



DESERT CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Empowering the Mind, Engaging the Soul

Summer, 2011

Dear Kindergarten Families,

We would like to welcome you and your little ones to Desert Christian Academy's kindergarten classes. Our names are Sally Lewis and Micki Migasi. This is our fourth year teaching together here at Desert Christian Academy, however we both have many years of teaching experience. We minimize competition by working together as a team, which provides the best possible environment for the children, parents, and us. Children learn cooperation by watching parents and teachers from both classes working together and helping one another. Our enthusiasm is building for the coming year. We know the children are getting excited as well.

Since this will be the first day of elementary school for the children, we will only meet from 8:10 a.m. to about noon on Monday, August 22nd. **Please plan to attend school with your child that morning.** If you are unable to attend with your child, please ask a relative or friend to act as your substitute. We will be spending time helping the children get to know us. This should make the first full day the children attend by themselves less stressful. Please take the day off work if possible. This is a big day! We recommend you plan a special lunch with your child after the big morning. If you are unable to take the whole day off, your child may stay with us after lunch for a naptime, and some activities that afternoon. Please take time to talk with them about their new school. Encourage them to share their feelings with you. Do your best to answer their questions and reassure them that school will be fun. The next day, Tuesday, August 23rd, will be our normal schedule, 8:10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Our regular school hours will be 8:10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Friday's scheduled release time is 1:30 p.m. for kindergarten. **Please note parents using after school childcare incur additional expenses and will be billed monthly.**

Since this is your child's first step into elementary school, we want to work together with you to ensure that each boy and girl will learn in an atmosphere that is Christ-centered, caring, and fun. Through our program, your little ones will grow in spiritual knowledge, as well as learn to read, write, and understand concepts of numbers. You will be asked to help your children practice at home. Our prayer is that this will become a treasured time for you and your children as they begin to master Bible verses, letter sounds and numbers.

One thing you can do this summer that will give your children an extra edge when school begins is to help them learn the phonics sounds for all of the letters in the alphabet. We recommend two **Leap Frog** DVDs. The first is called **Letter Factory**. This cartoon movie teaches all of the sounds the twenty-six letters of the alphabet make. The second one is entitled **Word Factory**. This cartoon movie introduces the process of putting letters together to make words. This is a fun way for the children to master the sounds before school even begins. When school starts, our phonics lessons will be a good review that will help the children read before we know it.



We will be purchasing most of the supplies for the children; however there are a few items that we need you to send from home. We have written a list of items you need to provide at the end of this letter. **Please be sure to bring them with you the first day of school Monday, August 22nd.**

We look forward to meeting all of you! We are so excited about this new class of children. We can tell 2011 – 2012 is going to be a great year here at Desert Christian Academy. We cannot wait!

In Christ's service,

Mrs. Sally Lewis

Mrs. Micki Migasi

Please bring the following items to school Monday August 22nd.

- 1. Change of clothing placed in a one gallon Ziploc bag in case of a toilet accident (please include socks, underwear, shirt, and pants).**
- 2. King size pillowcase, with your child's name in large letters printed on it, to cover sleep mat for rest time (please NO blankets, crib sheets, or toys).**
- 3. Swimsuit (girls one piece suits only), flip flops, bath size towel in a plastic grocery bag. Please print your child's name in large letters on the outside of the grocery bag. If your child is unable to swim, please send a lifejacket. (Please apply sun block at home daily before school.)**

Please use permanent marker to write your child's name in large letters that are easily read on all of their clothes and belongings.

(Marking all of their clothing will help during the times when the children change clothes for swimming or remove their jackets.)

This year your child's teacher will be:

Mrs. Sally Lewis K-1