

The Children's House News

September 2021



Dear Parents and Grandparents,

“And He looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the treasury, and He saw also a certain poor widow putting in two mites. So He said, “Truly I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all; for all these out of their abundance have put in offerings for God, but she out of her poverty put in all the livelihood that she had.”
Luke 21:1-4

Every year, each grade level from Preschool to Grade 3 studies communities- how they are set up to meet our basic needs with stores and services, how community helpers keep us safe, and how communities express the values of the people who live there. Each grade level goes a little deeper into understanding how communities work.

School is a microcosm of a community. There are many people working together each day with a shared goal of learning. They work toward living each day in harmony with one another. The young preschoolers are just learning to share, to wait their turn, to help a friend. As they get older, children learn to take on the responsibilities of caring for the classroom and the school, and learn that their actions can positively or negatively impact their school community.

The story of the Widow's Mite, from Luke 21, shares the deepest understanding of community. It shows that being part of a community means sacrifice, giving even when it is uncomfortable. Children are not too young to learn this important concept. The Words of the Week for September are Compassion, Empathy, Patience, Confidence, and Courage. Each of these traits is necessary for people to live in a community together successfully.

Children begin developing these character traits in our preschool classrooms. There is only one set of each material, so if a child wants to use a particular material, and it is being used, they learn to wait patiently. Then, they also learn to put the work away so that it is ready for the next person to use. As they get older, students strengthen these traits by learning that they can help put away and clean up even when they didn't make the mess. In all these cases, the children learn that they may have to do something they don't necessarily want to do, in order to help keep their “community,” their classroom, clean and safe.

Your home is also a community, and children learn the most about community first in their homes with their families. When you make decisions for the family, talk about how it affects all of you as a community. For example, “If Mommy stays at work late to help with a project, mommy will get some extra pay, which helps the family. But in order for her to do that, everyone at home has to do a little more around the house.” This kind of discussion helps children understand that even though they would have to do “work” it is work that benefits everyone. Another example is helping children understand that what is best for them may not be best for everyone else. “I understand that you would like to go to CPK for dinner, but it is out of the way and we would be late picking up your sister from school. It will be best for everyone if we pick up from Zippy's and maybe we can go to CPK another time.” In the same sense, we can remind children of how others have made sacrifices for them. “Your brother wanted to go to CPK, but he understood going there would

Important Upcoming Dates

September 3 Staff In-service, No School
September 6 HOLIDAY Labor Day, No School
September 10-17 Conference Appointment Sign-up
September 23 & 24 Parent/Teacher Conferences,
No School for Students
October 5 Picture Taking Day for Preschool
October 6 Picture Taking Day for Kinder and Gr. 1-3
October 11-15 FALL BREAK, No School

Parent/Teacher Conference

Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held on Thursday and Friday, September 23 and 24. All conferences will be held online via Zoom. An email will be sent to you on Friday, September 3 with a link to sign-up for a conference time. Conference sign-up will open at 7:00 PM on Friday, September 10 and close at 7:00 PM on Friday, September 17. Please stop by or call the school office if you have questions or have difficulty signing up for a conference time.

make us late to get you. So, he settled for Zippy's." These kinds of conversations help children value community—that we make sacrifices for others, but they also sacrifice for us. The Bible shows us that Love is displayed through acts of sacrifice. This understanding will help us all live beautifully and in harmony, in community together.

Reinstated Daily Four Questions Wellness Check

An email will be sent to you this weekend with instructions on how to complete the daily 4 questions on the TCH Family App. Due to the high numbers of Covid-19 positive cases on Oahu, The Department of Human Services, the licensing body for our preschool and before/afterschool care, has once again required us to conduct daily wellness checks for our families.

As a reminder, please check your child for any Covid-19-like symptoms. If any of the Covid-19-like symptoms are present, please keep your child at home and seek the advice of a physician if needed. These symptoms include:

- Fever (higher than 100° F)
- Cough
- Shortness of Breath or Difficulty Breathing
- Chills
- Muscle pain or body aches
- Headache
- New Loss of Taste or Smell
- Sore Throat
- Congestion or Runny Nose
- Nausea or Vomiting
- Diarrhea

Tuition and Financial Aid Questions

If you have any questions regarding tuition or external financial aid please contact us at the office or at:
business@childrenshousehawaii.org.

Upcoming Event: School Picture Taking Days

House of Photography will again be taking our school portraits. Students will have individual pictures taken on:

Preschool Students - Tuesday, October 5

Kindergarten and Grades 1 to 3 - Wednesday, October 6

Portrait order envelopes will be distributed later during the month of September. Picture retakes and make-up date for those who are absent will be on Tuesday, November 9.

The Children's House Administrative Team would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to all of our teachers, staff, parents, and grandparents for your commitment and efforts to keep everyone at The Children's House safe. We are touched by your kind words of encouragement and support.

We continue to lift up in prayer those who are affected by this pandemic. We pray for our government leaders and express our gratitude to the frontline and health care workers.

We are committed to providing a safe learning and working environment for our students and staff. We humbly ask for your continued support in the coming days.

