

From the President

Hello CHUM Families,

It's amazing how quickly time is flying by! Spring will be here before we know it. Now as long as the snow could get on board with us! Thus far we have only had one snow day. Make sure to check Portage Public Schools for closings as we follow their calendar. Also if we need to reschedule events you will be notified via email and the newsletter.

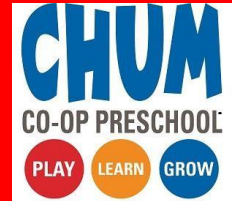
Remember to watch the weather as we jump into March, as I'm sure the kids can't wait to get back out on the playground without all of their gear! Mrs. Huberty will let us all know when she thinks we are in the clear.

A huge thank you to all of our families for coming out to our Spring Carnival. I know my family had fun, as I hope yours did! A special shout out to Kim Curie for putting so much work into this event for us! Big thanks from all of our CHUM families.

Have a great March!
Stay Warm,
Nicole England
CHUM President 2019-2020



CHUM News



March 2020

Tuition is Due!

Just a friendly reminder that the **last** tuition payment is due **March 15th**. Because there was a \$200 discount for our 3AM this year, the last three tuition payments will reflect that savings. Tuition is \$112.40 for the 3S class, \$229.03 for the 4AM class.

Please make your check payable to CHUM Preschool. And please write your child's name and class in the memo line. We cannot accept payment through CHUM mail so please mail your check to our Treasurer:

Josh Dinkelmeyer
9607 Oakview Dr.
Portage, MI 49024

Thank you!

2020-2021 Enrollment

Please note our CLASS OFFERINGS for the 2020-2021 school year:

3AM- T/Th 9:15-11:30 (child must turn 3 by Sept. 1, 2020)*

4AM M/W/F 9-11:30 (child must turn 4 by Sept. 1, 2020)*

*If a Fall birthday, admission based on school readiness as determined by ASQ evaluation and classroom observation.

We are now taking open enrollment for all of our classes for the next school year. If you have family members or friends who are interested in learning more about CHUM, please direct them to our website www.chumpreschool.org, have them contact the preschool at 269-251-2131, or contact Bethany Stevenson; 269-267-9944 or bstevenson8011@gmail.com.

Tuition rates 2020-2021

3AM - \$952/year (8 payments of \$119)

4AM - \$1,432.24/year (8 payments of \$179)



Virtual Open House

Starting March 1st we will be having a virtual open house on Facebook. Several posts will be done daily for a week. On March 7th all the posts will be available to scroll through at once. This is an opportunity for new families and current families to learn more about the preschool and the purpose behind many of the activities our students engage in. Please attend yourselves and invite friends and family. Making comments allows more people to see these posts as well, so please add to each post. Thank you!

VIP Night

This fun opportunity for the preschoolers to show off their school to a Very Important Person in their life will take place next month. Mark your calendars!

Monday, April 20 from 6-7pm - 4AM VIP Night / no school during the day.

Thursday, April 23 from 6-7 pm - 3AM VIP Night / no school during the day.

Peanut Allergy Alert

CHUM attendance has included children with life-threatening food allergies. The allergic reactions can be severe and life threatening. In an effort to keep our CHUM environment safe, we ask all parents to follow these guidelines: No peanuts, peanut products or products containing traces of peanuts or tree nuts are allowed at CHUM.

- Avoid feeding your child peanuts or any nut butters before coming to CHUM. If you do, wash hands and wipe mouth thoroughly—this is crucial.
- When it is your turn to bring a snack, follow the list given in your orientation folder. Please bring all snacks in the original packages so the labels can be rechecked at school.
- NO homemade items may be brought into CHUM.

Please contact Nicole England 269-207-8750



7028 Oakland Drive Portage, MI 49024 269.251.2131

CHUM Co-op Preschool admits students of ANY race, color, national or ethnic origin

Health News & Notes Health

Please contact Health Chair, Amanda Molitor if your child has an illness at 269-998-2087 (text available) or amandammolitor@yahoo.com. If your child is sick on a non-school day, we would also like for you to contact Amanda. She will notify other parents of children in the class if it is a contagious illness such as strep so parents may look out for symptoms. The sick child's name will not be released.



Kindergarten/Young 5s Family Night



Thursday, March 26 6:30-7:30 PM hosted at each Portage elementary school. RSVP to your boundary-assigned school. Not sure which school? Call 269-323-5000. Portage Public School (PPS) has online enrollment and more detailed information available at their website portageps.org for the

upcoming school year. Children must be 5 years of age on September 1, 2020 to qualify for Kindergarten; children turning 5 between September 2 and December 1 are eligible for young 5's. A requirement for entering public school in Michigan is a vision and hearing test. Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services no longer offers this testing at CHUM; hearing & vision screening appointments can be scheduled by calling (269) 373-5029 located at 311 East Alcott

Calling all shoppers

We will set up the pretend play area as a grocery store this month. Please help us stock the shelves by sending in 15 oz or smaller canned goods (which require the use of a can opener) to be 'purchased.' If you are able to donate three (3) identical times, this will give us an opportunity to sort canned goods when working in the store. Once we are finished with the canned goods, we will take them next door to the food pantry to be distributed in the community. Thank you!



Please Save

Please save: All Classes-Please save a plastic gallon milk/water jug for your child to decorate and use at our spring party Egg hunt. To easily remove the label, fill jug with hot water and peel the label slowly. Make sure it is rinsed well- and throw the lid away. Please send it to school by Thursday, March 19 for 3's & Monday, March 23 for 4's. Also, please save any short soap dispenser bottles with a pump. They must be short enough to work with an 8oz water bottle for a science experiment. Thanks!



KRESA

Did you know, there's a community resource available to families? Are you looking for opportunities for your younger children or an increased knowledge of child development? KRESA offers the following:

Playgroups

<https://www.kresa.org/Page/1951>

Seeds for Success

<https://www.kresa.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=1950>

Valentine Mailboxes

If you're going to recycle your child's Valentine mail box, please send it in once your child has finished with it. I'll be happy to reuse the undecorated box for next year.

A Peek Inside CHUM's Classrooms

Have you seen it? Have you stopped and watched for a few minutes? While it may seem your child is "just" playing, he/she is strengthening, building, mastering, some very critical early skills. Although Lauren makes it all seem easy and just for fun, our 3 and 4 and now some 5-year-olds are really hard at work. Look at the sand table, there are just used spice containers and lids. These are great fine motor skill builders- opening flip-top lids, screwing the lid on and off. Filling the containers up and pouring sand out is cause and effect of what will happen. At the sand table, there is social interaction of sharing space and problem solving.

What is going on with the dramatic play center? During the month of February, we've had babies and baby care. There is a clothesline to hang baby clothes. Fine motor skill development is encouraged with the clothespin clips. Pretend play encourages role playing and understanding the world around us. Undressing and dressing babies supports fine motor skills and self help skills of dressing themselves.

Our blocks are ALWAYS available to the children-why you ask? So many early childhood skills are developed and reinforced through block play. Problem solving, fine motor skills, predictions, creativity, social interaction just to name a few. There is never a "right" way for a child to build with blocks. We often add other materials with the blocks to encourage imagination and creativity.

The Free Art table is available at all times so that our students can create at their own pace and skill. We change the materials each month to foster imagination and (again) build those fine motor skills. Cutting, stamping, coloring, folding for envelopes are crucial for mastery.

If you ever wonder WHY something is included in our CHUM classroom, please ask. Lauren thoughtfully plans out why, where and how our CHUMmers play throughout our day.

Scholastic

At CHUM we do Scholastic book orders throughout the year with the exception of September, December and May. This is an awesome way to purchase books for your children or as gifts for others at great prices. Bonus points are accrued with every order and Mrs. Huberty is able to redeem these for classroom supplies. There is no obligation whatsoever. The catalogs will come home through CHUM mail.

The next book order is due Saturday, March 7th. Orders can be placed online with school code GJQL8 or through CHUM mail. Please make checks payable to Scholastic Book Club. Online ordering is preferred!

There are lots of great Spring and Easter titles in this month's fliers! If you have any questions, please contact Amanda Molitor at 269-998-2087 (text available) or amandammolitor@yahoo.com.

From Mrs. Huberty

Dear CHUM Families,

We had many opportunities for fun, learning and fellowship in February! Our Valentine's Day parties were enjoyed by all thanks to our party planners. We've been busy creating a Mother's Day gift to give later in May and had fun acting out nursery rhymes, one of my favorite themes. Thank you for your help from home learning addresses, most of the children are able to state where they live independently. This skill proved to be very important to a former CHUMmer who's bus stop was missed heading home early in their Kindergarten school year.

This month, we will take attendance with phone numbers, shop at our CHUM grocery store, create a 'classroom zoo', and do a little baking. If you have an extra shoe box without the lid that can be made into a 'cage' and/or a paper towel roll for 'binoculars', please send those in by March 11th or 12th. It is especially helpful if your child's zoo animal is just the right size for its shoe box cage when a stuffed animal from home can stay 'two sleeps' at school for our zoo.

Shape: Rectangle
Color: Green
Number: 7

Thanks to all of you for making our cooperative preschool "cooperative". From the Dictionary, cooperative is described - "wanting or willing to work with others for a common goal." Our common goal at CHUM is to provide an enriching environment where your children can explore, create, pretend, communicate with others, and learn new skills - all this is accomplished through play. I am privileged to have the opportunity to be involved in this process. Enjoy these precious times!

Lauren

For the 3s

Dear 3's Families,

Welcome Elizabeth and family, we are so happy to have a new friend! Dr. Stevenson and his staff let us experience a visit to the dentist without being a patient and reminded us of the importance of brushing our teeth. The children and I have had fun exploring nursery rhymes; through art projects, role playing and snack, we will continue to become more familiar with nursery rhymes as we complete this unit.

3s' Field Trips and Visitors

Wear your CHUM gear on our field trips & arrive 10 minutes before the start time.

Tuesday, 3/24 Kalamazoo Nature Center **field trip** 10AM. Please note, the class fee covers the cost of your preschooler +1/a few more slots are available first come first serve. This includes admission for the day if you'd like to pack a lunch and spend the afternoon. 7000 N Westnedge Ave, Kalamazoo *Please note, this field trip will be a combined trip with the 4AM class.

Tuesday, 4/21 Kalamazoo Public Library Central Branch/Van Deusen Room 'Musical Storybook' **field trip** 10:15AM, we will participate in the 10:30 story time. Siblings welcome, no cost. 315 S. Rose St. Kalamazoo. Please plan to pay for parking down town Kalamazoo.

Thursday, 4/30 Julie Brenneman, worm expert **visit**.



For the 4s

Dear 4's Families,

In addition to the zoo and shopping, we will be talking about space and monsters. Please continue to reinforce our letters and topics of the month. While in the car, point out signs and their letters or numbers. Most preschoolers recognize McDonalds, Target, etc from the symbol, encourage them to also notice the individual letters or numbers as well. Challenge your child to notice the name on your street sign or the numbers on your house.

I look forward to discussing your child at our upcoming conferences March 23rd.

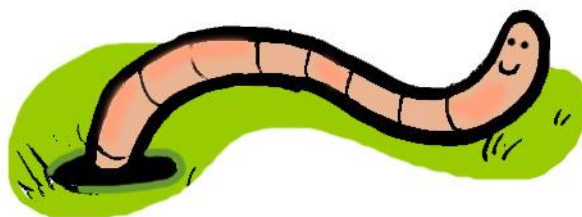
4s' Field Trips and Visitors

Wear your CHUM gear on our field trips & arrive 10 minutes before the start time.

Tuesday, 3/24 Kalamazoo Nature Center **field trip** 10AM. Please note, the class fee covers the cost of your preschooler +1/a few more slots are available first come first serve. This includes admission for the day if you'd like to pack a lunch and spend the afternoon. 7000 N Westnedge Ave, Kalamazoo *Please note, this field trip will be a combined trip with the 3AM class.

Wednesday, 4/22 Kalamazoo Public Library Oshtemo Branch/Community Room 'Musical Storybook' **field trip** 10:15AM, we will participate in the 10:30 story time. Siblings welcome, no cost. 7265 W. Main St. Kalamazoo. Free parking

Wednesday, 4/29 Julie Brenneman, worm expert **visit**.



Songs and Finger Plays

Going to the Zoo

Mommy's takin' us to the zoo tomorrow,
zoo tomorrow, zoo tomorrow,
Mommy's takin' us to the zoo tomorrow,
Where we can stay all day.

Goin' to the zoo, zoo, zoo,
How about you, you, you
You can go too, too, too,
We're goin' to the zoo, zoo, zoo. (refrain)

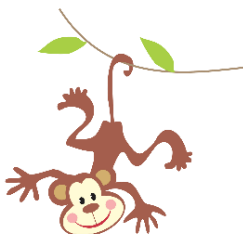
Look at all the monkeys swingin' in the trees,
swingin' in the trees, swingin' in the trees,
Look at all the monkeys swingin' in the trees,
We can stay all day.

(refrain)

Next verse, change animal and action:

Crocodiles swimmin'

Cheetahs runnin' (etc.) Where we can stay all day.



Peter the Rabbit

(sung to Battle Hymn of the Republic)

Peter the Rabbit (make rabbit ears)

Had a fly (use thumb & finger to measure small fly)

Upon his nose (point to nose)

REPEAT 3X

And he flicked it (brush hand against nose)

'Til it few away (flap hands to fly)

REPEAT song omitting underlined word(s) each time until the song is mostly motions.

Play Dough

March—**Green** PLAY DOUGH
Gallagher

RECIPE:

3 Cups Flour	3/4 Cup Salt
2 Cups Water (1 1/2 - 2 Cups)	3 Packets Kool-Aid
3 Tbs. vegetable oil (NO peanut or nut oils)	

1) Mix the flour, the salt, and the Kool-Aid together.

2) Boil the water.

3) Add the oil to the water

4) Pour some of the water into the dry ingredients and mix with a spoon. Keep adding water and work the dough until the color is uniform and feels like playdough



Birthdays

3-23 Lily Gundlach 3am



Saturday Monthly Cleans

This clean can be done the Friday afternoon before the clean date listed if that works better for your schedule.

March 8th
Harrington

April 18th
Dalton



CHUM Class Line

If you need to reach someone during school hours we do have a phone in the classroom. You will call the church at (269)327-6643 and either ask to talk to the preschool if someone picks up or dial ext:113.

Multi-Age Class

Please spread the word and join us at our next Multi-age class on March 25th from 1-3pm at CHUM.

Mrs. Huberty will be teaching a spring-themed class where the children are sure to learn and have fun.

Parents will be learning from Maureen Corts, LMSW, who will be speaking about Parenting the Love and Logic Way as it relates to young children. Maureen has taught Love and Logic and Early Childhood

Parenting Made Fun for over 15 years. Love and Logic is a positive parenting strategy that can help make parenting fun and rewarding rather than stressful and chaotic.

Chow Down for CHUM

Our last food fundraiser will be at Jersey Giant Subs on S. Westnedge in Portage. Tuesday, March 10th from 4-8pm. A portion of the sales will be donated to CHUM. Please join us and bring some friends!

CHUM Co-op Preschool Board Meeting

February 4th, 2020

Executive Board Reports:

1. Communications Director: Bethany
 - a. Approve last month's minutes **Josh and Troy Second**
 - b. Make sure new families coming in are completing paperwork!
 - c. Announcements in church bulletin, facebook, etc for enrollment?
 - d. Announcement with church and Facebook about Carnival and Open House please :)
 - e. Parents night out? Coffee mornings? How is this all going? **One Well? Latitude?**
2. President: Nicole
 - a. Reminder remaining board meetings- March 3rd, March 31st, and May 5th (this is the transitional board meeting which will begin at 6:15).
 - b. Transitional Board meeting the new board meets at 7pm
 - c. Please make sure your binders are updated and ready for the next person taking over your position. If changes in any procedure need to be adjusted please let me know so we can discuss it.
 - d. Discussion on enrollment papers- We have the paperwork to give out (Beth) to each family. We need them to return the board sign up sheet ASAP (within a week?) so we can start getting next board set up. Who collects the fees and gets them to Josh? We pick the board in late March, but I would like to have an idea for our next meeting!
 - e. What documents do we need to have printed and ready for Open House? Who can help get those? **All set**
 - f. Do we have our tuition payment schedule for 2020/2021? I couldn't find it in my emails! Help! **July, Sept, Oct, Nov, Jan, Feb, March, April**
3. Vice President: Karen
 - a. Announcement in newsletter about officers for next school year? **Put it in email**
 - b. Nominating committee- should meet the first week of April or second? Who would like to be a part of the nominating committee? **Karen, Kim, Nicole, Bethany time and date TBD**
4. Treasurers: Josh and Troy
 - a. Update budgets pass around
 - b. All bills paid? Tuition paid? Do we have any payments in for next school year yet?
 - c. Registration fees/activity fees- due February? **Due Feb 22nd**
 - d. First tuition- due August **July**

Teacher Reports: **Everything is going well. Nursery Rhymes. Parent teacher sign up sheet later this month.**

General Board Reports:

1. Fundraising: Kim
 - a. Profits from Restaurant fundraiser? **Blaze \$54.57**
 - b. Help with Spring Carnival?
 - c. How are we doing with shoes? What month did we decide to "run" this?
2. Admissions: Bethany
 - a. What do you need for the Open House?
 - i. Anyone able to come early for the Open House prior to Carnival?
 - b. Enrollment update? Has Lauren had anyone talk to her that you don't know of that is planning to return?
 - c. Once we have enrollment can you keep a doc up to date and email it to Lauren and the exec board please!
 - d. Make sure to contact new and returning families and remind them of registration/activity fee and when first months tuition will be due. Also remind them to get their paperwork in. Thank you!
3. Newsletter: Bethany
 - a. Has everyone been getting things to you by the deadline? Concerns?
4. Field Trips: Lauren
 - a. Budget still okay? **Yes**
 - b. Everything scheduled? Do we need more visitors through the end of the year?
5. Student Services: Amanda
 - a. Saturday cleans still going well? Key hand of going okay?
 - b. Does the classroom need anything?
 - c. Playground okay? Once it thaws we need to pick up leaves, sticks, and check gravel please!
 - d. Do we need a transitional board meeting sitter?
6. Personnel: Amanda
 - a. Make sure to keep up communication with Kim on Carnival volunteers
 - b. All health forms and white cards up to date?
 - c. Still contacting the health department and getting communications from families for sickness?
 - d. We need a letter of intent for Lauren to continue teaching next year. Let me know and I can get it to you to update! Need this by our March meeting. Thank you!

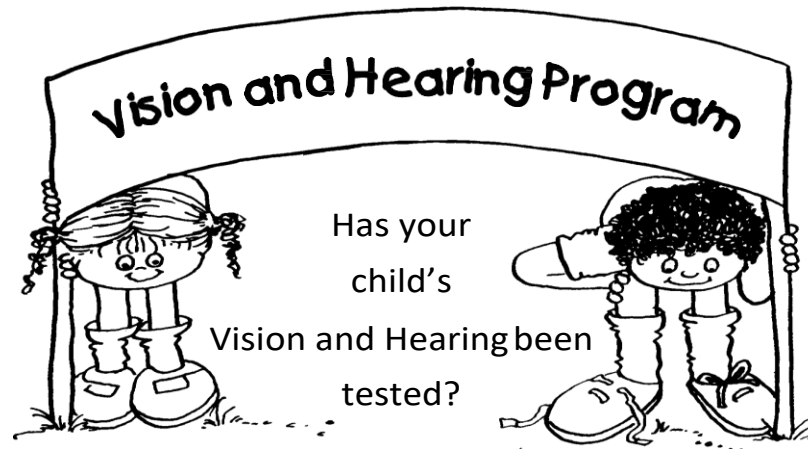
Old Business:

New Business:

Adjournment **Karen motioned Troy second**

!

March				2020			3AM-Yellow 4AM-Red
				No Donation Request This Month			
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
	NO SCHOOL			3am-Green Day-wear/bring something green			
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
	4am-Letter R		4am-Send in your shoe box & paper towel roll	3am-Cooking day, snack parent see Lauren *cake mix used & Send in your shoe box & paper towel roll			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
	4am-Bring your Zoo animal & Rectangle Day -Wear/bring a rectangle	3am-Bring your Zoo animal & Rectangle Day - Wear/bring a rectangle	4am-Letter L	3am-Send in your clean milk jug	4am-Letter Z		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
	4am-Green Day & Letter G & Parent/Teacher Conferences 4AM/Send in your clean milk jug	3AM & 4AM: Nature Center Field Trip 9:45 am. Dress for the weather! If your day allows, bring a sack lunch & enjoy the whole day at the	NO SCHOOL Afternoon multi-age class. Please RSVP		4am-Letter W - Monster Pizza - snack parent see Lauren *pizza sauce & English muffins used		
29	30	31					
	4am-Letter E	3AM: Spring Party	4am-Spring Party	No SCHOOL	NO SCHOOL- Spring Break April 3-12th		

**IMPORTANT:**

A Vision and Hearing screening is **REQUIRED** for Kindergarten entrance. This is a **FREE** screening.

Please call after May 1st to schedule your child's summer appointment:



373-5031

373-5029

373-5008



KALAMAZOO COUNTY GOVERNMENT
In the Pursuit of Extraordinary Governance
Health and Community Services Department

311 East Alcott, Kalamazoo, MI 49001
Phone: 269-373-5200 Fax: 269-373-5363 Website: www.kalcounty.com

Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services is committed to providing equitable, culturally competent care to all individuals served, regardless of race, age, sex, color, national origin, religion, height, weight, marital status, political affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability.