

# Welcome Back!

Kirsten's Day Care  
Annandale, VA

Fall, 2015-2016

## Mrs. K's Newsletter

### Welcome back!



I hope everyone had a great time at the end of year party at My Gym. Now that we've grown, I think we will make this an annual tradition!

We had a great summer in "Mom's Day Out!" We played, explored, tried so many new things, and had a lot of fun! The kids loved playing with Ms. Yesi's son, Nathan, and Ms. L's older daughter, Gabi.

We finished our new playground! The kids have gotten to check it out, but now they get to fully break it in!

### New families!

This year, I am transitioning to only full-time children. I am so sad to say good-bye to Emmett, Hannah, and Lillian. Emmett and Hannah will try to make a play date here next week to say hello. Lillian's last week is next week. We will all miss them.

I would like to welcome Mabel Goehler. Mabel is 10 months old and will be our youngest child. That is, until Frank's little brother, Leo, joins us in October.

We also welcome Annabelle and Juliette. Annabelle is four years old and Juliette is 18 months old. They are cousins with Liam, who was happy to show them the ropes on their first day!

See their photos below.



Left: Juliette and Annabelle  
Middle: Leo  
Right: Mabel



## What's New?

**Schedule:** There are a lot of new things this year. First, there is a new schedule. My hours are 7:00am-4:30pm. Below is the schedule. It is flexible to the children's needs, family needs, and other things that come up, but we try to stick to it so the children feel good about knowing what to expect.

Schedule	
7:00	Arrive
7:30	Breakfast
8:00	Story & Song
8:30	Preschool Time
9:15	Snack
9:45	Art/Craft
10:15	Free Play
11:30	Lunch
12:00	Nap
2:45	Snack
3:00	Active Play
4:30	Pick-up Time

**Food:** A few new things with food. First, we have some children with egg and peanut allergies. Please do not bring in any food, unless we have discussed it first. If they have a morning snack, please be sure that they have finished it before entering the day care. We do try to eat on time, so if you will not be here for a meal, please be sure to feed your child before coming so it doesn't interrupt our routine.

I have a goal to serve healthier foods. I am following the [Let's Move! Child Care](#), inspired by Michele Obama to help keep our kids as healthy and happy as they can be.

**Curriculum:** I ordered new curriculum this year called: [Mother Goose Time](#). A colleague uses it and loves it! I can't wait to get started on it. I have also ordered the Little Goose supplement for the younger children.



## What's Old?

Many of you have been with me for a wonderful long time now, but I want to make sure that you are aware of some policies, as well as my new families.

**Drop-off routine:** Fairfax zoning (and my neighbors) have something to say about running a business in a residential neighborhood. My neighbors are retired and did not like the early morning car doors, car lights, etc. Therefore, the County has required that parents park in the street before 8:00am. We must also leave the gate open until then so it does not continually open and close.

Please sign-in on the attendance sheet.

**Pick-up routine:** Pick-up can be a little hectic and crowded. You are welcome to stay and play for a while if we are outdoors, but if we are indoors, it can be disruptive.

Remember to cross out your child's name on the attendance sheet.

When parking in the driveway, make sure that you are not blocking anyone.

**Late pick-ups:** I have very rarely charged a late pick-up fee, because I know everyone tries their best to get here on time and traffic can be crazy. However, I am finding that I am getting more and more late pick-ups. It's usually just a couple minutes, but it causes a domino affect with both my and my assistants' after work responsibilities. My policy is: *Kirsten's Day Care closes daily at 4:30 p.m. – Any time after that, you are considered late. A late fee of \$15.00 for every fifteen minutes, or any part of, will be charged for each late pickup. The late fee is due at the time the child is picked up. You will be allowed one (1) late pickup (no more than 10 minutes) per month before the late fee is charged.*





## Reminders and Other Info.

**Contact information:** Please be sure to have both my numbers plugged into all your phones:

- cell phone: 703-851-2919
- home phone: 703-323-6788

Cell service can be sketchy downstairs, so try the home phone if I don't answer. You should have my assistants in case I am not available:

- Ms. L: 571-502-8445
- Ms. Yesi: 571-269-0792

**FCPS Schedule:** I follow the [FCPS Calendar](#)

**Upcoming holidays:**

- September 7: Labor Day
- October 12: Columbus Day
- November 25: 2-hr. early closing
- November 26-27: Thanksgiving

**Home:** Please remember that this is my home, not just my day care. Remind your children to play in designated areas, and not with the rocks, yard lights, yard decorations, etc.

**Labeling:** Please be sure to label everything. I highly recommend using [Name Bubbles](#).

They are pricey, but they have stuck to sippy cups that are run through the dish washer daily for over two years! I just put "Lukas" on my girl's labels so I didn't have to buy two sets. I contacted them about a discount code and they offered a 10% discount with Code: SAVE10 (case sensitive).

**Forms:** Please update your forms. I

will place the notebook on the washing machine and review them with you. If you haven't given me updated immunization records in the last 6 months, please request a copy from your doctor.

## Music



**Stings class:** Liam's mom Katie, an orchestra teacher, brought several string instruments to the day care and did a fantastic, hands-on lesson with the children. She discussed the various instruments, played some of their favorite songs and then let the children play many of the instruments.



## Fun Activities

**Talents:** Do you (or a family member or friend) have a talent that you think the kids might enjoy? Do you Zumba, make pottery, train dogs, have exotic pets, whatever. 😊 Please let me know if you would like to share that talent with the kids. The kids love it!

**Hummingbird:** We have enjoyed catching glimpses of our humming birds! They come regularly to the feeder by the fenced in flower garden by the day care door. I just saw the first one at our feeder on the deck this morning.

**Al's Pals:** The kids love Al's Pals. We will continue this confidence-building program with our 3 and 4 year olds again this year.



## Birthdays

### Summer birthdays!!!

July 8: Lillian turned 2

August 18: Olivia turned 2

August 21: Adelyn turned 2

### September birthdays!

September 6: James' 4<sup>th</sup> birthday

