



MACFEAT LABORATORY SCHOOL NEWS
WINTHROP UNIVERSITY
September 2021



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

We cannot tell you how happy we are to see you inside the school building. That face-to-face contact inside the classrooms is a valuable way for us to establish trust and rapport with one another. Thank you for being so supportive as we work together to create the very best learning experience for your children. Spending time in the classrooms is a valuable gift to me and I look forward to watching your children learn and grow this year.

COVID-19 UPDATE



As you are well aware, this pandemic continues to be an ever-changing situation. We are using current local data and child care guidance from the CDC and DHEC to make informed decisions.

- We must all work together to monitor COVID-19 in our school. CDC guidance explains:
Individuals should be excluded from childcare if they have any of the following with or without fever:
 - Shortness of breath or –
 - difficulty breathing or -
 - Loss of taste or smell -or –
 - New or worsening cough

If these symptoms are explainable by an underlying condition (such as shortness of breath for an individual with asthma) exclusion may not be necessary. This is not a complete list of all symptoms of COVID-19, but only those that should trigger an automatic exclusion and evaluation for COVID-19. Other symptoms may include fever, chills, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea/vomiting, or diarrhea. A person is able to spread the virus up to two (2) days before they have any symptoms, but many COVID-19 cases show no symptoms at all.

- Please be sure to **notify us** if your child has been exposed to Covid or is symptomatic. You MUST report these situations to us. We will use CDC guidance to determine the course(s) of action. This is especially important as it may prevent us from having to quarantine entire classrooms.
- **Masks** continue to be required inside the building, unless children are eating or napping. We are wearing masks inside the gym, but not on the playground. We are offering cups of water frequently (especially in the gym).
- We are limiting **Winthrop visitors** (connected to course assignments), but are allowing some students to observe in our observation booths and on the playground. A small group (seven or fewer per classroom) are coming into the classrooms. Every visitor is trained in our Covid protocols by Dr. Hamel.
- Please understand that our children combine classrooms during the **after-school care** hours. If your situation has

changed and you do not require after-school care, please let the Macfeat office know.

- While we want nothing more than to welcome you into classrooms to share in **birthday celebrations and other family events**, for now, we are planning other ways to involve families in school events. We hope that the situation will improve and we can revisit this decision.

OUR PLAYGROUND



We are happy to announce that the playground is open! The afternoon temperatures have been too hot to allow us to play during the after-school hours, but all three classrooms are using the playground during the morning hours. You may have noticed caution tape around one piece of equipment. There are some replacement parts that are being shipped to us and will be installed ASAP. We will open that piece of equipment just as soon as it is safe to do so. **Please be sure to send your child to school in gym shoes.** This will help keep your child safe when we are outside.

MACFEAT ADVISORY BOARD



In the coming week, you will receive an email from the Macfeat Advisory Board President, Jennifer Hutchinson inviting you to join the Macfeat Advisory Board. Please consider joining us! This group provides important guidance for our school.

OUR FABULOUS TEACHING ASSISTANTS



We could never do this work without the support of our amazing teaching assistants. Their dedication to this school and our children in unrelenting and we are so grateful for their involvement. We included their photos and bios as an attachment to this school newsletter email. We hope you enjoy getting to know them!

2021-2022 MACFEAT SCHOOL APPLICATION ✓

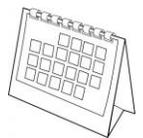
An email will soon be sent to you regarding the Macfeat application process for the 2021-2022 school year. If you wish to have your child enrolled in Macfeat next year, please watch for this important email.

SAY CHEESE!: SCHOOL PICTURES



LillySnaps is coming on **Thursday October 28th** to take school pictures! More information to follow.

MACFEAT CALENDAR



Sep. 7	SCHOOL CLOSED (Labor Day)
Sept. 30	Macfeat applications due
Oct.	Fall Break
Oct. 28	Picture Day