



Family Newsletter



The Shyne School



From The Director's Desk

We are seeing a lot of vacations this month! Please let us know about vacation dates by noting them in the calendar in the lobby. *Email director@shyneschool.com to request a vacation credit by the 20th to apply a credit for the coming month.*

A few notes on policy and procedure: Our driveway is a hill leading up to the parking lot, so cars can move a little faster to reach the top, get up the hill. **We require parents to hold children's hands in the parking lot until they are safely in the car or building.** (We have a *two way drive*, *PLEASE stay to your right*)

We offer breakfast to students at 7:30 each morning. As a licensed childcare center we follow set guidelines for all the meals and snacks we serve. Breakfast is cleared up by 7:50 AM. Children here for breakfast then brush teeth. We ask that parents do not bring in special treats to eat in front of others such as McDonalds, donuts, sugary cereal, etc. Those foods do not follow our guidelines and are not allowed. Please join us or have your children eat before they come for the day. The morning snack is at 9:45 AM.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO **TAKE YOUR CHILD TO THEIR CLASS AND THEN COME CLOCK IN FOR THE DAY.** PLEASE CLOCK OUT FOR THE DAY AND THEN PICK YOUR CHILD UP. This will eliminate the lobby congestion with parents and children. **The time clock is for adult use only** so this procedure also eliminates the children's desire to push the buttons. You are able to use your own device and the ProCare app to clock in and out but you must be on school grounds.

We are so glad you are here to enjoy the summer with us!

As children join a new class there can be adjustments and issues we need to work through with students and parents. If you have **concerns or commendations you want to share please direct them to the Lead or Lead Assistant Teacher (Not part time aides)** and you can always stop by my office, call or e-mail me! The best way is to set up a time to chat on the phone, zoom or in person. It is always our goal to solve the problem with you.

Our Parent Handbook posted to the Registration page includes Behavior Management for students as well as

Parent Conduct. Please make sure you are familiar with our Parent Handbook.

To establish a positive internet presence we are asking parents to take a few minutes to post a review to Google, Our Facebook page or if you are a regular user to Yelp.

We are always working on the school to improve the facility. We are waiting for a new Rainbow, Toddler Play structure due Mid-August. We just installed a music center on their play yard this weekend and an art easel for their new deck. Our gardens are also looking great with all the early summer rain and now warm temps!

Our summer curriculum includes a lot of water exploration so we are happy to get some warm weather! We will wrap up our focus on Science on July 11th and move on to Structures (July 14– Aug 1) and then Things that go (Aug 4 to 22)! Our full summer curriculum plan is in the June Newsletter, posted in the lobby and on the website.



Katrina Brooke, Director
The Shyne School

IMPORTANT DATES:

July

4 CLOSED Independence Day

August

21 through Sept 9th
New families and students moving up have **transition visits 10-11 AM**

26 Last Day of Summer Session—Party 10:30 to 12:30, If it is not your regular day you and your student can join us.
RSVP for additional people for the lunch count.

29 CLOSED for Teacher Work Day

27 to 29 Summer Break—For Only/Plus Students.

September

1 CLOSED for Labor Day

1-9 Summer Break—For Only/Plus Students.
Regular CLASS for Full Day students.

2 First day of School for Full Day students in Fall Class.

10 First Day of School for Only and Plus Students in their Fall Class.

Parent's Corner

Summer art projects can be as simple as painting outside, or using chalk to draw (homemade sidewalk chalk is a great way to spend time outside and let children draw with chalk they made — check out this easy [recipe to make sidewalk chalk](#) from Happy Toddler Playtime!).

And there are more involved projects you can do as well. Let's take a look at some ideas for summer art projects that are perfect for preschoolers!

What is Process Art?

[Process art is a choice-driven, open-ended activity](#) in which teachers offer minimal guidance or scaffolding, according to the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

“By intentionally providing an array of artistic materials, then offering children the time and space to engage freely with them, teachers convey that there are many possibilities, that they view children as competent and capable of exploring and creating, and that they value children's ideas and expressions,” the organization says.

Unlike traditional art projects that focus on producing a specific end result, [process art emphasizes creativity and exploration](#). The goal is for children to enjoy the act of creating, experimenting with different materials and expressing themselves freely.

This approach encourages individual expression and helps develop fine motor skills, decision-making and problem-solving abilities!

Benefits of Process Art

Children are free to explore their imagination without the pressure of producing a “perfect” piece of art. Activities like painting, cutting, and gluing help improve hand-eye coordination and dexterity!

It also promotes problem solving. Kids learn to think critically as they decide how to use different materials. And process art allows children to make their own choices, boosting their confidence and independence.

Summer Process Art Examples

Let's take a look at some examples of summer process art projects!

1. Nature Collage

Materials Needed:

Construction paper, Glue, Leaves, flowers, twigs and other natural items

Instructions:

Take your preschoolers on a nature walk and encourage them to collect various natural items like leaves, flowers and twigs. Once back in the classroom, give them construction paper and glue. Allow the children to arrange and glue their collected items onto the paper, creating unique nature collages. This activity not only connects them with nature but also allows them to explore different textures and shapes.

2. Ice Cube Painting

Materials Needed:

Ice cube trays, Water, Food coloring, Popsicle sticks, Paper

Instructions:

Fill ice cube trays with water and add a few drops of food coloring to each compartment. Insert popsicle sticks into the trays and freeze overnight. Once the ice cubes are ready, give each child a piece of paper and a few colorful ice cubes. They can hold the popsicle sticks and use the melting ice to paint on the paper. This activity is refreshing on a hot summer day and introduces children to the concept of color mixing.

3. Sun Prints

Materials Needed:

Sun-sensitive paper, Leaves, flowers or small toys, A sunny day




Instructions:

Provide each child with a piece of sun-sensitive paper and a few objects. Have them arrange the objects on the paper and then place the paper in direct sunlight. After a few minutes, the sun will bleach the exposed areas of the paper, leaving behind silhouettes of the objects. This activity introduces children to the concept of light and shadow while creating beautiful, one-of-a-kind prints.

Child Development Then vs Now

What's Changed and Why It Matters

In 1980, child development mostly meant:





-  Are they growing?
 -  Are they eating?
 -  Can they behave in public?
- That was considered enough.

Parenting now looks different



Not because we're fussier.
Because we finally have better tools to raise emotionally healthy kids, not just compliant ones.

We now understand:








-  How early stress shapes the brain
-  How connection fuels language and learning
-  How trauma gets stored in the body
-  Why secure attachment predicts lifelong wellbeing

We've also learned what doesn't work so well:

- Shaming children into obedience
- Using fear as a behaviour tool
- Treating emotional expression as weakness
- Assuming all kids develop the same way

We've stopped ignoring whole groups of children:

- Neurodivergent kids
- Anxious, sensitive, or shut-down kids
- Children from blended, LGBTQ+, or non-nuclear families

Modern understanding	What to try at home
 Behaviour is communication	Instead of punishing immediately, ask "What's this behaviour telling me?" Example: aggression might signal hunger, tiredness, or emotional overload.
 Kids co-regulate before they self-regulate	When a child is distressed, stay physically close, breathe slowly, speak softly. They need your calm to find theirs.
 Language builds brains	Narrate what's happening: "You're stacking the blocks so carefully!" Use rich, descriptive language — especially in play.
 Secure attachment leads to resilience	Spend at least 10 minutes daily on child-led play. No instructions, no corrections. Just follow their lead.
 Routine helps emotional safety	Use visual schedules, predictable transitions, and simple cues: "After snack, we brush teeth." This reduces meltdowns.
 Sensory needs affect behaviour	Watch for signs like covering ears, hiding under tables, or sudden shutdowns. Offer quiet, dim spaces to regroup.
 Children thrive on connection over correction	Replace "Stop that!" with "Let's try this together." It builds trust and teaches through relationship, not fear.

Made by Rachel Carrell. Repost to help others, and follow on LinkedIn for more like this





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"Where Children Come First"

Take home snack at 4:40 PM! Not available before.

If you pick up at 4:40 PM you may have children wanting to stay to eat snack.

If you stay our parking lot fills up and other parents can't park to pick up.

This dilemma sound familiar?

To help this evening transition run smoothly we have snacks pre-bagged for your children to take with them before they sit down, in the lobby.

If your child is already eating and would like to take the rest of the snack for the trip home we have some baggies, just ask

Building Partnerships

It is important to us to have good parent to teacher communication. Please sign up and use ProCare Parent Engagement App. Teachers may not get time to respond until their planning time or the afternoon. You can always set up a time to chat. **If anything is time sensitive PLEASE call the school at 425-882-1981.**

If your child is going to be out or in later then 10 AM **PLEASE call the school at 425-882-1981** and let us know when to expect you. If your child will be out for fun or sick please call by 10AM and let us know. If they are sick please list the symptoms. It is required we track the symptoms for the Health Department because we are a licensed childcare. Some mornings we get a lot of calls so please leave a message with your information, we check voicemail.

THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT IF YOU HAVE SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS AND WE ARE MAKING A SPECIAL SUBSTITUTION

If you need to reach the Director please call 425-882-1981 or email director@shyneschool.com—You can now message me on ProCare Parent Engagement App. I do monitor those communications, but not daily.

Parent Survey Information:

Thank you so much for taking the time to give us feedback! Some follow up information

- ◆ We send a **Family Directory** out in the fall, spring and summer so families can contact each other and build community and set up social events outside of school. I only include families that have given permission to give out their email and phone number. You can also leave notes for other parents in their **parent pockets**. **Remember to check yours daily!!**
- ◆ **PLEASE APPLY SUNSCREEN BEFORE SCHOOL.** For non nappers we re-apply sunscreen (we provide) after lunch if you sign the release form. You can bring your own sunscreen and a medication form as well.
- ◆ On our annual school survey parents asked for more information about promoting healthy development and educational activities to do at home. You will find the Parent Corner on the window outside my office and a section in this Newsletter. I have also included an infographic on Child development and attached an easy to read, quick article on **Discipline vs. Punishment**. We have parenting information on our Facebook page and posted to LinkedIn to check out too! <https://www.facebook.com/TheShyneSchool/>.
- ◆ At tours, and in our Parent Handbook we talk about having an **open door policy**. We welcome parents to the classrooms to have the opportunity to share skills, talents and cultural traditions. We understand parents work and classroom time is not a requirement. If you ever have time to join us please just let the teachers know! We do ask parents to take into consideration how visits will effect their child.
- ◆ Our **hours** are 7:00 and we close at 5:30—Please have your child picked up by 5:30, **arrive by 5:25.**

- ◆ If you are looking for information on a specific topic or would like to chat about a issue you are having at home please feel free to ask me or your Lead or Lead Teachers, we love to help and be a resource. We want to establish and maintain regular, ongoing, two-way communication. We want parents to feel welcome at drop off and pick up. **We ask all parents to use the app to facilitate communication and see photo's.**
- ◆ If your child is injured we do an Injury report and give it to you to sign to verify you have been informed. Please return the top two copies (white and yellow) to your teacher or the office and keep the pink copy, per directions at bottom of the form. If your child injures someone else you will have an incident report to be treated the same way. PLEASE SIGN AT PICK UP and LEAVE them at school.
- ◆ We will have current students do transition visits to their next class in August on regular class days. If you have not met the teachers or been in the classroom please pop in and introduce yourself and find the cubbies, art file, parent board and parent pocket so you are ready for the transition too!
- ◆ We work hard to keep teacher long term. We work on training to help them develop as teachers, we follow the NAEYC Code of Ethics so everyone understands how to treat and interact with each other, the children and families.
- ◆ All teachers have different personalities but we work hard to keep our behavior guidance consistent and predictable. We have regular staff training to make sure we are all using the same techniques.

Behavior Guidance for Infant and Toddlers

For infants and toddlers, positive behavior guidance focuses on creating a nurturing environment, using clear communication, and teaching self-regulation skills through consistent routines, positive reinforcement, and redirection. It's about understanding their developmental stage, which includes limited communication skills and a drive for independence.

A great free resource is the [Virtual Lab school for Infant and Toddler Guidance](#)

Behavior Guidance for Preschoolers

Positive guidance for preschoolers focuses on teaching appropriate behavior through positive reinforcement, clear expectations, and relationship building, rather than punishment. It involves understanding the reasons behind a child's behavior and providing support to help them develop self-regulation and problem-solving skills.

The Virtual Lab School also have a free course on [Positive Guidance for Preschool](#) parents as well.



