

# Stargazer

May 2026



We would like to wish our great moms a "Happy Mother's Day." We hope that you enjoy your special day!



"Back to School Night" for the 2026-2027 school year is scheduled for Wednesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 PM. We will meet in Pickell Hall for a brief parent meeting. After the meeting you are invited to visit your child's classroom. **This is for parents only.** This is a great opportunity for you to meet other parents! Your child will have an opportunity to meet his/her teachers the following week during our back-to-school conferences which will be held the week of September 7<sup>th</sup>. The first days of school are the following week. You will receive a postcard reminder in mid-August with all the details.



Just a reminder that summer camp tuition is now due.

Week 1 (May 26<sup>th</sup> - May 29<sup>th</sup>) - \$195.00

Week 2 (June 1<sup>st</sup> - June 5<sup>th</sup>) - \$240.00

Both Weeks - \$415.00

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For some of you your May tuition payment is now due. If you are not sure whether you owe for May check with Miss Brenda.

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If you need to contact me over the summer, please call the preschool at 703-729-1224 or email me at [bshapbell@ashburnpresbyterian.org](mailto:bshapbell@ashburnpresbyterian.org). I will be in and out over the summer, but I will be sure to return your phone call or respond to your email as soon as possible.



Our last chapel service for the school year will be held on Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup> (Bumblebees, M/W/F BF & DF) and on Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup> (Caterpillars, T/TH BF & FF). The children will hear the story, What Will I Be When I Grow Up? The children will learn that there are many things that they can be when they grow up. But what they should really want is to please God in everything that they do.

Over the past 9 months the children have heard many stories from our special book - the Bible. We hope that these stories have helped them grow in their relationship with God. Right now, children are just learning what it means to be a Christian. They have a lot to learn but little by little, day by day, they are growing and learning. As they grow, they will learn what it means to be a Christian and how to live a life that pleases God. Young children are like sponges, taking in information every day. It is important as teachers and parents, that we understand the precious opportunity we have to teach our young children to know and love God. There are some things that children and their parents can do right now that will help them draw closer to God.

**READ** the Bible! - "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." Psalm 119:105.

**TALK** to God! - "Pray without ceasing." 1 Thessalonians 5:17

**TELL** others the Good News! - "But in your hearts regard Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you." 1 Peter 3:15



September's tuition and the registration forms for the 2026-2027 school year are due by June 1<sup>st</sup>. Please note that after this date the tuition becomes **non-refundable**.

Your child's health form must be dated within a year of the first day of school. So, if your child's current health form is dated prior to September 14, 2025, I must have a new one.

#### Tuition Fees for 2026-2027

- 2 days a week - \$315.00
- 3 days a week - \$390.00
- 4 days a week - \$460.00
- Extended day - \$640.00



It is so hard to believe that this is the last newsletter for the school year. I am not sure where the school year went. I guess as you get older time really does fly. It seems like it was just September 2025, and we were opening the doors for the new school year.

There is so much to be thankful for that I am not sure where to begin. I first need to give huge thanks to our amazing teachers! They are the best. They are a wonderful group of teachers who love your children very much and absolutely love and enjoy what they do. It is such an honor to work with each of them, and I am so glad that they are a part of the teaching staff here at Celebration. Thanks to Lauren Slimon, Bo Youn, Heather Herndon, Lauren Balderston, Carolyn Brodie, Jill Atchinson, Jolene Battaglia, Jenn Doody, and Leah Tecson for all that you do!

Thanks to Ashburn Presbyterian Church and the Celebration Preschool Board for their continued support of this ministry.

The staff and I would like to thank our preschool families for all the help and support that you have given us this year. Thank you for allowing us to teach your children. We loved getting to know your children and watching them grow in so many ways.

We continue to praise God and ask for his continued blessings on Celebration Preschool as we rest over the summer and prepare for another school year. We could not do all that we do without His help and guidance.

For our preschool friends who will not be returning we will miss you! We wish each and every one of you a safe and wonderful summer!



Starting kindergarten is seen as one of the major milestones in a child's development. Some children welcome the step eagerly and come with little trepidation. Other children fear the unknown and are reluctant to leave home and familiar family members. For kindergartners, the back-to-school season should be called the going to the big kid's school for the first time. While all children handle the start of school differently, it is quite common for children to have a serious case of the jitters.

Some things a parent can do to ease the transition are:

- Begin having conversations over the summer about kindergarten, answer questions and listen to their concerns
- Practice the morning routine of getting to school
- If possible, visit the school
- Meet and introduce your child to his/her teacher

- Make an event out of purchasing school supplies, backpack, and new clothes
- Help your child choose their clothes for the first day
- Encourage your child to clean up after an activity

Although you may not entirely alleviate your child's fears, following the above suggestions will certainly help ease the transition into kindergarten. Good luck!



We would like to invite the families of the Dragonflies and Fireflies to an end of the year program as we celebrate a year of learning, growing, and making new friends. Please join us in the sanctuary on Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup> as we celebrate a great school year!

AM Dragonflies & Fireflies - 11:00 AM

PM Dragonflies - 2:45 PM

Refreshments will be served!

We hope all our moms will be able to join us for our Mother's Day Teas! The schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup> @ 11:00 AM - Caterpillars and T/TH Butterflies

Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup> @ 11:00 AM - Bumblebees & M/W/F Butterflies

Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup> @ 11:00 AM - AM Dragonflies & Fireflies

@ 12:30 PM - PM Dragonflies



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 15<sup>th</sup> June 19<sup>th</sup>

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

VBS is for children entering kindergarten or 5 by September 30<sup>th</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade (September 2026)

\$70.00 per child/\$170.00 family max

You can register online at [www.ashburnpresbyterian.org](http://www.ashburnpresbyterian.org) or in the welcome center. See Miss Brenda if you have any questions.



The Dragonflies and Fireflies have enjoyed learning about different artists and their techniques over the course of the year. Now it is time to display their masterpieces. The art show will be outside, weather permitting. Otherwise, it will be held in Pickell Hall.

Fireflies, Tues., May 12<sup>th</sup> - 1:45 PM

AM DF - Wed., May 13<sup>th</sup> - 11:30 AM

PM DF - Thurs., May 14<sup>th</sup> - 3:15 PM

