



Bethany Lutheran School
5100 Arbor Rd.
Long Beach, CA 90808

February 1, 2017

Dear Parents:

Did you know that not all children who turn 5 years old before September 1 are ready for Kindergarten? We know that the decision on whether or not to start Kindergarten this fall can be a difficult one. We are very excited to have found a company, Chancy and Bruce, who will partner with us in helping you decide whether your child is ready for this important milestone.

Chancy and Bruce has been assessing children on developmental readiness since the 1980's. They assess children in the processing skill areas that are needed for formal learning. School Readiness is defined as the "ability to cope, learn, and achieve without undue stress." Memorizing a list of facts is not the same as having the developmental processing skills and maturation needed for success in school. School Readiness and intellectual capacity (I.Q.) do not necessarily correlate. Each child is a unique human being who grows and develops at his/her own individual rate.

As of 2014, children need to turn five by September 1 in order to enter Kindergarten. In addition, the standards for Kindergarten are much more rigorous. All too often children are hurried or presented activities that put undue pressure on the child to meet certain curriculum expectations before they are ready for such experiences. Children who are developmentally young do best in school when they are given the opportunity to develop and mature in a setting that does not put undue stress on them which is why we felt the need to open our Transitional Kindergarten program.

We at Bethany Lutheran School feel so strongly about assisting you in making the right decision for your child, that this is a required assessment for all children entering our Kindergarten program from outside our preschool. If your teacher has suggested the Gift of Time, we will be holding the Chancy and Bruce Kindergarten Developmental Screening the first few weeks in March here at our center. There is a \$20 testing fee that will need to be paid at the time of sign up with checks payable to Bethany.

In His Service,

Mary Wolfinbarger
Director, Bethany Lutheran Preschool
Dr. Mary Fink
Principal, Bethany Lutheran School