



Cooperative Nursery at Christ Church

The Cooperative Nursery at Christ Church (CNCC) has been in existence for more than 50 years and, during that time, the philosophy of learning through play has endured. CNCC believes in creating an environment for pre-school children to participate in living and practical learning while promoting individual growth in an atmosphere of security and acceptance.

Although situated in the Christian Education Building of Christ Church, CNCC remains non-denominational. We do, however, enjoy the affiliation with this vital part of our community.

The daily nursery school program is designed to help children develop a positive self-image, to learn self-control, to share and take turns with materials, to encourage respect for other children and to help the child learn to follow directions. These skills are taught through self-directed play in a free environment and, since it is a co-op setting, teacher/parent/child involvement is at its best.

A bonus of the cooperative program, beyond the children's benefit, is the friendships that parents will form as they work and play together. We all share the same concerns for the safety, happiness and well-being of our children and these bonds will create life-long friendships.

PROGRAM

The 3-year-old program at CNCC offers a 3-day program with a 4-day option, depending upon enrollment. Those choosing the 3-day program meet on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. The 4-day program includes Fridays. **Your child must be three as of DECEMBER 1st of the school year (this has been changed back to coincide with the State of Michigan).** The 4-year old program is a 4-day program, meeting Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. Your child must be four as of December 1st of the school year. The school day runs from 9 a.m. to 11:20 a.m.

ART

CNCC offers wonderful opportunities for your child to create and experiment with a wide variety of materials and textures. Each art room is set up daily to feature one main project and several additional activities including painting and easels, play dough, clay, cutting, pasting, crayons and markers. We encourage the children to enjoy the processes and materials without judgment of the end product.

MUSIC

Preschoolers love music and singing, and the Music Program at CNCC provides an excellent opportunity for large movement in bad weather and daily music sessions for 3s and 4s together. A variety of records, tapes, and songs encouraging the children's self-expression and movement are used. In addition, a Christmas program and a Spring Sing-A-Long/Graduation program are presented to parents and relatives.

READINESS

CNCC offers, for children in the 4s class, basic kindergarten readiness skills on a low-key level. Appropriate readiness skills are incorporated into all activities within the curriculum. For example, art projects revolving around numbers and letters, games, puzzles and finger plays are utilized. The teaching staff is continually aware of keeping these readiness skills appropriate to the individual child, his or her age and ability.

OUTDOOR PLAY

Outdoor play is encouraged at CNCC. Large climbing gyms and swings help to promote the development of gross motor skills. The children are closely supervised in their outdoor play at all times.

STORYTIME

Reading in a group setting and on an individual basis is always encouraged at CNCC. The teachers set aside time each day to read to the children. The children are also invited to bring in books of their own to share. With a large "library" bookcase in each room, the teachers always have a selection which closely follows that theme (Autumn Days, Senses, Colors and Shapes, Community Helpers, etc.).

PLAYTIME

A good portion of each child's day is spent in free play. Free play allows creativity to flourish. Children have unpressured time to explore, pretend, make believe and experiment. Activities might include dress-up, water/sand table play, puzzles and games, small manipulatives, or creative role-playing in our fully furnished kitchen or puppet theater. The children might also involve themselves with trucks and cars, large building blocks, doll houses, or the balance beam and indoor gym equipment.

SPECIAL EVENTS

CNCC attempts to plan at least one special event per month for the children in the four-year old program. Excursions often include "hands-on" learning experiences. In the past the children have visited Colors In Clay (children made plates), the Grosse Pointe Woods Safety station, and a veterinarian. In addition, occasionally in-house events are planned for both the 3 and 4 year old classes to enjoy. Such events could include a visit from community helpers, puppet or music show, etc.

SNACK

Each day, between playtime and outdoor or music activities, a nutritious snack and juice or milk are served to the children. It is the policy of CNCC that members provide healthful foods that are consistent with good nutrition and eating habits. Children with allergies and/or food reactions are acknowledged. Snack time also provides a channel for social interaction when manners and cleanliness are encouraged.

SPECIAL PARTIES

With a policy based on learning through play, how could CNCC exist without parties? Parties average one per month, recognizing holidays as well as certain themes: Pajama Party, Halloween Party, Valentines Day, a Last Day Picnic, etc. Each Child may also enjoy his/her own personal birthday celebration at school.

SCHEDULING

CNCC recognizes that today's parents are struggling with many commitments and time constraints in their lives, and that the preschool years are perhaps the only years that they can become so personally involved in their child's educational experience. With this in mind, CNCC has adopted a flexible cooperative work schedule. Each mom/dad works at school approximately 6-8 days per semester (more or less depending upon the enrollment of the class). These days are scheduled as much as possible at the convenience of the parent.

For families with younger children, Mother's Day Out is available for siblings ages one year and older. Mother's Day Out is housed in the same building as the nursery school and runs from Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Other co-op time commitments made by each co-op parent include party days, special event driving (generally 4s only), two annual membership meetings (September and usually February), possible Board of Trustees meetings, clean-ups (August and January), committee service/non-board position, and fundraiser involvement. In return for a commitment to the co-op, parents often find that they become part of a lasting network of friends sharing a common goal.

TUITION

The tuition at CNCC is established by the Board of Trustees and covers a school year of approximately 36 weeks (September through May), divided into two semesters.

There is a yearly, **non-refundable deposit of \$200** (\$100 prepaid per semester) payable upon acceptance.

2006/2007 Tuition: Three day a week students = \$1,400 for the year. Four day a week students = \$1,620 for the year.

This is subject to change.

Tuition is due in July 1st and November 15th of each year. Tuition refund will be made at the discretion of the Board of Trustees and ONLY if there is a replacement for the departing student, regardless of the reason for withdrawal. If a replacement student fills the vacancy, the amount refunded will be prorated. CNCC is a state licensed, non-profit and nondiscriminatory organization.

ADMISSIONS POLICY

CNCC begins accepting all applications at the Membership Chair's home at 6:00pm on September 15 through 6:00pm on October 15 of each year for the following school year. Lists do not carry over from year to year. Applications are processed and accepted through a combination priority and lottery system. Applications turned in during the enrollment period are categorized into one of the following groups:

- * Group 1 Christ Church Member and CNCC Alumni
- * Group 2 Concurrent CNCC Alumni
- * Group 3 CNCC Alumni
- * Group 4 Christ Church Member
- * Group 5 Transferred Christ Church Member
- * Group 6 General Public

Within the groups above, a lottery will be used to fill the slots available for each class. On October 15 after the 6:00pm deadline, applications will be randomly drawn from Group 1 until all slots for the class have been filled. If all slots are not filled, applications will be randomly selected from Group 2, then Group 3, etc... until all slots are filled.

- Definition of a Christ Church Member: A baptized person who regularly worships at Christ Church and whose name has been on the parish list six months prior to submitting application.
- Definition of Transferred Christ Church Member: A baptized person who regularly worships at Christ Church for less than 6 months prior to the application acceptance date (September 15th) and has transferred to Christ Church from outside the community.
- Definition of CNCC Alumni: Mother, father or sibling has attended CNCC
- Definition of Concurrent CNCC Alumni: Child who would be enrolled in the 3's class at the same time a sibling is enrolled in the 4's class.

Applications turned in after the enrollment period will fill a vacant spot, if available, or be placed on the waiting list on a first come first served basis. *No deposit is required when an application is submitted or to place your name on the waiting list.*

Please come visit our school!

Children must be potty trained to be admitted into the program.

For further information about CNCC, please contact

**CNCC Membership Chairman
269 Ridgemont
Grosse Pointe Farms, MI
48236**