What are the Differences Between a Pre-K Class and a Regular 4s Class?

Pre-K classes are designed for children who will turn 5 by December 31. These children are eligible to begin Kindergarten but parents choose to give them another year of pre-school. Many of the children in our younger 4s class will be in this situation. We feel so strongly about giving children the gift of an extra year before they begin Kindergarten that we offer two Pre-K classes (in the morning and afternoon).

Children in the 4s classes have their birthdays after January 1. They will naturally attend elementary school the next school year. If the Pre-K classes are not full, there may be a few children who have birthdays between January and March who are ready for the advanced curriculum of the Pre-K classes.

Pre-K children have a choice to attend 5 mornings (3-hour sessions) or 4 afternoons (three-hour sessions) a week. Children in the 4s classes attend three-hour session 3 mornings or 4 afternoons a week in the 4s/Pre-K class.

In general the curriculum for the Pre-K classes is six months ahead of the 4s classes.

1. The Pre-K children will immediately begin recognizing their last names and writing their first names.

2. Pre-K will discuss the primary colors and do many hands-on experiments to find out how other colors are made, as well as Chemistry lessons throughout the year.

3. Both Pre-K and 4s will pattern, graph and sequence but the Pre-K class will be able to do much of it on their own.

4. In January, Pre-K will begin additional number work, which will include writing of numbers.

5. Each Pre-K child will have a Show-and-Tell day each week.

6. In mid January, Pre-K will begin alphabet study. Each week an entire unit will be centered on a different letter. They will concentrate on phonics and forming the letters. Fours will study the alphabet later in the year.

7. Every unit studied will go into much more detail than what will be taught in a 4s class.

If your child was born in the later part of the year, seriously consider giving your child an extra year to gain confidence and self-esteem before entering elementary school. Please speak to your child’s teacher and Joan.
Extended School sessions

Extended Sessions are extra school sessions held for any child. The sessions begin at the end of the morning classes. Extended Sessions include Lunch Bunch, playtime (inside or outside), activities which go along with our theme, story-time and snack-time. The themes will change each month. During the past four years we have had sessions about interesting places in the USA and many countries, Christmas around the World, Christmas cooking, Dinosaurs, Circus, Pirates, music and movement, crafts, science, fairy tales and drama. Each session is different and unique.

You will receive information and applications two weeks before each monthly session begin. We will offer two different sessions each week. Mondays and Tuesdays will be one theme, while Wednesdays and Thursdays will offer a different theme.

Early Morning Drop-Off/Lunch Bunch

We offer early morning supervised play sessions. We will open our school at 8:00 a.m. One of our teachers will be in her classroom to welcome these children. There will be toys and games available. When regular classes begin, the children will be escorted to their proper morning classes. Early morning care will be available Monday through Friday. The cost is $8.00 per day which will be charged at the end of the each month.

Again, we will offer our popular Lunch Bunch session Mondays through Thursdays. This is a 45 minute session for children to eat their lunches and have supervised play time. These sessions will also be $8.00 and charged to your tuition accounts at the end of each month.

Afternoon Classes

We are offering three-hour class sessions for each age group.

*There must be an enrollment of eight children in each afternoon class for us to offer classes. We will hold space in our morning sessions for children enrolled in afternoon sessions. Parents will be notified by June if an afternoon session must be cancelled due to lack of interest.