



## Newsletter August 2024

Welcome to the Dayspring community! We are so excited to start this new school year with all the promise it brings. For those parents who are returning to us this month, WELCOME BACK! We have missed your child and are excited to spend another year with them and you. NEW PARENTS: We are excited to spend the year learning and growing with your child. We understand that this is going to be a new experience for you and your child in many ways. In this newsletter, you will find essential things to help make this school year exciting, successful and safe.



### Family Morning-Orientation

Please join us on **Monday, August 12th, at 9:30 am**. This is an opportunity for you and your child to come visit the classroom, ask questions, drop off clothes and forms, review our program policies and procedures, and meet the teachers and administrators.

### 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. The California Department of Public Health recommends checking with your child's pediatrician to make sure immunizations are up to date.

## 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.

## Classroom Assignments

We are thrilled to introduce our teaching staff for the 2024-2025 school year:

CLASSROOM ONE	CLASSROOM TWO	CLASSROOM THREE	CLASSROOM FOUR
Ms. Cecilia	Ms. Brittany	Ms. Preeti	Ms. Yesenia
Ms. Lauren	Ms. Azi	Ms. Kate	Ms. Alma
Ms. Lindya		Ms. Grace	
<b>FLOATERS</b>			
Ms. Rica	Ms. Gelay	Ms. Jyoti	
T, W, TH 10:30-3:30	M- F 7:00- 4:00	M-F 11:00-5:00	

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, and can be reached at [grace@dayspringpreschool.org](mailto:grace@dayspringpreschool.org). I, **Ms. Maria**, executive director can be contacted at [maria@dayspringpreschool.org](mailto:maria@dayspringpreschool.org). We would love to hear from you, so please do not hesitate to message us via Brightwheel or 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 11, at 11am in the Great Hall**. There will be games, prizes, a cake walk and more! Plus hot dogs, popcorn and root beer floats. RSVP to Ms. Kim if you plan to attend.

## Dropoff and Pickup Procedures

Please park in the preschool-designated parking spots in front of the school entrance. **It is a licensing requirement that all children be signed in and out by the parent or guardian.** You can use the Brightwheel app, or the paper sign-in form. At the front desk, we have an iPad where you can punch in your Brightwheel code, sign, and submit, or you can scan the QR code located at the front table and classroom entrances, input your Brightwheel code, sign and submit or use the hard copy sign-in form located 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, we will enter the door code you have chosen in your paperwork once we receive it. 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 \$22/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 season-appropriate clothes (including underwear and socks) in case a 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. Kim 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 in original packaging 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

<i>August 5<sup>th</sup> &amp; 6<sup>th</sup></i>	<b>Dayspring Closed for All</b>	
<i>August 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup></i>	<b>Teacher Workdays</b>	Dayspring Closed to All Families
<i>Sunday, August 11<sup>th</sup></i>	<b>Church Back to School Carnival and Picnic at 11:00 am</b>	
<i>Monday, August 12<sup>th</sup></i>	<b>Family Morning</b>	From 9:30 to 10:30 am; before and after those times school is closed
<i>Tuesday, August 13<sup>th</sup></i>	<b>First Day of School</b>	
<i>Monday, September 2<sup>nd</sup></i>	<b>Closed for Labor Day Holiday</b>	
<i>Tuesday, September 17<sup>th</sup></i>	<b>Picture Day</b>	
<i>Wednesday September 25<sup>th</sup></i>	<b>Back to School Night</b>	

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. Alma** was born in Guadalajara, Mexico, and came to the United States when she was 23 years old. She has more than 19 years of experience working with young children, the last seven of which have been in a preschool setting. She is passionate about teaching and helping children to be happy and healthy learners. She has been married for 29 years and has three children, two boys and one girl. In her free time she loves baking, sewing, and gardening.

**Ms. Azadeh**, originally from Tehran, Iran, is a dedicated preschool teacher with a passion for nurturing young minds. She holds an Associate degree in both Accounting and Early Childhood Education and is currently pursuing her Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education. With seven years of experience in preschool education, Ms. Azadeh has a special interest in working with children who have learning challenges, ensuring every child receives the support they need to thrive. Ms. Azadeh believes deeply in the potential of children, describing them as valuable treasures within every community because they represent the promise of the future. She enjoys spending time with her teenage daughter and husband, exploring nature, cooking, and baking delicious treats.

**Ms. Brittany** has a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education from San Francisco State University and 20 years of experience as a preschool teacher from the two year old program to the Pre-K program. Her daughter attended Dayspring and her son will be enrolling this year. Ms. Brittany says, "I feel the love of learning is best accomplished through active exploration, experience, and interaction. I hope to provide endless possibilities for creativity, exploration, and discovery. I'm so excited to join this Dayspring community!"

**Ms. Cecilia** was born in El Salvador and immigrated to the United States in 1989. She has been working in the Early Childhood Education field since 1990. She is dedicated, high-energy, creative, flexible, enthusiastic, nurturing and a team player. Her goal is to ensure that children and families have a smooth transition through each stage of their lives. Ms. Cecilia is happy and excited to teach and learn with your children.

**Ms. Gelay** lives in Plattsburg and she also grew up in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. This is her second year working in early childhood education and she loves it. Her favorite hobbies are cooking and painting and she loves being organized and learning new things every day. Ms. Gelay says, "Everyday is a good day; not everything that shines is gold!"

**Ms. Grace** came to the U.S. from the Philippines in the year 2000. She has a Bachelor's degree in English and a Master Teacher certification from the California Commission for Teacher Credentialing. For four years she worked with children with special needs and as a Preschool and Pre-K Teacher for the

past 20 years. She has been with Dayspring initially as pioneer teacher for seven years and has since rejoined as Assistant Director in April 2021. She loves to read, cook, bake and do crossword puzzles. She also enjoys traveling and exploring different cuisines with her husband, Mark.

**Ms. Jyoti** has a Master's degree in History and a Master's degree in Philosophy from India. She also has a Site Supervisor certification. She has 22 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. Kate** holds a Bachelor's degree in Education from Brest State University in Belarus and is credentialed in Early Childhood Education in California. As a preschool teacher, Ms. Kate believes that every child is unique. She is happy to assist them in their lifelong learning journey that starts in early childhood in a warm, creative, and developmentally appropriate environment. Ms. Kate enjoys spending her free time reading, meeting with friends, and exploring the beauty of nature with her husband and her young daughter.

**Ms. Lauren** has lived in the Bay Area for about 14 years. She is currently studying to earn an Associate degree in Early Childhood Education. She has been a preschool teacher for 7 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."

This is **Ms. Lindya's** seventh 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 three grandbabies. Ms. Lindya says, "I feel lucky to be able to work with your wonderful children."

**Ms. Preeti** grew up in India. She has been in the field of Early Childhood Education for the past 25 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 fifth 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.



**Ms. Rica** is a 25 year resident of Danville. She has been married for 30 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 over 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.

**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 seventeen years. Throughout the years she has worked 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.



## Snack Menu

August 2024					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	5	6	7	8	9
	CLOSED	CLOSED	Teacher Workday CLOSED	Teacher Workday CLOSED	Teacher Workday CLOSED
Week 2	12	13	14	15	16
	Family Morning	Chex Mix Apples Milk	Wheat Thins Oranges Water	Pita Bread Hummus Water	Cheerios Raisins Milk
Week 3	19	20	21	22	23
	Graham Crackers Watermelon Water	Waffles Apple Sauce Milk	Saltine Crackers Oranges Water	Vanilla Wafers Greek Yogurt	Trail Mix Milk
Week 4	26	27	28	29	30
	Toast Fruit Spread Milk	Club Crackers Oranges Water	Pasta Cucumbers Water	Vanilla Greek Yogurt Strawberries	Cheerios Raisins Milk

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.