



Welcome
to

PRE-K 5

2026-2027

THROUGH
PLAY
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TEACHING

LITTLE CHILDREN

TLC Brookside



Welcome to Universal Pre-K 5!

We are so excited to have your child in our class this year! We have so many amazing things planned, and we can't wait to get started. The Pre-K teachers will be working together to maximize your child's growth and development as they continue preparing for kindergarten.

We believe that children learn through play. Therefore, we encourage them to explore, create, and share the wonderful things they make using their imaginations. Our discovery centers are play areas that include a variety of materials such as blocks, dramatic play, trains, cars, music, and art. Throughout the day, children have the freedom to choose which centers they would like to explore.

This year, we will place an even greater emphasis on kindergarten readiness and preparation. We believe that early exposure helps build a strong foundation and creates familiarity with important concepts. We will also continue reinforcing the skills your child has already mastered.

We believe that a strong parent-teacher relationship is essential to your child's success. Throughout the year, we will send weekly reminders and updates through the Band App.

- We would love to learn more about your child and hear what you, as parents, believe will help us make this the best year possible. Please complete all of the paperwork in your welcome packet and return it at Parent Orientation on August 19.

Thank you for your cooperation. We are looking forward to an amazing year!

Sincerely,
Miss Taylor

Please take a few minutes to familiarize yourself with our website at www.tlcmerrick.com. There you will find our policies, important forms, calendars, menus, and other helpful information.



If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or Ms. Fran by text or email at (516) 659-2247 or TLCMerrick@verizon.net.





Student Information

Student Name: _____

Birthday: _____

Address: _____

Primary Phone Number: _____

Dismissal Plans

Student's Hours

Monday: _____

Tuesday: _____

Wednesday: _____

Thursday: _____

Friday: _____

Who will be picking up?

Full Name: _____

Relationship to Child: _____

Parent/Guardian Information

Parent/Guardian 1

Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Phone Number: _____

Parent/Guardian 2

Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Phone Number: _____





All About Your Child

Child's Name _____ Nickname _____ Birthday: _____

Describe your child's personality.

What are some expectations for your child this year?

How does your child feel about school

What are your child's strengths?

What area would you like to see the most improvement for your child?

What are your child's hobbies/ favorite things to do?

Is your child a good eater? Picky eater? Allergies or intolerances we should know about?

Please include any other information you would like me to know about your child.

What kinds of rewards/reinforcements work best for your child?

About your family: What activities do you enjoy as a family? What holidays do you celebrate? Other important things?



All About Our Classroom

Birthdays

- You are welcome to send in birthday treats for your child to share with the class! All treats must be nut-free.

Communication

- I will send monthly newsletters, reminders, and classroom photos through the Band App. Please be sure to join and check the app regularly so you don't miss any important updates.
- Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or concerns. Open communication is important, and we will work quickly to address any issues that may arise.

Red Folders

- Your child's red folder will be filled each day with completed work, important notices, and any other classroom information. Please empty the folder each evening and return it to school the following day.

Homework

- One of the best ways to help your child grow as a learner is to read together every night. Weekly homework will be sent home on Mondays and is due on Fridays. We encourage nightly reading and plenty of quality family time!





All About Our Classroom

Important Reminders

- Please hand all medications, important documents, tuition payments, or other important items directly to a teacher. We encourage children to pack and unpack their own backpacks, so this helps ensure that nothing important is misplaced. Now and Tell days when children may bring a favorite item to share with the class.

Bathroom

- All children must be fully potty trained by the first day of school. If your child has an accident, you will be contacted to come and change them.

Labeling

- Please label all of your child's belongings with their first and last name. This includes water bottles, lunch boxes, food containers (Tupperware), extra clothing, and any other personal items.

Toys from Home

- Please do not send toys or stuffed animals from home. Throughout the year, we will have designated Show and Tell days when children may bring a favorite item to share with the class.

Sweatshirt

- Please keep an extra labeled sweatshirt in your child's school bag at all times.





Meet the Teacher

Hello, Parents!

My name is Taylor Giardina. I have been a part of the TLC family for 10 years and have more than 10 years of experience working with children outside of TLC as well. Throughout my career, I have worked with toddlers, Nursery, and Pre-K students. This is my 7th year teaching Pre-K, and I absolutely love it!

I am CPR and First Aid certified, and I have always had a love for working with children. I truly appreciate their honesty and feel so grateful to be a part of their growth and development. I believe in creating a safe, nurturing classroom where children feel comfortable being themselves while learning the importance of kindness, responsibility, and following classroom expectations.

I look forward to fostering their creativity, building their confidence, and preparing them for a successful transition to kindergarten.

A Few of My Favorite Things

- Favorite Color: Blue
- Favorite Season: Summer
- Favorite Sports Teams: New York Rangers & New York Yankees
- Favorite Food: Italian
- Favorite Dessert: Ice Cream
- Favorite Hobby: Dancing
- Favorite Animal: Dogs
- Favorite Singer: Justin Bieber

Fun Facts

When I'm not at TLC, I teach dance to students of all ages at East Coast Dance Force, where my youngest dancers are 2½ years old, and I also have the privilege of sending my senior dancers off to college each year. I am also the Head Coach of the Grand Avenue Middle School Kickline Team.

Stay in Touch

Please text me your name to join our Band App!

(516) 477-3127





Meet the Assistant Teachers

Miss Grace

Hi, Parents! My name is Grace Porti, and I am excited to be returning to the TLC community for my third year! I am a nursery school professional with over 25 years of experience. I am dedicated to helping children grow while encouraging their creativity to shine in a positive, fun, and nurturing environment.

I live on Long Island with my husband, Dennis, and I am the proud mother of two beautiful adult daughters, Jennifer and Brittany. I am also blessed to be the grandmother of my precious granddaughter, Lily, and am excited to welcome another grandchild soon! When I am not in the classroom, you can find me spending time with family and friends, reading, crafting, or drawing.

I look forward to meeting you all and having a wonderful year together!

Miss Peggy

Hi, Parents! My name is Peggy, and I am excited to be returning to TLC for my third year. Previously, I worked at Merrick Avenue Middle School and Merrick Woods Country Day School. My husband, Andy, and I have five adult sons and two wonderful daughters-in-law, all of whom attended the Bellmore-Merrick School District. Both my husband and I also grew up in Merrick.

Although my degree is in Finance and Accounting, I have always enjoyed working with children. I am currently enrolled in the Graduate Program in Early Childhood Education at Brooklyn College.

I am thrilled to work with your children and look forward to an amazing school year!

Miss Midge

Hi, Everyone! My name is Miss Midge, and I am so happy to be meeting you!

I have been part of the TLC family for 20 years and have loved every minute of it. I began working with the babies, and over the years I have had the opportunity to work with children of all ages, eventually making my way to the older classrooms.

I am looking forward to a wonderful year filled with learning, laughter, and fun. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of your child's life!





Pre-K 5 Supply List

Please bring in the following by August 19th (orientation)

- ☐ 2 boxes of Crayola Crayons
- ☐ 1 box of Crayola Broad Tip Markers (10-count, Classic Colors)
- ☐ 5 Extra Large Elmer's Disappearing Purple Glue Sticks
- ☐ 1 Red Take-Home Folder
- ☐ 1 labeled sweatshirt (to remain in your child's cubby)
- ☐ 1 1½-inch white hard binder with a clear front cover sleeve
- ☐ 1 package of 50 sheet protectors
- ☐ 1 labeled water bottle or spill-proof cup with a secure lid (this will be sent home daily for washing)
- ☐ 1 family photo
- ☐ 5 photos of your child

The Following Items Will Be Shared by the Class and May Need to Be Replenished Throughout the Year:

- ☐ 2 packages of baby wipes (for hands and faces)
- ☐ 2 boxes of facial tissues
- ☐ Girls: 1 container of Lysol or Clorox Disinfecting Wipes
- ☐ Boys: 1 box of gallon-size Ziploc® bags

Please let us know if you have any questions! We are looking forward to a successful school year!

