

January 2025

# Sonshine Preschool

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Ciao!

Happy New Year Sonshine Preschool families!

We hope that your family had a wonderful Christmas and were able to enjoy the extra time together.

Thank you to everyone who was able to make it to our Christmas Open House and programs. The kids did an amazing job!! A special thank you to Matt Banwart, Ms. Nicole, Ms. Dani, & Ms. Taylor for playing the roles of Santa, Mrs. Claus, and the helper elves. They did a fantastic job!

Thanks to ALL of you who helped to make our gift basket raffle fundraiser a fantastic success! We are so incredibly grateful to the parent volunteers in each classroom who spearheaded the collection and assembling of the Raffle Baskets. Congrats to ALL of the WINNERS! We appreciate all our Sonshine families for going above and beyond for Sonshine! Speaking of going above and beyond, Sonshine Preschool families and staff were able to bless 42 children this Christmas through our Angel Giving Tree project. We are hoping to continue this project every year. Thank you all so much for your generosity and caring hearts. We at Sonshine are looking forward to a fantastic 2025.

*Mrs. Castillo*



## Upcoming Events



**Monday, January 6th**  
Back to School

**Monday January 20th**  
**Closed** for MLK Jr Day

**Wednesday February 19th**  
Family Pizza Day and  
Rodeo celebration

**Thursday & Friday**  
**February 20th & 21st**  
**Rodeo Break-NO SCHOOL**

**Martin Luther King Jr Day**  
**\*\*\*\*Please mark your**  
**calendars\*\*\*\***  
**Monday, January 20th**

**Sonshine Preschool will be**  
**closed in observance of**  
**the holiday**

### Chapel Time

January 15 & 17:

January 22 & 24:

January 29 & 31:



## [A Few Refreshers for the New Year](#)

### Procare

Please remember to sign your child in and out at drop off and pick up EVERYDAY. Also, when signing children in and out, after clicking the sign in or out button, you will be prompted to SIGN WITH YOUR FINGER on your device's screen. If the sign-in was successful, a message will display in green, and the sign-in date and time will display below the child's name. If you do not sign the screen after hitting the sign in/out button, your child will not be signed in or out.

In addition to our QR code sign in/out, we have a GPS function that allows you to sign your child in and out based on your proximity to Sonshine. To do this, you will need to be logged into your Procare app and allow the app proper access to your location.

### Parking Lot Safety

#### **Morning Drop Off and 12:00pm Pick Up**

It is very important that when you are ready to pull away after dropping off or picking up your child that you DO NOT pull around the vehicle in front of you. You will need to wait for the vehicle in front of you to pull forward when exiting our parking lot. We also ask that when pulling up to our parking lot please do not pull in front of other vehicles just because there appear to be spots in front of them. They may be getting their child in or out of the vehicle and it is unsafe to have vehicles going around others while children are being dropped off and picked up.

We try to keep the flow moving as quickly as possible in order to get everyone out quickly and safely. We appreciate you patiently waiting to pull forward. This is for the safety of all the children being dropped off and picked up and for our staff. Please inform any family members who may be dropping off or picking up your child that this is our parking lot policy. It is important that they are aware of this as well.

#### **Can I walk my child to their classroom in the morning? *Absolutely***

If you'd prefer to walk your child to their classroom or the playground during morning drop off, please pull into a parking spot in the center of the lot. Carefully walk your child across the parking lot and drop off lane to their classroom/playground. Do not park your vehicle in the drop off lane and walk your child to class or the playground, this causes a backup in the drop off lane and disrupts the flow.

#### **When dropping off at the gate from the drop off lane-**

We try to be at the gate to always greet you and your child during the 7:30-8:45 time period in the morning. There are some occasions when we may have stepped into the office or are walking children to the playground/classrooms and haven't made it back to the gate yet. If a teacher is not at the gate to greet you and your child when dropping them off in the morning and you do not see a teacher walking back to the gate, you can ring the doorbell to alert us that you are here.

As always, the safety of the children is our number one priority.

### **Important Information**

**If Your Child is Sick**  
Please remember to call us if your child will be absent for any reason. Some illnesses need to be posted. It is always helpful for the teacher to know who will or will not be present in their class. Thank you for your understanding!

### **Tax Time**

**Our tax ID# 23-7357169**  
It's that time of the year again. Statements for childcare expenses for 2024 will be emailed to the email address we have on file. Please let Amanda know if you need anything further.

## 2025-2026 Registration Materials Coming Soon!

Be on the lookout for Summer and 25/26 school year registration materials.

## Attention Butterfly Families! Start looking for Kindergarten NOW!

Many schools will be holding Kindergarten Round-Up before we know it. We advise those of you who have children that will be turning 5 before September 1st of 2025 to look into schools for your child NOW. Some Private, Charter, and Faith Based schools may already have a wait list. Some require an assessment and/or interview before acceptance into their program. Your neighborhood elementary school should be contacted soon so you can be advised of their visitation days. If you would like your child to attend another school in the TUSD school district rather than your home school, you will need to complete an "Open Enrollment" form. Please call the district office for more information.

## From our Teacher's Corner...

### Busy Bees

Hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and you're all looking forward to a joyous New Year. We are certainly looking forward to the New Year with your little ones.

This month we will be talking about winter and all the fun things that come along with it, especially snow and ice. We will be reading lots of books that talk about snow and colder weather. We will also be learning about animals that live in the chilly weather. We will do ice sensory play and play with fake snow.

Please make sure your child is stocked up on diapers (each diaper labeled with your child's name), wipes, and an extra set of warm clothes.

### Fireflies

Happy New Year from the Fireflies team!

This month we will be learning about ice and snow and the colors blue and white.

Please remember to send a snack, (with two food group components) and water bottle (with your child's name on it) every day. Also, please check your child's spare clothes to see that they are weather and size appropriate and labeled with your child's name.

Thanks so much for your help!

### Ladybugs

The month of December kept us so busy!! We learned the "true" meaning of Christmas. We hope you all had a wonderful holiday and enjoyed your family time!

Now that our season has changed, as much as it can in the desert southwest, we will learn about snow, ice, and frost. We will also talk about various animals and their behaviors in the winter. This month we will celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. and his teachings into what it is to be kind.

Happy Birthday  
to You!

Lailynn VanBurken

Avery Siebert

Camryn Catalina

Gia Patel

Antonella Duran

Ms. Mikayla



### January Pizza Days

Wednesday January 8th

Friday January 17th

Wednesday January 22nd

Friday January 31st



## Butterflies

We enjoyed learning and celebrating the meaning of Christmas with your children. They did a fantastic job acting out the story of Jesus' birth and singing in their video. We hope you enjoyed the video as much as we did.

This month we will celebrate Martin Luther King Jr and learn all about snow, ice, hibernation, and polar animals.

### ***A Quick Look at What's Coming Up in the Next Few Months***

more detailed information regarding these events will be available as the time gets closer.

#### ❖ **Annual Rodeo Family Pizza Fun Day**

On Wednesday February 19th we will have our Annual Family Pizza Fun Day. Families will be invited to come and watch children from Ladybug and Butterfly classes sing some songs and afterward families from ALL Sonshine classrooms can enjoy Pizza Fun Day with their child.

#### ❖ **Rodeo Break**

Thursday February 20th and Friday February 21st Sonshine No School for Rodeo break.

#### ❖ **Spring Break**

No School Friday March 7th- Friday March 14<sup>th</sup>

#### ❖ **Closing Early**

Sonshine Preschool will close at 3:00pm on Friday April 4th for a Staff Event.

#### ❖ **Good Friday No School**

Friday April 18<sup>th</sup> is Good Friday and Sonshine Preschool will be closed.

#### ❖ **School Carnival**

Our Annual Sonshine Preschool Carnival will be the evening of Friday April 25th

### **PARENT BUSINESS CONNECTION**

Would you like to place your business card in our Parent Connection section of our monthly newsletter? We distribute this newsletter to current and new prospective parents. The fee is \$10.00 per month for a business card ad, or \$35.00 for a business card ad for 4 consecutive months. We have limited space. If you would like to advertise in our next newsletter, please see Amanda, or call the office at 885-1045.

**Birth to Five HELPLINE**   
"Nothing Out of the Question" **1-877-705-KIDS (5437)**

Do you ever have a question regarding your child and don't know who to ask? Check out the Southwest Human Development's Birth to Five Helpline. Southwest Human Development's Birth to Five Helpline is Arizona's only toll-free resource for parents, caregivers and professionals who have questions or concerns about the development of children ages birth to 5