

Thriving in Year Twelve
September 2021
Director's Newsletter

Cornerstone School

“Building a Foundation for Life”

561 Springfield Ave, Summit NJ 07901

<http://www.cornerstonekids.org/> T: 908-277-4400

Executive Director Michele Fortier

mfortier@cornerstonekids.org



Upcoming Events

Sept 16- School Closed Yom Kippur

Sept 20- 7:00pm Parent's Night Virtual

Oct. 30- Family Turtle Back Zoo*

*to be determined

Welcome!

When we ended the school year in June, the staff and I hoped we would be in a much different place this year. Unfortunately, we are coexisting with a pandemic for the 3rd school year.

We appreciate your trust and support as we manage the logistical challenges of providing excellent early childhood education during a pandemic.

I was excited to offer our in-person visit day. It was moving to hear the comments from many of you who had never been inside the building. I repeatedly heard how beautiful our facility is. We take great pride and care in setting up the environment for your children.

It has been wonderful to see familiar faces and to get to know our new families. **See you at Virtual Parent Information Night, Monday, September 20 th.**



Your Feedback Counts

At the end of each year, we conduct a family survey and use that feedback to inform our practices here at Cornerstone. Last year we received insightful input communication policy and drop-off procedures.

Families commented that they appreciated the daily emails and understood what their child was learning each day.

Staggered arrival and dismissal was also a big hit, especially with returning families who remember 9 am arrival pre COVID.



Our Garden

A special thank you to the Lowenstein Family for once again updating our entryway planters were redone. Thank you for helping Cornerstone be a beautiful place to learn.

More Important News

Arrival and Dismissal

Arrival and dismissal have been running very smoothly. Our goal is to maximize our educational time with your students. Please remember to enter by using the ramp and exit using the stairs. We love to see our families getting to know each other but need to ensure our parking lot does not get overcrowded; please exit the lot after dropping off your child.

Parent Information Night

I hope you marked your calendars for **Monday, September 20th @ 7:00 pm**. The staff is excited to share news of your child's classroom, learning goals and answer any questions. I will be sharing a video of information on the topics I usually cover that evening. Your lead teachers will be sharing a zoom link to have a virtual meeting that evening.



Looking for Parent Volunteers

Our CPO is looking for volunteers. Cornerstone has always been known for how we connect our families and build community. We are not going to let COVID stop us. We need creative thinkers to help us have virtual events or outdoor events. Would you please email cpo@cornerstonekids.org if you would like to help?

Thank You to Our Staff

Our staff has once again started a school year during a pandemic. They arrive at work knowing that the children they work with are not vaccinated but understand the value of in-person learning. Our returning staff has warmly welcomed those new to us this year. We spent a week preparing for this school year, updating and refreshing our health and safety guidance. We learned about assessment, literacy, and personality strengths.

We are looking forward to ensuring preschool is still a place of laughter, learning, and connection, even while wearing a mask!



COVID

Policy Reminders

Quarantine:

The length of the quarantine period from an exposure is determined by local activity rate of infection. Union County is currently HIGH.

Therefore quarantines are currently 14 days long.

You cannot test out of an exposure quarantine.

Travel:

Please remember that your children are unvaccinated and travel outside of NJ, NY and PA will require your child to quarantine upon return.

Our community is counting on us all working together for the health and safety of all.

