Flu** – symptoms include abrupt onset of fever, chills, headache, and sore throat. Your child should remain at home until the symptoms are gone and they are without a fever for a full 24 hours.
- **Pain**– If your child complains or their behavior indicates they are having persistent pain, they should see a doctor before being sent to school.
- **Pinkeye** – The white of the eye appears red, swollen, burns, itches, or has pus-like drainage. This requires treatment from a doctor. Your child may return to school after taking antibiotic treatment for 24 hours.
- **Strep Throat** – The throat appears severely red, swollen, or has whitish pus spots. Other symptoms include throat soreness, fever, swollen glands of the neck, nausea, or vomiting. This requires treatment from a doctor. Your child may return to school after taking antibiotic treatment for 24 hours and vomiting and fever have resolved.
- **Vomiting & Diarrhea** –Your child should remain at home without vomiting, diarrhea, or fever for a full 24 hours.

Thank you for adhering to this policy for the health and safety of everyone at Dayspring.

## Parking Lot Safety

Our parking lot can be busy, especially at drop off and pick up times. Please **hold your child's hand** as you walk from your car to the school. Drive slowly and watch for cars driving through to the medical center.

## Dropoff and Pickup Procedures

Please park in the preschool designated parking spots that are located in front of the school entrance. **Sign in your child using the Brightwheel app.** The QR code is located at the front table and classroom entrances. Additionally, we have a paper sign-in form at the front desk for grandparents, babysitters and others who don't have their own Brightwheel code. Teachers are required to do a health check as each child arrives. It is important that you drop off your child with a teacher so he/she can be acknowledged and supervised. The same procedures are followed during pick up time, so please make sure you inform the teachers, and sign out your child in Brightwheel before you depart from Dayspring.

You can **customize your Brightwheel code** if you choose. Instructions for finding and customizing your code can be found [here](#).

We ask that you **make your drop off routine very consistent**, especially for the first few weeks of school. You may help your child wash their hands and put their belongings away and then say good-bye and go. By keeping your good-byes brief for the first weeks of school you will allow the teachers to build relationships with your child and the children will learn the routine. We are happy to talk more about this if you'd like.

## Door Codes

For our returning families, please continue to use the door code you are already familiar with. For our new families, please try the door code you have selected in your paperwork. For any issues, contact Ms. Kim or Ms. Maria. Please note, your door code is different from your Brightwheel code. **We ask that only adults enter the door codes and touch the front door handles (inside and outside).**

## Arrival and Departure Times

Each child is enrolled for the schedule you selected. For example, **if your child is enrolled for the School Day schedule, that means that the earliest they can start is 8:30 am and the latest they can be picked up is 3:30 pm.** Dropping them earlier than 8:30 am or picking them up later than 3:30 pm could make them subject to the early/late pickup fee (\$1/minute). If you need to make a change to your schedule, please let either myself or Ms. Kim know. Our drop in

rate is \$20/hour. Please call or email us if you need drop in time and we will do our best to accommodate.

### Extra Clothes

Each child is asked to bring a full change of clothes (including underwear and socks) in case an emergency change is needed. These clothes will be kept in a labeled ziploc bag in the classroom cabinets.

### Shoes and Attire

Shoes are to be appropriate for active play. Shoes need to have a secure back strap. **Slip-on or flip-flop style shoes are not permitted.** Please dress your children in clothes that are comfortable, weather appropriate and can be easily washed of paint, glitter, goop, etc. Preschool can get messy and we want to make sure both you and your child are happy with the results. Also, please no long necklaces, purses or other things that hang around the neck.

### Sunscreen Application

Parents are responsible for applying sunscreen in the morning. If you would like sunscreen applied to your child in the afternoon please bring the sunscreen (no sprays) and complete and sign the permission slip. If you already have sunscreen at school and a form on file you do not need to do anything. Please see Ms. Kim if you have any questions.

### Birthday Celebrations

Birthdays are a memorable time for children. Dayspring staff will celebrate your child's birthday with a song and a crown. In addition, parents may bring small, non-sugary, nut-free, store bought treats. If families choose to bring cupcakes, please ensure they are the mini ones. The treats will be served during snack time. If you do not want your child to eat a cupcake/treat please communicate that to your child's teachers or the administrative staff. Due to allergies, we require parents to inform us about classroom treats three days prior to the birthday, so we can advise all families in the classroom.

### Parent Referral Bonus

Most of our enrollment is through word of mouth, and we love you all for it. To express our appreciation, we are offering parent referral bonuses. If someone you refer enrolls with us, we will give you a bonus as our way of saying thank you! We have just a few open spots that we'd love to fill with family and friends.

## Room Parent Participation Program

We are thrilled to continue our room parent participation program where families can participate in the preschool and have a positive influence on the program. We are looking for Room Parents for each classroom to help coordinate activities and events. If you are interested in being a part of this program, please send Ms. Klm or Ms. Maria an email indicating your interest. The first parent from each room who emails me will become the Room Parent for the first half of the school year, and the second parent who emails me will become the Room Parent for the second half of the school year.

## What to Bring

### For the first day of school, please bring:

- All completed and signed paperwork
- Set of extra clothes
- Diapers & wipes if needed
- Dayspring tote bag - all children will be given one - **no backpacks or other bags, please**
- Water bottle with name on it
- Any medications required for school with signed physician's letter
- A family photo (will be used in a classroom activity)
- **Please do not bring any toys from home**

### If your child will stay for the afternoon:

- Sunscreen + permission form
- Lunch (no nuts) and ice pack for lunch if needed
- One small lovey for rest time (we provide a nap mat, sheet and blanket)

## Important Dates:

- **Sunday, August 6th:** Church Back to School Carnival and Picnic at 11:00 am
- **August 7th & 8th:** Closed for Teacher Workdays
- **Wednesday, August 9th:** Family Morning from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm, before and after those times school is closed.
- **Thursday, August 10th:** First day of school
- **Monday, September 4th-** Closed for Labor Day
- **Wednesday September 13th:** Room 1 and 2 Back to School Night
- **Thursday September 14th:** Room 3 and 4 Back to School Night
- **Thursday, September 28:** Picture Day

Contact me with any questions, concerns or comments. We are looking forward to a fun and exciting year of learning!

Best regards,  
Maria Arroyo

## Teacher Bios

**Ms. Hyatt** was born in the United States and raised in Jordan. She has a BA in English Literature and a Teacher Assistant Permit from the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing. Ms. Hyatt is happy and excited to teach and learn with your children.

**Ms. Lauren** has lived in the Bay Area for about 13 years. She is currently studying to earn an associate degree in Early Childhood Education. She has been a preschool teacher for 6 years. Ms. Lauren says, "I believe parent communication is key to children's growth and learning. I am looking forward to a great year with your children."

**Ms. Yesenia** was born and raised in Guadalajara, Mexico. She came to the United States at the age of twelve. She is a mother of two amazing girls, Jimena and Yahania. She has completed 40 early childhood units at Los Medanos College. She has been in the Early Childhood field for the last sixteen years, working with infants, toddlers and preschoolers. It is her purpose to always promote the well-being of all children by providing a nurturing, safe and healthy environment where each child can continue to learn and grow.

**Ms. Azadeh** is from Tehran, Iran. She has associate degrees in accounting and Early Childhood Development and is currently studying at SFSU to complete her bachelor's degree. She has over six years experience as a preschool teacher and has also worked with children with learning challenges. Ms. Azi says, "I am grateful for the opportunity to make a positive impact on the lives of young learners and their families every day. Together, let's embrace the joy of learning and create a foundation for a lifelong love of knowledge!" In her spare time she is an avid cook and baker. She also enjoys exploring nature with her husband and teen-aged daughter.

**Ms. Preeti** grew up in India. She has been in the field of Early Childhood Education for the past 24 years. She has a Master's degree in Leadership in Early Childhood from Mills College and a Site Supervisor Certification from the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing. This is her fourth year as a teacher in Room 3 and she has been a part of the Dayspring community since 2017. Ms. Preeti says, "I genuinely enjoy caring for young children and it gives me joy to be part of their learning and development. I look forward to working together with parents to be a partner in their child's growth and development." When she is not with children she is gardening, cooking or traveling.

This is **Ms. Lindya's** sixth year of teaching at Dayspring. She received her degree from Sydney Kindergarten Teacher's College in Sydney, Australia. She has been a preschool teacher for more than 20 years. In her spare time she loves to bake and teach tennis. She is a mother of two grown sons and a grandma to two grandbabies. Ms. Lindya says, "I feel lucky to be able to work with your wonderful children."

**Ms. Jyoti** has a Master's degree in History and a Master's in Philosophy from India. She also has a Site Supervisor certification. She has 21 years of experience as a Pre-K teacher. Ms. Jyoti says, "My primary goal as an educator is to help children learn and fully utilize their hidden potential, and use it the best possible way for their growth and well-being. It is my privilege to work with your wonderful children and I am looking forward to getting to know all of you."

**Ms. Melia** holds a BA from SFSU, an MFA from LMU and earned her Early Childhood Education permit through DVC. She has been teaching preschool in the east bay for three years and loves every second of it! In her free time she enjoys fostering kittens and trying new sushi restaurants. She looks forward to getting to know you and your children better.

**Ms. Rica** is a 25 year resident of Danville. She has been married for 28 years and has one daughter. She holds a Bachelor's degree in business and is credentialed in Early Childhood Education. She has been with Dayspring for eight years now, where she assists teachers with maintaining their classrooms as well as their daily routine. She enjoys shopping and dining out in her free time.

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## Snack Menu

August 2023					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	7	8	9	10	11
	Teacher Workday CLOSED	Teacher Workday CLOSED	Family Morning	Pretzels Bananas	Trail Mix Fruit Salad
Week 2	14	15	16	17	18
	String Cheese Watermelon	Ritz Crackers Baby Carrots Ranch Dip Bananas	Wheat Thins Vanilla Greek Yogurt	Waffles Apple Sauce	Cheerios Milk Raisins
Week 3	21	22	23	24	25
	Graham Crackers Cucumbers Ranch Dip	Pita Bread Hummus	Saltine Crackers Apple Wedges	Wheat Thins Apples	Trail Mix Fruit Salad
Week 4	28	29	30	31	1
	Toast Fruit Spread	Goldfish Crackers Orange Wedges	Vanilla Wafers Vanilla Greek Yogurt	Cheez-Its Cherry Tomatoes	Cheerios Milk Raisins

We serve fresh fruits and vegetables whenever possible. Substitutions may occur based on availability. Milk is provided at lunchtime. Children bring their own lunches from home.