



Welcome to the 2025-2026 school year!

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Dear POP Families,

Welcome to the 2025-2026 school year and our *58th year of serving families and young children at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church and Preschool!*

As we begin this new chapter, we're filled with gratitude for the legacy that has taken root in the heart of our Arcadia neighborhood. We look forward to weaving both new and returning families into the rich tapestry that has made our church and school such a special place for generations.

Last week, we wrapped up a fun-filled summer camp and we are now in full prep mode getting classrooms ready to welcome you and your children! This week, our staff is deep-cleaning classrooms, organizing materials, reviewing safety procedures, and renewing CPR and First Aid certifications. There's a wonderful energy on campus as we prepare for a great year ahead!



We're excited to invite you and your child to our
"Meet the Teachers"
Friday, August 1st from 9:00-11:00 a.m.

This is a special opportunity to explore your child's classroom,
meet their teachers and begin connecting with new friends and families.
We hope you'll stop by and say hello!

Class rosters were shared with our teachers on Monday, and you should have received a welcome email/message from your child's new teaching team. Class lists will also be posted on the Parent Communication Board outside the preschool office Friday morning.

As a reminder, school is closed on Monday, August 4th for final preparations.

Our first day of school is Tuesday, August 5th, and we can't wait to begin this new year together with you!

What to Bring on the First Day

Campus Safety and Security

The safety and well-being of our children,

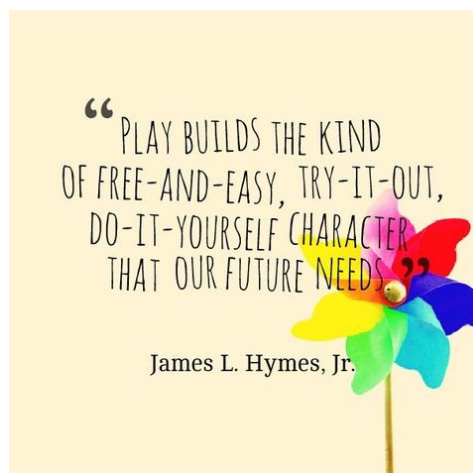
The start of a new school year is always filled with excitement! We want you to feel as prepared as possible, and we want to help ensure your child's first days are smooth and positive.

On the first day of school or if you pop by for our Meet the Teacher, please bring a full change of clothes for your child, including socks and underwear, in a ziplock bag labeled with your child's name. This change of clothes will be placed in your child's cubby as a backup in the event of accidents or spills.

Water is always available to children in our classrooms, gym and playgrounds. We encourage children to bring a labeled water bottle to school each day.

If your child will be staying for lunch, please provide a packed lunch for your child each day. We have refrigerators available for use as well as microwaves for heating up lunch items. Uneaten food will be sent home in the lunchbox each day.

If your child is still in diapers, please provide a supply of diapers and wipes. We will store them on a labeled shelf with your child's name. Your teachers will let you know when you are running low.



families, and staff is always our highest priority. We are continuously assessing our campus and classrooms and strive to respond proactively to all safety and security matters. We deeply value the feedback we receive from parents and want to assure you that we take every concern seriously and are committed to doing everything we can to keep our POP community safe, especially your precious children.

Over the past many months, we've made significant security improvements, including:

- Perimeter fencing upgrades
- Updated monitored keypad access systems at all entry points
- Installation of shatterproof riot glass on the windows of our classrooms, administrative building, and gymnasium
- And soon, a fully upgraded campus-wide surveillance camera system

In addition, we're excited to be rolling out Vocera communication devices in all classrooms and key areas throughout campus. These hands-free devices will allow our staff to communicate swiftly and effectively throughout the day and in the event of an emergency, ensuring that support and assistance are always just a call away.

We remain committed to regularly evaluating and enhancing our safety protocols, and we thank you for your continued trust and partnership in creating a secure, nurturing environment where your children can thrive.

We like to have fun and get messy during our school days! Because of this, PLEASE send your child to school in clothes that you do not mind getting dirty. POP shirts are a perfect solution for this! We enjoy lots of hands-on art and play here at POP, and clothes often get messy.

We ask that you please send your child to school in **closed-toe shoes**. They are far safer for running and playing than sandals.

You are not required to provide any additional supplies; we provide all school supplies for the year!

If you are interested in donating items to your child's classroom, your teachers will have a wish list of special items that they would love for your child's class.

Thank you!

I'm excited to welcome back familiar faces and to meet the new children and families joining POP this year! While I've been a teacher and administrator at Prince of Peace for nearly twenty years, I'm especially grateful to now be heading into my second year leading our Children's Ministry programming on Sunday mornings with children ages 3-12, as well as integrating faith-based experiences throughout our preschool days.

If your family is ever looking for a place to grow in faith or connect with others, our doors are always open to welcome you on Sunday mornings. We will be kicking off Sunday school on August 10th at 9:30am with a fun water day and community BBQ! Keep an eye out for an email soon outlining our Chapel and Sunday School plans for the year ahead!

Please know that our incredible teachers and staff are here to support you and your child as we begin this school year together. If you ever have questions or concerns, now or in the future, please don't hesitate to reach out to me or any member of our dedicated administrative team. We are here to partner with you in every way we can.

I pray that each of you finds our community to be warm, loving, and grounded in meaningful relationships. May you feel peace and confidence in entrusting your child to our care.

We're looking forward to a year filled with growth, learning, connection, and joy. These early years pass so quickly; thank you for the gift of experiencing them with your child and alongside your family.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Nicole Orsi
Preschool Director

Prince of Peace Preschool | poppreschool.org

Prince of Peace Preschool | 3641 North 56th Street | Phoenix, AZ 85018 US

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