Welcome to the PreK Classroom! We are so excited to have you here! Below you will find helpful hints and tips to acclimate you to your new classroom!

\*Daily Schedule: The daily schedule will be much the same as it’s been previously. Attached is a copy of what a typical day looks like.

\*Curriculum: Perhaps the biggest change from previous classrooms is the curriculum we implement in this classroom. This classroom begins to provide more of an academic foundation for moving into Kindergarten. We will introduce more academic concepts to the children in this classroom throughout the year. We still believe heavily in play-based, interest driven curriculum, so the curriculum still largely play-based and driven by the interests of the children.

\*Instruction Time: As we begin to build skills for Kindergarten, we want to ensure that children are being introduced, given a chance to practice, and then implement their skills. Instruction time will be open-ended and teacher-led. This will often happen in small groups or individually, depending on the topic. The topics and content learned during this time will be incorporated into centers as mastery is achieved to give children a way to continue practicing these skills.

\*Independence: In the PreK classroom, we are still working to develop independent skills. Some examples include: after meal times, they clean up after themselves, serve themselves at snack times, fill their own water cups, attend to their rest mat by adding a sheet, dress themselves to go outside, among many other things. We believe that building a strong foundation of independence will help immensely as they transition into school. This is all done in a loving, compassionate way that instills confidence in each child, and always has a teacher there for assistance and teaching as needed.

\*Meal Times: Meal times will remain the same as they have been previously. We provide the snack program for morning and afternoon snack, and you are to provide lunch. We ask that you include at least three of the following options: 1 serving grain, 1 serving, protein, 1 serving dairy, and 3 servings of fruits and/or vegetables. In this classroom, we provide the children with 1% milk in open lid cups for the children to use daily.

\*Lunchboxes: We ask that each child has two ice packs in their lunchbox, so their food can remain in the lunchbox for the duration of the day. We do not have refrigerator space to store children’s lunches.

\*Food Safety: We ask that you cut your child’s food in a way that is not a choking hazard. This is to say that nothing can be cut into a circle shape. i.e. Cheese sticks, carrots, grapes, hotdogs, etc. If you are unsure, please feel free to reach out, or cut it just in case.

\*Personal Storage: Each child will be provided a coat hook and a cubby. The coat hook will have a reusable storage bag that will house all of their outdoor gear. You are also welcome to bring a bag or backpack from home if you’d like. In your cubby, we will store extra clothing, naptime lovies and blankets. Should your child still need diapers or pull-ups, there will also be a space in the bathroom for diapers and cream. We will provide wipes for diaper changes. There are also lunchbox and water bottles shelves in each classroom to place your child’s stuff each day.

\*Parent Communication: We continue to use the Bloomz app in this classroom. We generally communicate daily in one full class update. Should you prefer more information about your child’s day, please let us know and we are happy to accommodate a more thorough description of their day. We also use a daily board in the classroom to provide you with more details about their day, if you are unable to check Bloomz during the day. We believe that with more communication with you, we can further build that bridge between school and home for learning and growth.

We look forward to a great year!

Sincerely,

Frog & Toad Staff