The Acorn - A School for Young Children 3501 Broadway SAT 78209 (210) 826-8804 Monday through Friday AM Class: The Blue Stars

August 2019

Dear Parents,

As an orientation, we would like for you and your child to come to school **Thursday**, **August 29th at 10:00**, for about an hour. This will give your child a chance to see the classroom and meet the teachers before Opening Day. If, on Opening Day, you feel your child needs for you to stay for part or all of the day, please feel free to do so. After the first day or two, however, most of the children will be ready to stay on their own; we encourage you to drop off your child as the teacher greets you at your car near the gate.

- Your child's <u>first day of school will be Tuesday</u>, <u>September 3rd</u>. This will be a special day, **lasting only two hours from 8:40 10:40**.
- On Wednesday, September 4th, we will begin the regular class time: 8:40 11:30.
- Please remember there will be <u>no extended session</u> for lunch on Tuesday or Wednesday, September 3rd or 4th. If your child is enrolled in the Adventure Club, it starts the second week as well.

The Five-Day AM Class (Monday through Friday AM Class) will be using our newer upstairs classroom, and your child's Head Teachers are Allyson Jones and Cristina Rivas.

Allyson is in her tenth year at The Acorn, having also taught in the Five Year Old Class. Allyson earned her Bachelor's Degree in Human Sciences with a concentration in Human Development and Family Studies from Texas A&M Kingsville. She has definitely put down roots here and calls San Antonio, and The Acorn, home! Allyson builds such natural relationships with her students and brings out their best. Her developmental approach creates a fun learning environment. In her spare time, she enjoys movies and working in her yard. She is excited about another year of adventure with the Blue Stars, and we are so excited to have her!

Cristina is in her second year teaching at The Acorn, although we have known her as a special Acorn mom for some time now! She and her husband, Josh, have been Acorn parents for more than a decade! Their daughters Elena, Emilia and Eliana are Acorn graduates. Being a Blue Star teacher is especially meaningful to Cristina as each of her three children have been through this class. Cristina earned her B.A. from UTSA, holds an M.A. from Purdue University, and has taught for many years at varied age levels in public school. Her devotion to creating a developmentally appropriate atmosphere in which each child can reach his or her full potential is inspiring. Cristina especially enjoys building meaningful relationships with her students around their specific ideas and interests. Her enthusiasm is contagious and the children enjoy her friendly, positive nature.

<u>Pertinent contact information will be given you on the home visit;</u> please add these to your lists so you will have them handy. Allyson and Cristina will introduce to you the other classroom teachers in their September Newsletter.

On the first day of school we would like for you to bring a change of clothing for your child, which we will keep here all year, just in case it is needed. Please include underpants, 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.

For day-to-day wear, please dress your child in play clothes so that he or she can move around freely and comfortably and participate in all motor and outdoor activities without worry. Every child will get dirty on the playground or in the art room from time to time, so please expect it and dress your child so it won't matter to you. Also, <u>please have your child wear closed toe sport type shoes</u>, as they are the <u>safest footwear</u>. Crocs, sandals, or boots are **not** safe for their active days or for the playground.

Many thanks; we do appreciate your cooperation! We are really looking forward to classes beginning on September 3^{rd.}

Enjoy the rest of the summer, and we'll see you soon!

Rich, Jo and Wendy

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