Preschool Orientation Letter

Thursday, August 11/11

Dear Nursery, Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten Parents:

We hope that you and your children are having an enjoyable break! We are anticipating a wonderful 2011/12 school year.

The following is the early childhood introduction-orientation schedule we have planned for Nursery (3 year old), Pre-K (4 year old), and Kindergarten (5 year old) children during the first days of school (Monday, August 29th through Wednesday, August 31st.)

We have attempted to provide a reasonable, yet developmentally appropriate and educationally sound introduction and adjustment period for all. This means that our early childhood students will have one day of individual orientation and two days of partial school days. School will begin a regular schedule starting Thursday, September 1st. Similarly, extended care for the pre-K and Kindergarten classes will not begin until Thursday, September 1st.

For all three classes, Monday, August 29th is a day of individual orientation, where each child and parent has a 15-minute meeting with the teachers (please do not bring siblings to these meetings). No other programming is held on that day. Based on feedback from you, we are again going to give you the option of scheduling these appointments for your child/children. Please call the office to make these arrangements. Please note the times below when the appropriate teachers will be available. Appointments need to be scheduled by 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 23rd. After this time, the school will set the schedule for any families that have not arranged appointments (for their 3-4 year old children, not for Kindergarten-aged children), and will contact you individually.

Introduction-Orientatn Schedule

Nursery (3 Year olds)

• **Monday, August 29th**- Individual Conferences: Please call to book an appointment for you and your child between the hours of 8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. This private session will allow each child to become acquainted with his/her teachers and surroundings on a comfortable and secure basis. **Please do not bring siblings to this meeting**, as teachers want to be able to attend to and focus exclusively on developing a rapport with their new students.

• **Tuesday-Wednesday, August 30th-31st**- Small Group Orientation: Our nursery school teachers will contact parents to schedule children into one of two small group morning sessions of 1 hour and 20 minutes each (from approximately 9:00 to 10:20 a.m. and 10:40 to 12:00 p.m.)
Thursday, September 1st, will be a regular day- 8:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

Pre-K (4 year olds)

- **Monday, August 29th** - Individual Orientation: please call to book an appointment for you and your child. **Appointments for boys** will be between the hours of 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.; **appointments for girls** will be from 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. This private session will allow each child to become acquainted with his/her teachers and surroundings on a comfortable and secure basis. Please do not bring siblings to this meeting, as teachers want to be able to attend to and focus exclusively on developing a rapport with their new student.

- **Tuesday- Wednesday, August 30th-31st** - Small Group Orientation: Our pre-K boy’s class will have morning sessions only on both days, running from 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Our pre-K girl’s class will have afternoon sessions only on both days, running from 11:30 a.m. – 2:30. General and Judaic studies classes will occur simultaneously, each teacher working with half the class for half the session, and then alternating groups for the second half of the session.

Kindergarten (5 year olds)

- **Monday, August 29th** - Individual Orientation: Please call to book an appointment for you and your child. **Appointments for boys** will be between the hours of 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.; **appointments for girls** will be from 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m., to meet Mrs. Rabinowitz. If your child is new to CHDS, or if you also want to meet with Mrs. Zadikoff, please request to schedule your child with Mrs. Zadikoff as well. If you do not wish to bring your child to Kindergarten orientation, Mrs. Rabinowitz would be happy to speak to you by phone regarding your child.

- **Tuesday- Wednesday, August 30th-31st** - Small Group Orientation: Our Kindergarten girl’s class will have morning sessions only on both days, running from 8:30 a.m. -11:30 a.m. Our Kindergarten boy’s class will have afternoon sessions only on both days, running from 11:30 a.m. – 2:30. General and Judaic studies classes will occur simultaneously, each teacher working with half the class for half the session and then alternating groups for the second half of the session.

- **Thursday, September 1st** will be a regular day- 8:30 a.m. – 2:30, with extended care for those signed up, until 4:00 p.m.

We look forward to meeting you and your children. Please feel free to call with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Yuval Kernerman                                     Mrs. Susan Shapiro
Principal                                                  Assistant Principal