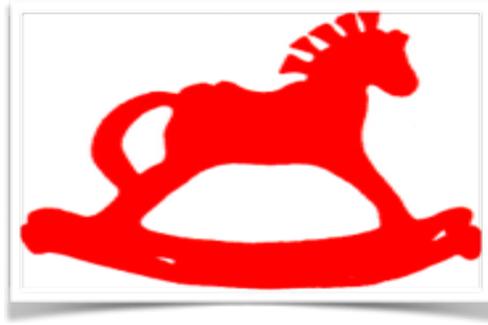


# The Cooperative Nursery at Christ Church





The **Cooperative Nursery at Christ Church (CNCC)** has been in existence for over 50 years. 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 3 year-old (Red Birds) 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. The 4 year-old (Blue Birds) program continues to build on these skills, as well as incorporates kindergarten readiness, for a seamless transition into Kindergarten. These skills are taught through self-directed play in a free environment and, since it is a co-op, 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**

To enter the **3-year-old program** (Red Birds) your child must be three as of September 1st, of that school year. The 3- year-old program at CNCC offers a 3-day program with an optional 4th day. Those choosing the 3- day program will meet on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. The 4-day program meets Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

To enter the **4-year-old program** (Blue Birds) your child must be four as of September 1st of that school year. The 4-year old program is a 4-day program, meeting Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. If your child participates in our **Young 5's program** they will have 30 minutes of enrichment on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday in a small group setting. To be eligible for the Young 5's program, your child must turn 5 before December 1st, of that school year.

The school day begins at 8:45am, with drop-off beginning at 8:35am, and the day ends at 11:20am.

## **EXTENDED DAY PROGRAM**

CNCC offers an extended day option for those families interested in a longer school day. This program is great for kids who enjoy school or for those students who want to prepare to transition into a full-day kindergarten program. Students eat lunch at school, take part in an afternoon craft and play time. The extended day program is available for all students from 11:20 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday for an additional cost.

## **ART**

CNCC offers wonderful opportunities for your child to create and experiment with a wide variety of materials and textures. Each classroom 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 best of all it benefits all areas of child development: social and emotional, literacy, motor, language and intellectual. The music program at CNCC recognizes this and provides an excellent opportunity for large movement and self expression through music on a daily basis. Our Red Birds and Blue Birds get to sing, dance and play instruments to a variety of songs together each day. The children show off all of their hard work and practice during a Christmas Concert and Spring Sing-A- Long/Graduation for parents and relatives.

## **READINESS**

At CNCC, all of our teachers work together to create a curriculum that is progressive- helping the children in our Red Bird class develop all the skills they will need when they move to the Blue Bird class, and on to Kindergarten. The Blue Bird teachers focus is to get the students prepared for Kindergarten, all while maintaining a fun play based setting. 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, as well as science and math. 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. There is a playground located on site as well as an outdoor patio connected to the classrooms. Children may play outside with balls, big wheels, etc. 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 a given 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 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 indoor gym equipment.

## **SPECIAL EVENTS**

CNCC plans many special events and field trips for our students. Field trips for our fours class often include “hands-on” learning experiences. In the past, the children have visited the library, the Grosse Pointe Woods Public Safety Department, Trader Joe’s and J House Juice. In addition, occasionally in-house events are planned for all the classes to enjoy. Such events could include a visit from community helpers, puppet or music show, animal visits, Veterinarian, dentist, and



## **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, Thanksgiving Party, Valentine’s Day, BeachParty, End-of-Year 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 personally involved in their child's educational experience. With this in mind, CNCC has adopted a flexible cooperative work schedule. Each mom, dad, or designated caregiver works at school approximately 8-10 days per semester (more or less depending upon the enrollment of the class). These days are scheduled with convenience of the parent in mind. Any parent/caregiver that would like to work in the classroom must fill out a form prior to the start of the school year, so that a background check may be performed.

Other co-op time commitments made by each co-op parent include party days, special event driving (generally 4's only), two annual membership meetings (September and January), possible Board of Trustees meetings, clean-ups (August/September 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). There is a yearly **Supply Fee of \$50** for each child at CNCC. This fee covers daily supplies needed, as well as, various activities that we have throughout the year.

Upon acceptance into the program we require a **non-refundable deposit of \$200**. This non-refundable deposit will be credited evenly to the total tuition due for the year. Our fees for the upcoming year are as follows: 3-day per week students are \$1725 for the year. 4-day per week students are \$1975 for the year. If your tuition is paid in full on the first due date (June 15<sup>th</sup>) you will receive \$25 off.

Tuition is broken down into three installments that will be due on June 15<sup>th</sup>, August 15<sup>th</sup> and October 15<sup>th</sup> of each year. Tuition refunds will be made at the discretion of the Board of Trustees **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 accepts applications beginning January 1 of the desired school year. Applications turned in during the enrollment period are categorized into one of the following prioritized 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 - General Public

-Definition of a Christ Church Member: A baptized person who regularly worships at the parish and whose name has been appropriately recorded in the parish membership list in the Christ Church Rector's office. CNCC application priority will be given to active Christ Church Members based on the date on which they joined Christ Church as verified by Christ Church's records.

-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, but is required to hold a space in the classroom.***

Children must be potty trained to be admitted into the program, as well as meet immunization requirements, as specified by the State of Michigan. Children attending childcare programs are required to be fully immunized or have a waiver obtained from a Local Health Department (Wayne County). Once obtained the waiver is valid as long as the child remains in the same childcare facility

## **CONTACT US**

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