



# Happy Hands Education Center

THE CENTER for Hearing, Language and Speech Services  
A Total Communication Program

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*A Christian School for Children with Hearing Loss and Communicative Disorders*

## Parent Newsletter August 2010



### END OF SUMMER SESSION!

This is our last week of summer session! We say a sad goodbye to those who will be leaving! It has certainly been a fun summer and a blessing to be in our new building.

**We are closed August 9<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> for Professional Development.**

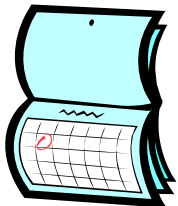


**The Fall semester begins August 16<sup>th</sup>.**

**NEW THIS YEAR** – One of our dreams has been to provide an ***afterschool program*** for deaf and hard of hearing children in the Tulsa Metro area. With our new building, we are now able to do that. If your child is deaf or hard of hearing and in Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade they are eligible for our afterschool program. We will run a bus daily to Wright Elementary School near 46<sup>th</sup> and Peoria in Tulsa to pick up children for after school care. This is the only school pick-up we will have. At this time we will not have before school care for elementary ages. On days that Wright Elementary is closed for breaks or parent conferences we will open the class all day. See the tuition schedule for afterschool program charges.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING FOOD SERVICE FOR AUGUST 5<sup>TH</sup> AND 6<sup>TH</sup>

Unfortunately we have had some problems with the tile in our wonderful new kitchen. Beginning August 5<sup>th</sup> the kitchen will be closed for repairs. This means we are making “other” arrangements for lunch and snacks on Thursday and Friday. Lunches will be catered in such as McDonalds or Pizza. A decision is being made today! We know the children are just going to be so disappointed with McDonalds or Pizza – right? Thanks for your patience and support! Work in the kitchen should be completed before we begin the Fall semester!



#### Calendar Notes

**August 6<sup>th</sup>** – Last day of Summer Session

**August 9<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>** – Closed for teacher training and preparation

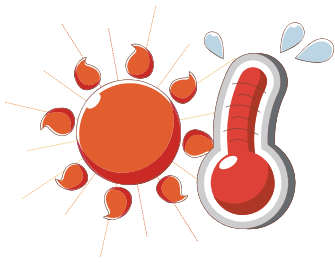
**August 16<sup>th</sup>** – Fall session begins

**September 6<sup>th</sup>** – Closed for Labor Day Holiday

**September 13<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>** – Grand opening/ Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies

**September 27<sup>th</sup>** – Happy Hands Golf Tournament, Meadowbrook Country Club

***Our website is improved and being updated constantly. Check it out and send your friends and families to it! [www.happyhands.org](http://www.happyhands.org).***



### **Summer Heat – this is a repeat from July but still very applicable.**

During this broiling heat of the summer please know that your child is being carefully watched and evaluated during outdoor play. DHS requires that we provide all children the opportunity to play outdoors daily unless weather conditions pose a significant risk. For that reason we provide time in the morning schedule for children to be outside before the heat of the day becomes brutal. Children are encouraged to be well hydrated and plenty of shade is available. We have misting poles and water tables for the children to play in as well. Teachers are educated in the risks of heat

exposure and are constantly observing the children during play. You can help by dressing your child in light clothing, sending a water bottle to school with your child, and applying sunscreen before they dress each morning. Because of staff/child ratios we cannot always provide a teacher to stay indoors with a child when all the others are outside. If your child is not well enough to play outdoors with the precautions we provide then he/she is probably not well enough to be at school.

### **Absences and Late Arrivals**

It is **IMPERATIVE** that you call in your child's absence or late arrival to Miss Phyllis. Her direct number is 893-4850. Leave a message if she is away from her desk.

### **Pick up/end of day procedures**

At the end of the day we often combine classes to accommodate staff/child ratios. Your child may be in another classroom, on the playground, or in the gym. If they have moved to another classroom the teacher will bring your child's backpack and take-home folder to the other classroom. If they are in the gym or on the playground, the backpack will probably be in their classroom cubby.

Teachers should be posting a note outside their door to let you know where they are. Remember our playground wraps around the whole back side of the building with the younger end on the east side and the older end on the west side.

**DON'T FORGET TO SIGN YOUR CHILD IN AND OUT DAILY! DHS REQUIRES WE HAVE ATTENDANCE RECORDS ON FILE DAILY. THE COMPUTER PROGRAM GENERATES THIS FOR US. The attendance program is being updated. When your child returns on August 16<sup>th</sup> you will be asked to create a new check-in code. Please be patient with us!**

Farewell to our summer staff. You've done a fantastic job this summer. Please keep these ladies in your prayers as they return to school.

Brooke Hendricks in the Yellow Duck Class will be attending OSU Stillwater. She was a graduate of Happy Hands many years ago and now she will be the first deaf person on the OSU Flag Team!

Nicole McDowell in the Yellow Duck Class will be attending Connors State College in Warner, OK. Nicole is also a Happy Hands graduate and she has been accepted on the Connors Rodeo Team and will be studying Equine Management.

Tamara Ketchum in the Green Frog Class will return to the Rochester Institute of Technology in New York where she is majoring in interpreting and deaf services.

Katie Rutherford in the Blue Horse Class has been accepted at Central Bible College in Springfield, MO to pursue deaf ministries.

Kassie Jones in the Gold Fish Class will return to the USAO in Chickasaw, OK to continue her major in Deaf Education.

These ladies are awesome! We hope to see them back next summer!

**Welcome Tommy Matthews.** Mr. Tommy is our new Facilities Services Provider. He is also certified to drive our bus and will begin Kitchen Certification training soon. He is a great addition to Happy Hands!

**"Let them know that it is your hand, that you, O Lord, have done it." Psalm 109:27**