



## **New Registration and Application Process for Butterfly Hill Preschool Programs!**

As Butterfly Hill has grown over the years and with feedback from our current families, we have made some exciting changes to the way our program will operate. We are transitioning to a full time, year round, preschool program (you can check out the full schedule of dates we will be closed on the other side). These changes will allow children to attend Butterfly Hill for all their childcare and preschool needs and give children and families consistency and continuity in care. This will result in a more family-like atmosphere as we will have more time to get to know each family with children in our care! We are hopeful that you will consider making the wonderful teachers at Butterfly Hill your children's full time caregivers while you are at work. The amount of love and knowledge we have in this magical place is bursting and we want your children to experience all we have to offer, year round!

We also understand that many families work part time or really want their children to get the Butterfly Hill Preschool experience but do not need full time care. We are offering half day and part time options as well to meet the needs of as many types of families as we can. The experiences children gain from their time with us is immeasurable, half day and part time students included!

Another important change we have made is that we will be joining Forest School with Butterfly Hill and all FULL DAY children will get the chance, at least once per week (maybe two or three times depending how many days they are enrolled), to leave our Butterfly Hill Base Camp (our building) and head out on field trips to the woods, ponds, prairies, or streams at our beautiful county parks. We have witnessed the amazing benefits of forest school for the preschool children and we want as many children as possible to experience being outdoors in WILD nature! These forest school field trips will be run on a schedule that each parent will receive as the school year approaches. Summer forest camp for preschool age children will be run a bit different than the school year forest school. (More info on the back about summer).

If you have a child enrolling in half day preschool and would like the opportunity for them to venture to forest school, if space allows, there will be a place to let us know that information on the application form!

### **Here is how the new application process will work:**

- Each returning and existing preschool family is receiving TWO applications. One is for summer 2019 and one is for school year 2019/20. We will run them as two separate sessions so you can apply for both or just one!
- The applications are both due by February 8th, 2019 and must be turned in with the application fees. The application fee will be processed once we have added your child to a class. Priority is given to children registering for 5 full and extended day students, then 3 and 2 full and extended day students, and finally half day students. If we are unable to place your child in the class of your choice, we will contact you to discuss other options and your application fee will be returned if we don't have a place for your child in a class that works for your family. Parents will be notified of placement by February 15, 2019. You will then have until February 28th to accept the space for your child and pay the 10% tuition deposit. This deposit and application fee are both non-refundable should you change your mind.
- Once you have paid the 10% deposit, your child is IN!
- Registration opens to the public on March 2nd, 2019 so you will want to make your decisions and pay the deposit by then so you don't lose a space!

### **New Dates of Operation Starting in June, 2019:**

- Summer: Summer session starts June 3rd, 2019 and runs until August 23rd, 2019.
  - The week of July 1-5th we will be closed.
- School Year: We will mostly run on the School District 206 calendar with a few dates different that we will be in session when they are not. School year session starts September 3rd, 2019 and runs through May 29th, 2020. We will follow all Alex School District weather related school closings and late starts.
- Dates off for teacher work days and holidays include:
  - August 26, 27, 28, 29, 30
  - October 17, 18
  - November 4, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29
  - December 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 30, 31
  - January 1, 20
  - February 17
  - March 23
  - April 10, 13
  - May 25

### **SUMMER INFO:**

Preschool summer camp will include up to three weekly forest camp field trips for children enrolled in the MWF preschool summer camp. A more detailed schedule for parents to follow will be given out after enrollment takes place and as summer approaches. The number of children enrolled will affect the amount of dates each child will get to take the bus out to forest camp! Full day children will receive priority for the forest camp adventures and half day children will get the chance to attend when space is available.

Preschool on Tuesday and Thursday will only be held at Butterfly Hill. There is no forest camp field trips for the Tuesday/Thursday schedule.

### **School Age Wild Rumpus Camp**

Our option for children that have completed Kindergarten through children that have completed 5th grade include Tuesday and Thursday Forest Camp June 10th through August 22nd. The week of July 1-5th there will be no camp. There will be a separate registration link via the [forestrumpus.org](http://forestrumpus.org) website available on January 22nd. Families can register for weeks individually or register for the whole summer at a discounted rate!

**We will be holding an information session on Monday, February 4th at Butterfly Hill at 7pm if you have any questions that you would like answered about the changes we have made. Please let Kristen know if you will be attending this session!**