

~ Welcome Letter ~

Hope Preschool 3's Sea Stars

Hi Sea Star families, and welcome! I am Christina Figgins, and I'll be teaching ages 3's and 4's this year. This is my 10th year teaching at Hope. I am also the Preschool Director, and Extended Care Director. My background and life has been all about children. I have often found that some of my best friends are children. I appreciate their honesty and zest for life. I guess I'm kind of a kid at heart.



I have a bachelor's degree in Psychology, with an emphasis in Early Childhood Education. I worked at an early learning center in the Greenlake area for 8 ½ years, nannied for 10 years, and raised my 3 children as well.

I live in West Seattle with my husband, son, golden retriever and cat. Some of my favorite things to do are: escape to Disneyland with my family, garden, and take walks with my dog. I have also been a life-long member of Hope Church, and attended Hope School myself. So, this is a little about me. Can't wait to learn more about you!



Hello. My name is Carol Christian. I am so excited to be working as the preschool aid. This will be my 8th year working in the preschool program here at Hope. I started working 9 years ago as the preschool aid. I left for a couple years and returned four years ago as the ESC/Sand Dollar club aid.

I have lived in West Seattle for 54 years and became a member of Hope when I married my husband Rob 27 years ago. I am the mother of a 21 year daughter who is currently attending the University of Utah in Salt Lake City. I am looking forward to working with all of the amazing Hope preschool families and staff.

My name is Stephanie Van Doren, I will be spending the afternoons with the Sea Stars. This will be my fourth year teaching at Hope Lutheran. I have over thirty years' experience working with children as a preschool teacher, nanny, and mom of three. I operated my own preschool for twelve years before coming to Hope, and now am working on (finally) getting my early childhood degree. I feel privileged to provide responsive care to the children before and after school, and enjoy the time we spend together taking care of ourselves and having fun.





To kick things off, our first theme will be "getting to know you". This will be a fun way to get to learn about each other. You will find a "hand" shape in this mailing, please attach a picture of your family to it (a photocopy is fine). You and your child can decorate it however you like. Have fun with it. I look forward to seeing all your creative styles! We will display these on a bulletin board. Family photos in the room are a great touchstone for the children to connect with and share with their friends. You can drop these off on the "Back to School Event" or during the first week of school.

Now for some important info to help you ease into the new school year:

***** ALL STUDENTS WILL NEED TO WEAR A MASK*****

**Hope Back to School Event for 2020-2021
Preschool Friday, August 28**

We look forward to seeing everyone at our annual back to school event! Students will have an opportunity to meet their teachers during a 15 minute time slot, scheduled by last name. This is the opportunity for your student to pick up Hope classroom items from your teacher, and a special gift bag from Hope School and Parents & Teachers of Hope (PTH). We are offering morning and evening time slots to accommodate varying family needs, so please choose the time that works best for you out of the two choices. Remember to follow safety protocols including everyone wearing face masks and keeping a six foot social distance.

You will find classroom supply lists on our website by clicking on this link: <https://hls.hopeseattle.org/classrooms/>, locate your child's classroom, and click on the supply list. At the back to school event, please drop off classroom supplies. Thank you and please email Mrs. Wallace with any questions at swallace@hopeseattle.org.

**Preschool Location- lower parking lot area behind church/school
Friday, August 28, 2020**

PS Families with last names arrive at these times:

| | | | |
|-------|-----------------|----|---------------|
| A - C | 11:00 - 11:15 | or | 6:00 - 6:15pm |
| D - F | 11:20 - 11:35 | or | 6:20 - 6:35 |
| G - J | 11:40 - 11:55 | or | 6:40 - 6:55 |
| K - N | 12:00 - 12:15pm | or | 7:00 - 7:15 |
| O - R | 12:20 - 12:35 | or | 7:20 - 7:35 |
| S - Z | 12: 40 - 12:55 | or | 7:40 - 7:55 |

***First day of school for the Sea Stars: Wednesday, Sept 2nd**

Hours are 7:30 - 5:30. Please drop off in the north end lot. **You and your child will both need to wear masks.** You will need to sign your child in outside. We are asking that parents do not come in the building. Carol Christian will check in with you about Covid signs and take your child's temperature. Then your child will be escorted to their class. When you are ready to pick up please ring the doorbell at the north end door, sign your child out and we will bring your child out.

***Forms and Communications:**

Be sure to check the school website, hls.hopeseattle.org to keep up with all school news. The forms (milk order, permission/medical, emergency, etc) which will be due to the school office, are also here for you to download. This is also where you can find orientation materials and my newsletters about the happenings in the preschool classes. Go to "classrooms" then click on "Sea Stars" or my picture. I will also be emailing weekly newsletters to you.

Please go to the website and fill out the necessary forms any time before the first day of class. Thanks! Supplies may be brought in on the first days of school or to the Back to School Event.

Enjoy the rest of your summer, and we'll see you all soon.

Many Blessings!

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