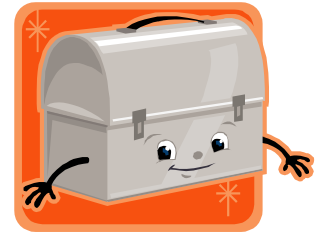


## Lunch Bunch News!

### Welcome to Lunch Bunch!

Dear Parents,

Our first Lunch Bunch day will be October 1st. This letter comes to you from Chris Ogden. I will be leading this year's Lunch Bunch and wanted to introduce myself and share my thoughts with you on this fun program.



I joined the St. Matthew's team two years ago. It is a special place, and I feel so blessed to be here and working with your children. My husband is in the military and I have taught in many different schools; and I have to say St. Matthew's is the one I feel does it "right". The curriculum and principles practiced at St. Matthew's are true to my heart. So it will be these same practices you will see in lunch bunch as a continuation of your child's day. Although your child will have two new teachers in the afternoon, you can be sure that it will be in fact a continuation of the St. Matthew's day. I'm thrilled to be working with Mrs. Andrews in this program. She joined St. Matthew's last year and shares my excitement about the school and program.

Of course, Mrs. Andrews and I will have to assess this group's energy levels and interests and make adjustments accordingly but below is the schedule we thought we would start with:

11:45-12:15 lunch

12:15-12:45 outside

12:45-12:55 large group activity (dancing, movement, etc.)

12:55 -1:15 centers (what a great opportunity to continue with an activity they might not have had their fill of during their class time)

1:15-1:30 story, interactive activity

1:30 dismissal

Please pack a separate lunch bag from your child's snack for class and label it with your child's name and "Lunch Bunch". You can send a drink from home or an empty cup for water. Please include a wipe or damp washcloth so your child can wash their hands before eating.

**\*We do have a peanut allergy in our group so we ask that you do not send anything in your child's lunch that contains peanuts. We appreciate your help and understanding in keeping our classroom peanut free.**

Dismissal procedures: Our lunch bunch room will be in the classroom right across from the water fountain (turn left before you get to the offices). When you come in, you'll find a clipboard designated "Lunch Bunch Sign-out." Write your child's name on the list and at 1:30 we'll dismiss the children in order of your arrival. We may devise another system after we get rolling and learn parent faces, but this will be our beginning strategy to reunite children and parents in an orderly fashion.

We will send home a Lunch Buddies list with addresses and phone numbers next week.

As Mrs. Andrews and I get to know our group and discover their interests, we will plan our activities to best suit them. We will also adjust our schedule as necessary to best meet their needs. If we find that they are just too tired after a morning of school to be outside for 30 minutes, we will change our plan.

Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you might have at any time during the year.

We are excited to meet your child and hope to enrich their time at St. Matthew's. Thank you for entrusting your child to us.

See you on October 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup>!

Chris Ogden

Payment note: You may include the \$45 lunch bunch charge with your tuition check (one check for both) beginning in October.

Dear Parents,

Lunch Bunch begins this week. If you've been considering enrolling your child, we have room for a few more! Call Sue Orndorff or e-mail me at [stmatthews@stmatthews.us](mailto:stmatthews@stmatthews.us) to enroll or receive more information. Chris Ogden and Stephanie Andrews have planned a nice continuation of the day: eating lunch (the children LOVE eating lunch together!), active play on the playground, a large group activity, center time, and an interactive story activity. The cost is \$45/month.

Mary-Catherine Deadman

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