



Episcopal Church of the ASCENSION DAY SCHOOL

Love. Laugh. Learn.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- October 4 - ADS Prospective Family Tour @10 a.m.
- October 5 - Spirit/Pizza Day
- October 7 - November Tuition Due
- October 8 - Ascension's Blessing of the Pets @ 3:30 p.m. (see pg 4)
- October 9 - RISD State Fair Student/Staff Holiday
- October 10 - Blessing of the Stuffed Animals @ Family Chapel 10 a.m. & Celebrating October birthdays (more info below)
- October 11 - Spirit/Pizza Day
- October 17 - Hearing & Vision Screenings, ages 4+ (see pg 5-6)
- October 20 - Scholastic Orders Due by 6 p.m., use Online Code QZBHC
- October 23-26 - Speech & Language Screenings, any age (see pg 7-8)
- October 29 - Trunk or Treat 4-6 p.m. (see pg 4)
- October 30 & 31 - Halloween Parties
- October 31 - Costume Parade @ 9:15 a.m. and Halloween Parties

PARENT COUNCIL

We are looking for volunteers to join Parent Council! This is an easy gig and gives you the opportunity to meet and work with other ADS parents. Our main events are the Spring Picnic/Auction and Teacher Appreciation Week. Please email for more information to sign up: adsparentcouncil@gmail.com

ROOM PARENTS

Thank you to everyone who offered to be a room parent this school year. Ms. Caroline, a teacher, parent and one of our Parent Council Representatives, has sent home packets with information on how to support your child's teacher, including a list of parent email addresses. They will be in touch with how to help spoil teachers for their birthday, Christmas, and at the end of the year. Your participation is requested, but certainly not mandatory. We know lots of families like to individually give gifts to their teacher.

ENROLLMENT PROJECTION CARDS

If you have a child at home this school year that did not make our age cutoff and you would like to enroll him/her for the 2024-2025 school year, please reach out to us ASAP to request an orange enrollment projection card. Submitting this does not guarantee enrollment or determine placement, but gives us an idea of how many ADS siblings will need a spot.

BEGINNING OF YEAR ASSESSMENTS

Teachers are completing beginning of the year assessments and will send them home by the end of October. Please reach out with any questions. Parent/Teacher conferences will be available for the 3s and PreK classes in November to discuss your child's assessment.

OCTOBER THEMES

- October 2-5 - On The Farm
- October 10-12- State Fair of Texas
- October 16-19- Seed to Apple
- October 23-26 - Celebrating Halloween
- October 30-Nov 2 - Pumpkins

Woah! The thunderstorm on 9/20 caused several damages to Ascension. Thank you for your understanding as we dealt with the aftermath.



We are looking for a few parents to help our garden grow! Please email adsadmin if you are able to occasionally help.

CHAPEL IN THE COURTYARD

Chapel will generally be held on Tuesdays in the courtyard at 10 a.m. Our first month of chapel has gone super well with Ms. Nancy and Ms. Kathy and we are excited to continue having our chapel experience outdoors. We continue our pattern of worship which includes songs, bible stories and prayer. Ms. Nancy and Ms. Kathy have also implemented interactive activities for our older students to more fully engage in the Bible stories. Most weeks, our chapel will conclude with our creed to the tune of 'Twinkle Twinkle Little Star'. Hopefully you start to hear your child sing this song at home.

I believe in God above
 I believe in Jesus' love
 I believe his Spirit too,
 comes to teach me what to do
 I believe that I can be,
 kind and loving, Lord like thee

If your child attends school on Monday/Wednesday, you are always welcome to join us! Our first family chapel will be October 10th at 10 a.m. Please bring a beach towel or blanket to sit on. We ask that our toddler family members wait to join us until your child has fully adjusted to our new school environment and routine. At each Family Chapel, we will also celebrate birthdays for the month by calling students forward to sing happy birthday!

HALLOWEEN PARADE: OCT. 31ST @ 9:15AM

We will hold our Halloween Parade in the courtyard (weather permitting) and parents are invited. Costumes are welcome, but please have regular clothing underneath. After the parade, children will take their costumes off and put them in their backpack or you can take them home. Costumes are not required. Kids can wear festive colors like orange and black or a fun Halloween shirt!

MW students - please arrive at 9 to join us!

FRIENDLY REMINDERS

- Dismissal is from 1:50-2 p.m. Late fees begin at 2:02 p.m. \$2/min Fees will be billed through brightwheel.
- Please slow down in the parking lot to keep everyone safe; remember that our parking lot is one way at drop-off and pick-up times, **including** Food Pantry days
- Sign IN and OUT on the classroom clipboard each day
- If your child is celebrating a birthday, please see the Parent Handbook for our policy on how we can celebrate your child's special day
- Please only send your child in shoes with laces if they can independently tie them

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| 10/1 Palmer H. | 10/17 Sutton S. |
| 10/11 Camden C. | 10/22 Jaxon L. |
| 10/11 Buck C. | 10/24 Max M. |
| 10/13 Ms. Besrat | 10/28 Vivian W. |
| 10/16 Rosie G. | 10/29 Ms. Caroline |
| 10/16 Rory S. | |



Pick up an aluminum yard sign!
 A few more are available - \$10

Reminder:

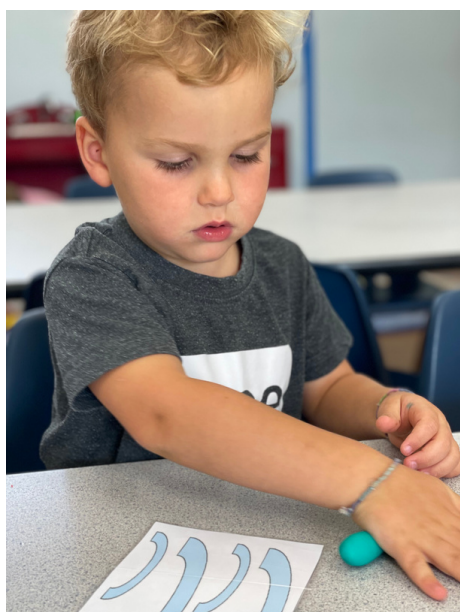
Please label everything with your child's name:
 water bottle, shoes, jacket, lunchbox, backpack, etc.

CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHT: HANDWRITING WITHOUT TEARS

HWT is a research-based curriculum, designed to be easy to teach and easy to learn, and follows a developmentally appropriate sequence. Teachers use explicit instruction combined with guided practice to promote handwriting automaticity. Multisensory learning engages visual, audio, and kinesthetic learners with hands-on tools to build vocabulary, fine motor, and alphabet knowledge prior to writing letters.

Fine motor skills are a part of daily activities in our toddler, 2s and 3s classrooms which prepare children for the program to formally begin in PreK. Ms. Caroline is spending some extra time with the 3s classes and PreK classes to work on handwriting skills.

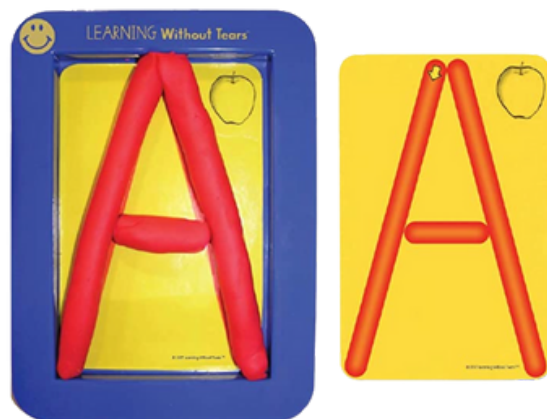
You can see the children working on their fine motor skills and hand strength with play dough in the pictures below.



Wood Pieces



Stamp and See



Roll-A-Dough

TRUNK OR TREAT

Come and Join Us!

October 29th

4:00-6:00 PM

To host a trunk, email
eva.barraza@ascensiondallas.org



Blessing OF THE Pets

Sunday, October 8 | 3:30 PM
Church Parking Lot



BIRTHDAY PARTIES AT ADS

If you would like to reserve the ADS playground for a birthday party, please email adsadmin@ascensiondallas.org.

We accept a small donation for the use of either the large or small playground.



Turn in your rice bowls to Eva starting August 6th!



ALA

KAZAM!

WITH YOUR HELP, SOME LEFTOVER CHANGE CAN BECOME 1000'S OF YUMMY MEALS FOR ORPHANED CHILDREN.

Students were given plastic "rice bowls" at the end of last school year as a community outreach service project to work on over the summer. If you have not turned in your rice bowl, please do so now. Ascension thanks you for your support!



Winterbreak VBS

OUTLAWS FOR GOD

January 2nd - January 5th
9:00am-1:00pm

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF
THE ASCENSION

\$100 per child

Grades K-4

to register, email Eva at
eva.barraza@ascensiondallas.org



Vision, Hearing and Spinal Screening Requirements

The requirements for **VISION AND HEARING SCREENING** apply each year for children enrolled in any licensed child care center, child care home or school program at the ages or grades listed below:

WHO MUST BE SCREENED	WHEN SCREENING MUST BE DONE
4-year olds by September 1 st Kindergartners Any other first time entrants (4-years through 12 th Grade)	Within 120 days of admission
1 st -, 3 rd -, 5 th - and 7 th -graders	Any time within the school year (preferably within 120 days)



Children benefit from Vision, Hearing and Spinal Screenings

The requirements for **SPINAL SCREENING** apply each year for all children who attend public and private schools, to detect abnormal spinal curvature in accordance with the following schedule:

WHO MUST BE SCREENED	WHEN SCREENING MUST BE DONE
Girls two times	age 10 (or fall semester of grade 5) age 12 (or fall semester of grade 7)
Boys one time	age 13 or 14 (or fall semester of grade 8)

It is incumbent on schools to identify outliers (i.e., children promoted to higher grades or held back) and ensure their screenings align with appropriate ages rather than grades.

Contact Information

Health Screening Group
Dept. of State Health Services
PO Box 149347
Austin, Texas 78714-9347

512-776-7420

512-776-7256 fax

vhssprogram@dshs.texas.gov

For more information, visit:
dshs.texas.gov/vhs

Insight

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Annual State Mandated Screenings:

Texas Department of State Health Services requires all licensed facilities to collect various screening information to submit and file annually. Hearing and Vision Screenings are mandated for children who are 4-years old by September 1st and all Kindergartners.

Do not miss this opportunity to have your child's hearing and vision screened conveniently at their school. We provide a quality service, which is child-friendly, fun, and cost-effective.

Licensed certified screeners are coming to visit on **Tuesday, October 17th.**

Child's Name: _____ **Age:** _____

PLEASE circle which screens your child is receiving:

- **\$10.00 - Hearing** – Recording the results of the pure-tone audiometric Sweep-Check Screen for both the right and left ears to identify any hearing loss
- **\$10.00 - Vision** – Recording the distance acuity for the right and left eyes using the HOVT Chart to identify vision problems

*It is important to understand that a screening only recognizes signs and symptoms associated with problems. A screening will not detect all problems because it is not a true diagnostic procedure.

Payment options:

1) **Cash-** please attach to this form

2) **Check-** payable to Insight Screenings

* If for any reason your check is returned there is a \$25.00 return check fee. MUST Initial _____

3) **Venmo- @leslie-barry-0**

*Must include your child's full name and school in comments section

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Thank you,

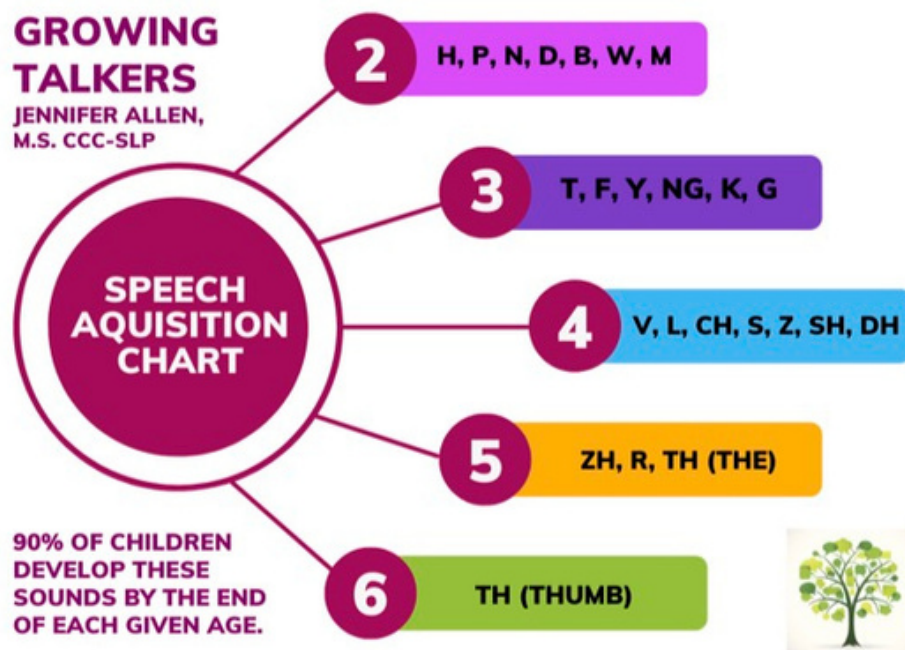
Leslie Barry

Insight Screenings

Signs that might indicate a need for a speech and language screening or evaluation:

1. **Limited Vocabulary:** The child has a significantly smaller vocabulary compared to peers of the same age and struggles to find words to express themselves. (10 solid words by 12 mths, 50 wrds by 18 mths; 250 words by 24 mths and starting to put 2-3 words into phrases)
2. **Difficulty Pronouncing Sounds:** The child consistently has trouble pronouncing certain sounds or is unintelligible to others even when using basic words. (See articulation acquisition chart below)
3. **Inability to Follow Directions:** The child consistently has difficulty understanding and following simple instructions appropriate for their age.
4. **Limited Social Interaction and Play Skills:** The child struggles to engage in conversations or respond appropriately to social cues from others.
5. **Late Milestones:** The child's speech and language development is significantly behind expected milestones for their age, and they have not caught up with time.
6. **Frustration and Behavior:** The child becomes frustrated, avoids communication, or resorts to tantrums or biting due to difficulty in expressing themselves or being understood.

It's important to note that children develop at different rates, and occasional challenges in speech and language are normal. However, if you notice persistent or multiple signs that are causing you concern, it's a good idea to consult with a speech-language pathologist or a pediatrician. Early intervention can be incredibly beneficial for addressing speech and language issues and supporting a child's overall communication development. Go to www.growingtalkers.com for more information.



Growing Talkers Speech Therapy

jenniferallen@growingtalkers.com

214-395-4042

GrowingTalkers.com

Dear Parents,

Growing Talkers is pleased to provide speech and language screenings at Ascension Day School **during the week of October 23-27, 2023**. If you would like for your child to participate in this screening, please sign the permission slip below and return to your child's teacher. After the screening, you will be notified of the results. **This information will guide your decision to determine if a formal evaluation and/or speech therapy is warranted.**

The screening will be offered at a charge of **\$40 via cash, check or Venmo @growingtalkers**. *If you pay via Venmo, please indicate: Child's Name, attending School and Date of Birth in the notes section.* **This amount is due upon the return of this permission slip and prior to the screening.**

Speech disorders are problems of expression characterized by difficulty articulating sounds, producing fluent speech or appropriate vocal quality. Language disorders are characterized by difficulty understanding language and/or expressing ideas verbally. Because communication disorders interfere with educational progress and social emotional development, it is important for speech-language screenings to be offered in educational settings. If therapy is warranted, treatment can be provided in your child's school or home setting, providing a more natural environment for your child to progress in to ensure that successful communication is carried over into your child's daily routine.

-Jennifer Allen, M.S. CCC-SLP

Child's Name: _____ DOB: _____ Age: _____

Teacher: _____ Days at school (circle): M T W Th F

Parent(s) Name: _____

Email: _____ Telephone: _____

I am concerned about my child's (check all that apply)

____ expression of language

____ comprehension of language

____ ability to learn new vocabulary

____ articulation of sounds

____ smoothness of speech

____ ability to interact with peers/adults

Additional Comments: (please include any information you feel is relevant to the screening process including ear infections, tubes, education, etc.)