

**The Acorn- A School for Young Children**  
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**Monday, Friday AM Class: The Caterpillars**

Dear Parents,

We are excited to start another school year. We will be having a special parent-child orientation on **Tuesday, Aug 29th from 9-9:45**. This will be an opportunity for parents and children to tour the classroom together, explore the playground and meet your child's teachers and classmates. Your child's first day of school will be Friday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, when the children come for only two hours, from 9:15-11:15. Your child's second day of school, Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, we will begin the regular class times: 8:40 - 11:30.

The Two-Day AM Class (Monday and Friday AM Class) will be using our main upstairs classroom, and your child's Head Teachers are Kate Clifford and Mackenzie Shumake.

This is Kate's third year at The Acorn. Her degree is in Health Promotion and Education from the University of Utah. She never guessed she would adore working with the Caterpillar age children as much as she does. This will be her first year as head teacher. Kate and her husband have 2 children, Moira, age 9 and Clare, age 5. Moira helps during summer camp and Clare will be in The Acorn Kindergarten this year. Kate enjoys hikes and being outdoors, just not so much in Texas. She is working on loving Texas outdoors by adventuring in the mornings and going inside to bask in the air conditioning in the afternoons. Kate is also a classroom teacher in the Hummingbird class.

Mackenzie was born and raised in a small town in Iowa. She graduated from The University of Iowa with a BA in Communication Studies and minors in Human Relations and Sociology. Her husband and their twin boys moved to San Antonio two years ago. Their boys Sawyer and Sammy will be in the Honeybee class this year. Mackenzie enjoys spending time with family, being outdoors, health and wellness and cooking. She is excited for the school year, growing and learning with all the Caterpillars.

Kate and Mackenzie will introduce the other classroom teacher, Bonnie Garcia, in the first newsletter. You will get to meet her at orientation!

During your child's home visit, we would like you to provide **one** change of clothing for your child, which we will keep here all year, just in case we need it. Please include underwear, socks, a shirt, and pants, and put them inside a zip-lock bag with your child's name clearly marked on it. If your child ever needs these clothes and wears them home, please return them the next day to replenish their bag.

Many thanks; we do appreciate your support! We are really looking forward to classes beginning on the 8<sup>th</sup>. We all can't wait to get started on a new school year! Enjoy the rest of the summer, and we'll see you soon!

Wendy and Rich