



## Our Preschool Day

### Welcome to School!

Your child's day begins with a warm hello as s/he is helped out of the car in car line by the school's director and directed to their classroom by a teacher at the front door. If they are not ready to enter school independently, a parent or caregiver will walk the child into school and help with the transition to the school day. (Note: this option currently suspended due to COVID precautions)

### Outdoor Play & Gym Time...to practice fine and gross motor skills, coordination, body awareness, balance, sportsmanship

Our beautiful spacious playground has something for everyone! The children can run, climb, and jump. The sandbox and play platform allow for digging, building and cooperative projects. In addition to the playground, our Mud Kitchen area stimulates lots of imaginative, messy play. The children can also work in our school garden, preparing the dirt, planting in the spring and harvesting in the fall. Throughout the year, we compost our snack scraps in our compost tumbler. On snowy days, the children love sledding on our mini hill, building snowmen and making snow angels in our expansive yard. Our campus is large enough to allow classes to take a nature walk, go on a scavenger hunt, and play in the fall leaves.

On days of inclement weather, the classes will visit our huge gym, with trikes, scooters, wagons and plenty of room for the children to ride, run, play a game, or navigate an obstacle course.

### Circle Time...to practice speaking and listening skills, literacy appreciation, music and movement

The class will come together at circle time and build their classroom community, talk about the weather, class jobs, and plans for the day. Children participate in finger-plays, rhymes and creative dramatics. Throughout the year, they are introduced to a wide variety of children's literature. Our music specialist visits each class once a week, leading the children in singing, movement, and instrument playing.

### Free Play...to practice independent choice making, cooperation, problem-solving, investigation and experimentation, organizing and conceptualizing

During free play, children choose from a variety of interest areas, including blocks, sensory, science, math, dramatic play and quiet corner. The environment is deliberately and skillfully arranged to provide learning opportunities through play, which is the way young children learn best. Teachers move throughout the classroom, facilitating and scaffolding learning, and observing the children's actions and interactions. They extend children's natural observations by providing rich language to help children articulate what they see. Using play as the medium for instruction, teachers connect children's experiences with social knowledge that helps them understand the world around them. They guide social interactions, allowing independence yet making each child feel safe and secure.

**Clean Up Time**...to practice responsibility and self-sufficiency, following directions

Working together as a team, the children clean up the classroom, while developing classification and organization skills. They learn to recognize the fairness of sharing tasks and a sense of pride and ownership emerges.

**Snack Time**...to reinforce healthy eating choices, conversation skills and manners

Each day a snack of fruits or vegetables are served, and the children drink from their own reusable water bottles, which are brought to school daily. Sometimes the children will assist in snack preparation, peeling or cutting, and take turns helping to set the tables. Cooking projects are sometimes incorporated into the day. Teachers and children eat together, promoting table conversations. Children celebrate birthdays by bringing in a special treat and singing at snack time. Parents are welcome to join in the celebration.

#### **Dismissal:**

When our busy day is finished, we say good-bye and the teachers walk their class to the dismissal doors. Parents or caregivers may walk up and sign the child out or pick up in care line. Children are put into Those who are staying for an Extended Day offering are walked to the proper classroom.

#### **Optional Extended Day Offerings:**

Children in the 3 and 4 year old classes have the option of bringing their lunch to school and participating in one or more of our Extended Days. These classes begin immediately after the morning session at 11:30 and run through 1:15 for morning students and 12:30 for afternoon students, who are then escorted to their classrooms. Monday, Tuesdays and Wednesdays include themed topics, such as STEAM, Print-Making, Spanish, Coding and Robotics, Creative Dramatics and many more. Thursdays and Fridays consist of lunch and additional free play time. These offerings begin in October and run through May, in two month sessions, Oct/Nov, Dec/Jan, Feb/Mar, Apr/May.

The timing of daily activities vary from class to class, and change occasionally due to special events, but each classroom follows a consistent daily routine to help the children feel secure and familiar. The 4 year old classes go to the playground at the beginning of the school day, and the 3 year olds and 2 year olds go out on a staggered schedule at the end of the day.

## Meet Our Staff



**Karen Coan, Director**  
**BS in Psychology, Loyola University**  
**MA in Education, National Louis University**

After a long history as a parent and teacher at GMPS, Karen became our school's Director in 2016. Karen taught at GMPS from 2004-2011 at all age levels, 2's, 3's and 4's and in 2014 returned as Computer Coordinator and NAEYC Accreditation Specialist. Karen has a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from Loyola University and a Master's degree in Education from National Louis University as well as a Gateway Illinois Director Credential. Karen served on the Board of Directors at GMPS while all four of her children attended the school from 1995 – 2004. Her favorite thing about GMPS is all of the wonderful children and families she gets to know.



**Holly Bell, Art Specialist, Teacher 2's and 3's**  
**Bachelor of Fine Arts, University of Wisconsin.**

Holly has been teaching at GMPS since 1994 and is our resident Art Specialist. She leads special projects throughout the year and collaborates with teachers on various aspects of the art curriculum. She loves teaching at GMPS because she gets to laugh every day. Holly lives in Glenview with her husband and has 3 grown children. She loves to garden and help the students maintain the school vegetable garden.



**Julie Ettelson, Teacher, K-Club**  
**BA in Public Relations, DePaul University**

Julie started in 2020 at GMPS, co-teaching K-Club with April Hassen. She worked at the Winnetka Park District leading summer camp groups and in marketing, and also in the fashion industry. She has her Gateway Early Childhood Credential 1 and is currently pursuing a degree in Early Childhood. She lives in Glencoe and is engaged to her high school sweetheart.



**Denise Faedtke, Music Specialist, Teacher, 2's and 3's**  
**BA in Music and Elementary Education, North Park University**

Denise has been a teacher at GMPS for over 27 years. She works with all of our classes as our Music Specialist and visits each class on a weekly basis. She also produces and directs our amazing Halloween Song Parade and our Winter Holiday Program. Denise is married and lives in Glenview. She has two grown boys and one adorable grandson. When she's not making music with preschoolers, Denise enjoys taking walks with her husband and spending time with her family.



**Karen Friedman, Teacher, 4's**  
**BA in Education, University of Iowa**  
**MS in Education, Loyola University**

Karen joined our teaching team in 2015 as a Teaching Assistant. She has extensive teaching experience in Kindergarten through fifth grade. She and her family live in Glenview and she stays busy juggling the schedules of her four active children, and socializing with friends and neighbors in Tall Trees, including her teaching partner, Maggie Rogula, who lives down the street!



**Jenny Gemignani, Teacher, 2's and 3's**  
**BS in International Relations, Minor in Spanish, Cornell College**  
**AAS in Early Childhood Education from Oakton Community College**

Jenny joined us in 2016 after student teaching at GMPS. She taught previously at the Schoolhouse Preschool in Wildwood. She loves teaching at GMPS because of the sense of community she feels and the friendships she sees develop throughout the year. Jenny attended Pleasant Ridge, Springman and GBS and spent a semester in Costa Rica during college. She loves traveling, gardening, reading and spending time with her family and friends at their lake home in Wisconsin. She has 3 children and a hamster named "Coco".



**Rhonda Greco, Teacher, 4's**  
**AAS in Early Childhood Education, DePaul University**

Rhonda has been teaching for over 13 years and has 3 grown children that all attended GMPS. She enjoys teaching at GMPS because of the people she meets. She loves seeing the children's smiling faces each day. Rhonda enjoys creating an open dialogue with parents and developing friendships with many of her wonderful co-workers at GMPS. Outside of school Rhonda enjoys reading, walking her dog, going for bike rides, sitting on her front porch, listening to country music and surrounding herself with good friends and lots of glowing candles.



**Kristin Miller, Teacher, 2's**  
**BA in Education, University of Wisconsin, Whitewater**  
**BS in Finance, Indiana University School of Business**

Kristin has a wide variety of teaching experience, including the Little Red Schoolhouse in NYC and Sear Rodgers International School in Hong Kong. Her four children attended GMPS and she joined our staff in 2019. In her spare time she likes to watch her kids' hockey, lacrosse and field hockey games, read books, visit family out of state, attend theater and concerts and explore new cities



**April Hassen, Teacher, 2's, 4's and K-Club**  
**AAS in Early Childhood Education, Oakton Community College**

April has been a teacher at GMPS since 1993. April's two amazing daughters and grandson attended GMPS. April loves the family atmosphere at GMPS and enjoys the opportunity to be surrounded by children. Outside of school April loves to travel and is part of a weekly bowling league!



**Julie Kahan, Teacher, 3's & 4's**  
**BA in Education, Ohio University**  
**MA in Reading Education, Northeastern University**

Julie came to GMPS in 2017 with five years of early childhood education experience and many years of elementary education experience. Julie lives in Glenview and has 3 daughters. She enjoys teaching at GMPS because she loves the sense of community that she feels here. Outside of school Julie enjoys traveling and being with her family. She likes to share a fun fact about her dog – he can sing Happy Birthday!



**Cathy Fay, Teacher, 3's**  
**BA in English Literature, DePauw University**  
**MA in Education, National Louis University**

Cathy taught at GMPS for 8 years, took a brief hiatus and returned in 2019. She has two sons who attended GMPS. Cathy enjoys spending time with family, reading and going to concerts.



**Michelle Geraty, Aide, 2's**  
**BA in Special Education, Northern Illinois University**

Michelle taught at GMPS from 1995 - 2005 and served as Director from 2005 - 2016. She has two beautiful married daughters and four wonderful grandchildren. She and her husband Mark have lived in Glenview for 35 happy years.



**Maggie Rogula, Teacher, 4's**  
**BA in Speech Communication, Miami University**  
**MA in Education, DePaul University**

Maggie joined the GMPS team in 2017, teaching the M-F 4's class with Karen Friedman, her friend and neighbor! Maggie spent 12 years teaching in Glenview District 34. She has three children who are all GMPS graduates, and she spent four years serving on the GMPS Board of Directors. Maggie is very excited to be back!

THE  
**CREATIVE CURRICULUM**<sup>®</sup>  
FOR PRESCHOOL

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

**SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

- Sense of Self**
- Shows ability to adjust to new situations
  - Demonstrates appropriate trust in adults
  - Recognizes own feelings and manages them appropriately
  - Stands up for rights

**Responsibility for Self and Others**

- Demonstrates self-direction and independence
- Takes responsibility for own well-being
- Respects and cares for classroom environment and materials
- Follows classroom routines
- Follows classroom rules

**Prosocial Behavior**

- Plays well with other children
- Recognizes the feelings of others and responds appropriately
- Shares and respects the rights of others
- Uses thinking skills to resolve conflicts



**PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT**

**Gross Motor**

- Demonstrates basic locomotor skills (running, jumping, hopping, galloping)
- Shows balance while moving
- Climbs up and down
- Pedals and steers a tricycle (or other wheeled vehicle)
- Demonstrates throwing, kicking, and catching skills

**Fine Motor**

- Controls small muscles in hands
- Coordinates eye-hand movement
- Uses tools for writing and drawing



**COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT**

**Learning and Problem Solving**

- Observes objects and events with curiosity
- Approaches problems flexibly
- Shows persistence in approaching tasks
- Explores cause and effect
- Applies knowledge or experience to a new context

**Logical Thinking**

- Classifies objects
- Compares/measures
- Arranges objects in a series
- Recognizes patterns and can repeat them
- Shows awareness of time concepts and sequence
- Shows awareness of position in space
- Uses one-to-one correspondence
- Uses numbers and counting

**Representation and Symbolic Thinking**

- Takes on pretend roles and situations
- Makes believe with objects
- Makes and interprets representations

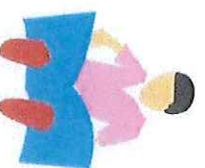
**LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT**

**Listening and Speaking**

- Hears and discriminates the sounds of language
- Expresses self using words and expanded sentences
- Understands and follows oral directions
- Answers questions
- Asks questions
- Actively participates in conversations

**Reading and Writing**

- Enjoys and values reading
- Demonstrates understanding of print concepts
- Demonstrates knowledge of the alphabet
- Uses emerging reading skills to make meaning from print
- Comprehends and interprets meaning from books and other texts
- Understands the purpose of writing
- Writes letters and words





## 2021-2022 GMPS Class Offerings

### Two Year Old: Birthdate between 9/1/18 and 8/31/19

2 Day: Tues/Thurs	AM (9:15 – 11:15)
\$2085	<b>* 2 sections</b>
1 Day add on: Friday	AM (9:15 – 11:15)
\$1045	

### Three Year Old: Birthdate between 9/1/17 and 9/1/18

3 Day: Mon/Wed/Fri	AM (9:00 – 11:30)
\$3125	<b>* 2 sections</b>
4 Day: Mon - Thurs	AM (9:00 – 11:30)
\$3900	

### Four Year Old: Birthdate between 9/1/16 and 9/1/17

4 Day: Mon - Thurs	AM (9:00 – 11:30)
\$3900	
4 Day: Mon – Thurs	PM (12:30 – 3:00)
\$3900	*Includes 1 weekly Extended Day class
5 Day: Mon – Fri	AM (9:00 – 11:30)
\$4640	

- Non-refundable Registration Fee: \$75.00 per family
- Non-refundable Deposit due upon class placement: 1 day deposit - \$150, 2 day deposit - \$250, 3 day deposit - \$350, 4 day deposit - \$450, 5 day deposit - \$550.
- Remaining tuition is collected in 3 payments: May 1<sup>st</sup>, August 1<sup>st</sup>, and November 1<sup>st</sup>
- All tuition payments are non-refundable
- All classes subject to minimum enrollment requirements

(\* '19-'20  
Pre-Covid)

## Board Sponsored Events

The GMPS Board is responsible for planning a variety of social and/or fundraising events for our school and parent community. Mark your calendars now, so you don't miss out on fun opportunities to socialize and support the school!



- ★ **Wednesday, September 11th - Welcome Back Parent Social** at North Branch - 7-10 pm  
(Appetizers will be provided with a cash bar)
- ★ **Wednesday, September 18th - Coffee Talk** - 9-10 am - Join us for coffee, bagels, and conversation in Room 8 at school and find out how to get involved this school year! Kids are invited to come play, too!
- ★ **Tuesday, September 24th - GMPS Family Dinner at Your Pie in The Glen** - Come have dinner (or lunch) with the family and Your Pie will donate 15% of sales back to GMPS.
- ★ **Thursday, September 26th - Dad's Night Out** at Macushla for a beer tasting
- ★ **Thursday, October 24th - Toy Cleaning - Dad's Only - 7 pm**  
\*Toy Cleaning is held 3 to 4 times per year, volunteers meet at the Preschool one evening and clean all toys, tables, chairs, and surfaces in the classrooms. This is a fun and easy way to volunteer a bit of time. Each Toy Cleaning takes approximately one hour to complete.
- ★ **Sunday, November 3rd - GMPS Family Movie Day** - 2:30-4:30 pm - Come snuggle up in the school's Social Hall for a movie with your family and classmates. More information to come.
- ★ **Wednesday, December 4th - Country Classics Sip & Shop** - Get some holiday shopping done while socializing (& drinking wine) with other GMPS Parents. A portion of sales will be donated back to the school!

More events will be announced throughout the year! If you have an idea for an event or would like to plan/host an event please reach out to our Social Team at [katiehunt11@gmail.com](mailto:katiehunt11@gmail.com) or [bevmadrideos@gmail.com](mailto:bevmadrideos@gmail.com).



SAVE THE DATE



# MOONLIGHT Masquerade

FEBRUARY 1, 2020 • 7:00 PM • THE GLEN

## VOLUNTEER COFFEE TALK

*Interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities at GMPS?*

Please join us for Coffee Talk  
Wednesday, September 18 at 9:00 am in Room 8  
All are welcome

For more information contact [GMPSBenefit@gmail.com](mailto:GMPSBenefit@gmail.com)

## School Sponsored Events

- ★ **October 3rd - Family Night & Book Fair** – This is one of our favorite events as the children are excited to bring their family to GMPS to see their classroom and show off some of their projects. Your entire family is invited to attend the event. Some snacks and beverages are available during the evening as well as an Usbourne representative with books for purchase.
- ★ **October 30-31 - Halloween Party and Parade** – All parents and loved ones of children in the 3 & 4 year old classes are invited to meet in the GMPS gym to see their child and classmates parade in their Halloween costumes. With the help of our Music Teacher, Mrs. Faedtke, the children will then present some songs they have practiced during their music class. Finally, the children will go back to their classrooms and have snacks & activities. Our Getting Started programs do not participate in the Halloween parade. They will have a party within their classroom. Children in these classes should not dress up in their costumes, although they are invited to wear festive Halloween attire.
- ★ **November 5th - Q&A Day**–During the fall, the teachers schedule an informal conference to discuss the results of the ASQ-3 screening, expectations for your child at preschool, the child's social/emotional development, cognitive development and physical development (fine and gross motor skills). This is scheduled during the day and school will not be in session for the children. Childcare will be provided down the hall.
- ★ **December 10-12th - Holiday Program** – Children in the 3 and 4-year-old classes will present a Holiday Sing Program in the Social Hall. GMPS' Music Teacher, Mrs. Faedtke, works with the children on songs and choreography to make this truly a memorable event. Please feel free to invite grandparents or other special family members. After the program, you are invited to join your child for snacks and drinks in your child's classroom. The children in the Getting Started program will perform for their parents in their classroom. Information regarding dates & times will be distributed in your child's backpack and via email closer to the date.
- ★ **January 11th - Family Frenzy** – This is a fun morning of activities planned by our teachers for the whole family to enjoy at the school. All family members are invited to attend this event held in the GMPS Social Hall.
- ★ **March 5th - Parent-Teacher Conferences** – Parents are invited to speak with their child's teacher to discuss any concerns at any point throughout the year. However, there are specific times set up by the school for conferences for a more formal sit-down. School is not in session on conference day. Childcare will be provided down the hall.
- ★ **April TBD - Week of the Young Child** – During the month of April the preschool celebrates the students with the Week of the Young Child. A theme is designated for the entire week. During this week, a special time is allotted for parents to bring a snack to share with their child. Weather permitting, this snack will be held outside on the lawn on the east side of the preschool – so bring your blankets. If the weather is not ideal, you will celebrate with your child in their classroom.
- ★ **May 11th - End of Year Art Show** – This is the final event of the year is held at GMPS in the evening. Each child has an art project displayed in the halls of GMPS, which you are encouraged to take home. Entertainment will be provided either on the grass located in front of the preschool on Harlem Avenue or in the social hall depending on the weather. All family members are invited to attend this event. Refreshments will be available.
- ★ **May 26-29 - Mini Camp & June 1-4- Parks and Crafts** – There are 2 sessions of camp at the end of the school year for students in the outgoing 3's & 4's ONLY. Each camp session is a four-day program held from 9:00–12:00. Mini Camp is held at GMPS and staffed by our teachers. Themes for the week are carried out through activities, crafts & snacks. The second week of camp the children visit parks that are within walking distance of the preschool. Again, teachers will be providing planned activities/crafts for the children. There is an additional fee for your child to attend a mini-camp/ parks and crafts session.