

# Children of Hope Child Development Center

August 2021

## Hope Happenings: News from Mrs. H's Office

Lynn Hockenberger  
Preschool Director



### WELCOME!

Welcome to our School Family here at Children of Hope! It has been a great first week of school and the children are already making friends and bonding with their teachers. Routines are being learned, materials are being explored, and we are establishing trusted, loving relationships with the kiddos.

Thank you all for your patience as we get our new communication App, Brightwheel, up and running. We are learning alongside you, and we thank you all for signing in and keeping your notifications on so we can communicate with you. One of the most exciting things about Brightwheel is our ability to allow you a peek into our classrooms through photos and videos. We are also very excited on the administrative end as we are able to accept online payments and we now have direct access to the AZ Early Learning Standards and the AZ Infant/Toddler Developmental Guidelines. These are most important tools that we use to create portfolios on each child, noting milestones and skills that they develop throughout the year. More info on that to come!

### Happy Birthday!



Mrs. Johnson: August 18  
Mrs. Dolny: August 26

Thank you all for your continued mindfulness as we are still navigating Covid. Health and safety protocols are being practiced, including handwashing, increased disinfecting and sanitizing, and mask wearing. Some colds have been going around in the elementary schools that are not Covid, so we hope that trends here as well. We will continue to keep you informed.

Welcome to Hope!

Kindly,  
Mrs. H

#fillyourchildwithhope



**ALL ARE WELCOME!**



**Pastor Annemarie Burke**

*Worship Services  
8:30am Traditional  
10:30am Contemporary*

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**



**Deacon Connie**

*All children ages 4 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to join Deacon Connie for Sunday School on August 29th!  
9:40am - 10:20am between services*

**FAMILY CHAPEL TIME**



**September 14: Ducklings  
September 15: Penguins  
September 16: Butterflies**

**11:10am in the Sanctuary**

**PARENTS! We invite you to be a part of Family Chapel Time!**

Please join us where you will sit on the floor with your child in your lap and participate in monthly Family Chapel Time with Deacon Connie, Pastor Annemarie, and Mrs. H. (If a parent cannot attend, no worries...we will take great care of your children and keep them happy & engaged)

We will hear stories, sing songs, and learn about the Fruit of the Spirit. We hope you will join us!

**Children:  
WEAR YOUR SCHOOL SHIRT  
(coming soon)!**

**September Songs & Lessons:  
Fruit of the Spirit Song  
My God is So Big**

**Intro to Chapel & Fruit of the Spirit  
Galatians 5:22-23**

# WHY LUNCH BUNCH?



Lunch Bunch offers our students opportunities for additional socialization through mealtime, extended activities, and play. We provide a safe, nurturing place where the children can eat lunch with their peers, while learning to manage and clean up their own space, with the bonus of added time to socialize and play with their friends.

With the company of our supportive teachers, Lunch Bunch kiddos can acclimate to a longer school day, can make mistakes (such as spills) and be helped to fix them, and can gain confidence and independence.

**Lunch Time is very fast in elementary school and here at Hope we believe in providing Lunch Bunch as an opportunity for our students to practice the “soft skills” needed for kindergarten success.**

**Available Daily**

**Sign up Book is located outside Mrs. H's office**

**Pick Up at 12:30pm: \$10**

**Pick Up at 1:30pm: \$15**

**Pick Up at 2:00pm: \$20**

**Must be enrolled in 3's or Pre-K.**

**Not available to our Toddler Class due to diapering/licensing issues.**

**\*NO LUNCH BUNCH on Thursday, August 26<sup>th</sup> due to Staff Meeting**

**AM BUTTERFLIES:** If you would like to stay on a **Monday or Wednesday**, please note we will keep you with your classmates who are staying for the PreK Extended Day until 2:00pm. Mrs. Johnson and I believe this will provide the best environment, continuity, and preparation for kindergarten. In order for Mrs. Johnson to adequately prepare lessons and materials, we ask that if you would like to stay on a Monday and/or Wednesday that you sign up for the month. That way she will know in advance that you are coming, enabling her to have any needed materials prepped for you. This consistency will help her with planning. Thank you!

**ALL BUTTERFLIES:** If you would like to stay on a **Tuesday or Thursday**, you will attend regular Lunch Bunch with any Penguins who are staying and the pick-up times above would apply.



**90% of a child's brain develops before they start kindergarten.** And research shows that the quality of a child's experiences in their first five years helps shape how their brain develops.

Kids with positive, stable relationships with parents and caregivers, as well as quality child care and preschool experiences, go on to do better in school and in life. They're more likely to read at grade level and graduate from high school. They are more prepared for college and career. They also tend to be healthier and demand less from the public welfare system. These are better outcomes for kids that also save taxpayers money.

## Children of Hope CDC Attains Quality Plus Rating!



Quality First, a signature program of First Things First, partners with regulated child care and preschool providers to improve the quality of early learning across Arizona. Research has shown that children with access to high-quality early learning programs are better prepared for kindergarten, do better in school, and are more likely to graduate and go on to college.

Quality First participating providers work with a coach to assess their programs and implement quality improvement plans in areas that research shows help young kids thrive. After about one year of participation, programs are rated on a 5-star scale based on how well they meet quality standards; a rating of **4 stars** means the program **exceeds quality standards**.

The areas assessed include:

- **Health and safety practices** that promote children's basic well-being;
- **Staff qualifications**, including experience working with infants, toddlers and preschoolers as well as training or college coursework in early childhood development and education;
- **Teacher-child interactions** that are positive, consistent and nurture healthy development and learning;
- **Learning environments**, including age-appropriate books, toys and learning materials that promote emotional, social, language and cognitive development;
- **Lessons** that follow state requirements or recommendations for infants, toddlers and preschoolers;
- **Group sizes** that give young children the individual attention they need; and,
- **Child assessment and parent communication** that keeps families regularly informed of their child's development.

"Today's kindergarteners face greater rigor and higher stakes than ever before," said **Lynn Hockenberger, Preschool Director**. "By attaining a **4-star** rating, the families of children in our care will know that their children are getting the quality early education they need to arrive at school prepared to meet our state's expectations."



Dear Parents:

I am excited to introduce you to our comprehensive classroom management program called **Conscious Discipline**. It is a way of organizing our classroom around the concept of a School Family, where each member learns the skills needed to successfully manage life tasks such as learning, handling frustration, communicating effectively, being sensitive to peoples' needs and getting along with others. Conscious Discipline empowers teachers and students with Seven Basic Skills of Discipline. Below are strategies used in the classroom to promote healthy social-emotional growth and learning.

**1. Today I used the safe place to keep my class and myself safe.**

We use our Cozy Corners to help your child maintain his/her composure when faced with a difficult or challenging situation. Your child is helped to calm and uphold his/her integrity. **Tell your child: Good for you! It's hard to calm yourself down when you feel frustrated. You did it!**

**2. Today I stuck to my commitment.**

Each day when your child comes in to class, he/she is asked to make a commitment to a rule, value or statement. There are consequences if your child sticks to this commitment – a sense of responsibility being one of them.

**Ask your child: What was your commitment for today?**

**3. Today I helped a friend to be successful.**

We encourage and provide and recognize when a child provided encouragement to another child who may have been facing a stressful situation. **Tell your child: It is a gift to help others and you are a gift to me.**

**4. Today I did my class job to help make our class a better place for everyone.**

Every member of our class – including the teacher – has an important job to do each day. This creates interdependence and a sense of belonging. It builds unity in our classroom and promotes the School Family that is so critical to our success. **Say to your child: Tell me about your class job and how you do it.**

**5. Today I took a deep breath and used my S.T.A.R. power to calm down.**

This is the first step toward maintaining composure when we are put in uncomfortable situations or when things don't go our way. Each day we practice calming ourselves down and remaining in control of his/her life. **Ask your child: Will you teach me how to be a S.T.A.R.?**

## **6. Today I worked hard, stayed focused and finished all of my work.**

How do you feel when you know you've completed a job well done? Your child had a choice today, and chose to do his/her very best. **Tell your child: Way to go! You worked hard.**

## **7. Today I used my BIG voice so others could learn.**

In our class, we work hard each day to set limits respectfully. Your child is learning that he/she must teach others how to treat him/her. Assertiveness promotes respect and helps us set healthy boundaries that are essential for all relationships. We will help the children say, "I don't like it when you \_\_\_\_\_. Please say or do \_\_\_\_\_," teaching others how to be respectful. **Give your child a big high five and a hug for using his or her BIG voice.**

## **8. Today I took time to make a 'we care' note for a friend.**

Showing empathy for others helps us accept each moment for what it is and helps your child accept and process his/her feelings. We will notice and recognize when your child took the time to show compassion for another student. **Write a note to your child and stick it under his or her pillow, saying, "I love you."**

## **9. Today I went back in time to change a hurtful situation into a helpful interaction.**

Have you ever said anything you've regretted later, but thought it was too late to change? It's not too late when we assert ourselves and have the willpower to make things right. We will model conflict resolution and help your child chose to take a hurtful situation and change it to a positive interaction. **Tell your child, "Good for you. We all make mistakes and you fixed yours today."**

Please don't hesitate to call or send in a note if you have a question or would like more information about the really cool stuff going on in our classroom! You can also learn more about Conscious Discipline by visiting [www.ConsciousDiscipline.com](http://www.ConsciousDiscipline.com).

Wishing you well,

Mrs. H

# Upcoming Events

## Show & Tell Night



Tuesday,  
September  
14<sup>th</sup>

### Ducklings & Penguins:

5:15 – 6:00pm  
In the classrooms

**ALL**

**Time with Mrs. H:**  
6:00 – 6:15pm

Sanctuary

“Top 10 Things Preschool  
Teachers Want You to  
Know”

### Butterflies:

6:15 – 7:00pm  
In the classroom

Join us as your child takes you through the classroom to give you a glimpse into our day! Teachers will also be on hand to visit and get to know you!

## Fun Fridays



### Butterflies & Penguins: August 27<sup>th</sup>

**8:30 – 11:30am**  
**\$30 per child**

### Ducklings: September 24<sup>th</sup>

**8:30 – 11:30am**  
**\$35 per child**

### Butterflies & Penguins: September 24<sup>th</sup>

**8:30 – 11:30am**  
**\$30 per child**

**Sign up in the  
office with Mrs. H**

## Parent/Teacher Conferences



The Week of  
September 27<sup>th</sup>

We look forward to meeting with you to share how your child has acclimated to school. Our focus during fall conferences is through a social-emotional lens. We hold a second conference in the spring that covers social-emotional growth and learning, as well as cognitive, academic learning. This is a special time between parents and teachers, and we look forward to sharing with you.

To help us prepare for these conferences, we will be distributing the **Ages & Stages Questionnaire** for you to fill out with your child. This questionnaire, coupled with our observations at school, capture the most accurate, complete picture of your child.



## DID YOU KNOW??

- Trivia Night was designed with **YOU** in mind! We created this event so our COH parents could get to know one another! We would LOVE to see each classroom represented! Make a table or two!
- The proceeds from Trivia Night will help pay for much needed landscaping/rubber mulch on our playground
- The winning table gets a big cash prize!
- The best decorated table gets a prize, too!
- And even the Biggest Losers get a prize!
- We only have 3 fundraisers each year (Butter Braids, Usborne Books, and Trivia Night). Your participation *really* helps our special little school!
- Those who attend Trivia Night always want to come back...it's really fun! And you can't beat the DELICIOUS BBQ dinner that is included in the price!
- Make a Team and reserve your spot here:  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0849ADAA2FA5FB6-trivia>



Please make drop off and pick up times with your child  
***Cell Phone Free Zones*** ☺

## SMOKE-FREE ENVIRONMENT

We at **Children of Hope Child Development Center** are committed to providing a smoke-free environment for children, staff members, and child care providers. Due to hazards from exposure to second-hand smoke and as a recognized Empower child care facility, it shall be the policy of this child care facility to provide a tobacco-free environment for children, staff members, child care providers, and parents.



Cleaning & Disinfecting  
Services



**FORCE SHIELD**  
FOG • DISINFECT • PROTECT

find us on  
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Insta!**

**Also, join our Private Group**  
Children of Hope Preschool/  
Child Development Center of  
Ahwatukee