

# GRACE NOTES

The Newsletter of  
Grace Covenant Community School

Back To School Edition  
Sept. 2008

Volume I, Issue I

## Back to School!



Grace Covenant Community School's new facilities at  
First Mennonite Church

It's that time of year again – the days are getting shorter, the mornings are cooler and it's time for the kids to head back to school.

This year, Grace Covenant Community School (formerly The Greenwood Preschool and Afterschool Program) has a new name and a brand new location! We have moved into space made available by First

Mennonite Church, located at 601 E. Parham Rd.

As you'll notice when you visit, our new facilities are bright, modern and secluded. We have several classrooms stocked with books, art supplies and educational toys, an open and safe playground area, a flat surface outside for our riding toys and, best of all, we're within a minute's walk to the North Park library! We're looking forward to sharing library storytimes with all the Grace Covenant kids this year.

We're so glad that all our preschool and afterschool children are with us, and feel truly blessed to house our program in such a beautiful, warm and friendly space. Please feel free to poke around our classrooms and outdoor space when you come to pick up your child(ren)!

Our friends at First Mennonite Church extend a warm welcome to you to join them for Sunday worship at 11 a.m. as well as any other activities offered by the church. We appreciate the welcome they have given us and feel blessed to work with your children in such a wonderful space.

### In this issue:

Back to School!	1
Volunteers	1
Preschool Tidbits	2
Fall Events	2
Afterschool Info	2
Henrico County Schools Calendar	3
Preschool Curriculum	4

## Preschool Volunteers Needed!



This fall, we'll be seeking help from Grace Covenant

Community School parents in various capacities. Some commitments require only a specific day or days, others are

ongoing. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Linda Willis at (804) 262-9023 or by email at [prsc1tchr@juno.com](mailto:prsc1tchr@juno.com).

Help is needed with the following:

- Classroom aide/volunteer—One time, a few days or ongoing
- Helping develop a music program for our preschoolers
- Heading up fundraising efforts
- Chaperone field trips—as needed

# Preschool Tidbits

## Supplies

Each family will need to provide the following supplies for their preschooler by Sept. 12:

- 2 bottles liquid hand soap
- 2 packs baby wipes
- 2 boxes tissues
- 2 rolls paper towels
- 2 boxes 5 oz. paper cups
- One full change of clothing, in a bag, with each piece labeled with child's name

## School Entrance Info—IMPORTANT

The entrance into the building/preschool will be unlocked with a teacher present between 9 - 9:10 a.m. Once we go into our classrooms, the door will be locked. Once we go to the classroom, we will be unable to answer the door if you arrive later. We ask that if the door is locked, please do not knock on it or ring the bell. This will disrupt other staff persons working in the building as well as the preschool class with a late arrival entering the "circle".

**REMINDER: All payments should be made by check or money order payable to Grace Covenant Community Ministries and mailed to Post Office Box 9617,**



## Car Pool Lane Info

Beginning Wednesday, Sept. 10, please pull into the car pool lane to drop off and/or pick up your child. The teachers will escort your child to and from the building. Having your child's car seat located on the rear passenger side of your vehicle will help us facilitate a smooth arrival and departure.

## Events this Fall:

Disney on Ice at the Richmond Coliseum—Nov. 12-16 [Tickets range from \$12 on Opening Night to \$45 Rinkside. Visit [www.disneyonice.com](http://www.disneyonice.com) for more details]

ADHD: Building an Understanding of Attention—Wed., Sept. 17, 6:30-8:30 PM, St. Mary's Hospital Education Wing, Room 163; Information on understanding your child's brain, myths and misconceptions of ADHD and more

Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden's Children's Garden Birthday Party—Sept. 28, 1-4 PM; Free with garden admission, bring a gift of food for the Central Virginia Food Bank.

# Afterschool Info

## Calendar

We are sending home the current calendar including all holidays for Henrico County. There is no additional charge for 1/2 days, however, there is a \$15 per child fee for full day care.

## Vehicle Search

We have spoken to several dealers about the purchase of a van for transportation. However, nothing has been finalized yet. If you know someone who has a full-size or mini van for sale or lease, please let us know. Or if you know someone who has a van and is interested in working for us in providing transportation on a regular basis, have them contact Linda Willis (262-9023). This would be on a contract basis.

## School Attendance Info

If your child stays at home due to illness or is picked up early from school, please call us to let us know so that we are aware and don't wait for him/her at school pickup.

## Games

If you or your family have any card or board games that are brand new or in very gently used condition (i.e. not missing any pieces) that you would like to donate to Grace Covenant Community School's afterschool program, please feel free to drop them off when picking up your child.



# Henrico County Public Schools 2008-2009 Calendar

## September

- 1 **Labor Day**
- 2 Schools Open

## October

- 9-10 Student Holiday/Planning and Development

## November

- 4 Student Holiday/ Parent Visitation
- 3-6 Elementary Evening Parent Visitation
- 10-13 Secondary Evening Parent Visitation
- 11 Half-Day Student Holiday/Half-Day Planning
- 26 Half-Day Student/Staff Holiday

## 27-28 Thanksgiving Holidays

## December

## 22-31 Winter Break

## January

- 1-2 **Winter Break**
- 5 Schools reopen following Winter Break
- 19 **Martin Luther King Holiday**
- 27-30 Exam Week/HS Early Dismissal

## February

- 2-5 Elementary Evening Parent Visitation
- 2 Student Holiday/Evaluation and Planning
- 9-12 Secondary Evening Parent Visitation
- 16 Student Holiday/Planning and Development

## March

- 9-11 Tentative SOL Writing Test Dates
- 18 Half-Day Student Holiday/  
Half-Day Planning and Development
- 9-12 Exam Week / HS Early Dismissal
- 12 Final Half Day for Students
- 13 Planning and Development
- 19,26 Offices Closed

## April

- 3 Half-Day Student Holiday/Half Day Planning and Development

## 6-10 Spring Break

- 28 Kindergarten Registration

## May

- May-4-June 6 Tentative SOL Testing Window

## 25 Memorial Day Holiday

## June

- 2-5 Senior Exam Week



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We're on the web! Visit  
[www.gracecovenantcommunityschool.org](http://www.gracecovenantcommunityschool.org)  
for pictures, information and email access.

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## Preschool Curriculum



Grace Covenant Community School utilizes a curriculum that is developmentally appropriate for young children in a preschool setting. The curriculum includes monthly themes, letters, shapes, colors, etc. The core areas included monthly will be science, social studies, math, language arts, and growth spiritually, physically and socially. Our focus for September will be:

- \*Family, Friends & Myself
- \*Color: yellow
- \*Letters: A, B
- \*Shape: Circle
- \*Bible Stories from Jerome Berryman's "Godly Play" curriculum: The Story of Moses and The Exodus

In addition, Rev. Barry Loop will be providing a Children's Chapel time each Monday in the sanctuary.