

The Learning Tree

The Learning Tree is a preschool that nurtures the mind, body, and spirit of your child.

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Teacher Appreciation Week!

Teacher appreciation week is THIS WEEK and we are so excited to show our teachers how much we appreciate them.

We are so thankful for our teachers who show up day after day and dedicate themselves to The Learning Tree and their families. Our teachers create a safe, supportive, interactive, and engaging environment the children need to thrive. Our teachers make us who we are and we couldn't be happier with the environment they give LT children to play, learn and grow inside their classrooms.

Our teachers are the BEST and deserve all the appreciation for how hard they work daily to care for our families and always going above and beyond to ensure our families feel safe and happy.

Be sure to check out our social media pages to see all that we are doing to show the love to our teachers!

Earth Day Recap!

Earth Day was Friday, April 22nd and our centers had the best time celebrating Earth Day all week long! Our teachers put together Lesson Plans for the entire week to celebrate Earth Day and to teach children about our Earth and what we can do to help our planet.

Even though, here at LT we celebrate Earth Day every day by teaching and living a green lifestyle... it was a great week focusing fully on Earth! Check out some of the pictures to see the FUN we had!



Celebrate Earth Day, Every Day!

Did you know... one of our Core Values is "Serving a Fresh, Organic Menu"?!

We have homemade meals and snacks with fresh, seasonal ingredients. We put a lot of thought into our menus so that children learn to love real, pure foods. Busy parents are at ease knowing their child is eating only the healthiest foods while in our care.



Celebrating LT Parents

As Mother's Day and Father's Day are approaching, we wanted to share with you the plans we have to celebrate the parents and thank you for all that you do everyday!

On Friday, May 6th we will be celebrating Mother's Day! Children will be hard at work on a very special gift for you over the next two weeks. During pick up on May 6th, our lobby will be set up to take a yummy snack and surprise for all of the moms!

On Friday, June 17th we will be celebrating Fathers Day! Children will have a home-made gift for all of the dads! During pick up on June 17th, our lobby will be set up with a special snack and surprise for every dad!

We wanted to take it one step further and really celebrate you for all that you do and show you how much we appreciate LT parents... We will be hosting a Good-Morning Muffin Breakfast!

Sarah Remmer, our registered dietitian has given us delicious new breakfast muffin recipes and we are so excited to try these out with you.

We will also have seasonal fresh fruit, and our coffee station will be ready to serve you! Serve yourself conveniently from the hallway family style station and enjoy together inside your child's home-away-from-home classroom.

We are so thankful for our families for choosing us and trusting us with their children. We cannot wait to celebrate and have our parents in our classrooms for a delicious breakfast!

PARENT BREAKFAST DATES:

North: Monday, June 6th
South Lyon: Tuesday, June 7th
West: Wednesday, June 8th
South: Thursday, June 9th
Howell: Friday, June 10th

Did you know... we have full time chefs at every location?

Each of our locations have a full kitchen with full-time chefs who prepare all our meals and snacks and deliver them to each of our classrooms throughout the day.

We are so lucky to have such amazing chefs who prepare delicious and nutritious homemade meals and snacks for the children and teachers.



Day Camp We are hiring!

Summer Day Camp is one of our favorite times of the year. We create a summer program with hopes to give our school agers the best summer that they deserve. The memories, laughs, friendships that are made during our Summer Day Camp are unforgettable and something we all cherish. With that being said, Our school age planning team is working extra hard to plan a FUN summer that contains: cooking projects, STEM activities, field trips and more!

Our enrollment is increasing which means we are looking to expand our team for our Summer Day Camp programs at all of The Learning Tree locations. Below are our open positions at our Livonia-North, Livonia-South, Livonia-West, South Lyon and Howell locations.

OPEN POSITIONS:

Day Camp Lead Teacher (21+)

Day Camp Assistant Teacher (21+)

Swim Staff - swim staff joins us on field trips for their swim destinations to be extra support to lower the rations on swim trips.

If you are interested in applying for one of our open positions this summer, please fill out this application inquiry form [here](#).

Shortly after you fill out this form, our recruiting team will reach out to you to see if you'll be a great fit for our summer day camp programs.

Did you know... we have partnered with a Registered Dietitian?!

Year after year we receive feedback that our menu is one of the main reasons why parents, and employees, choose The Learning Tree. We believe in continuous improvements and we are ready to partner with Sarah to take our menu, nutrition standards and communication about nutrition to the next level.

By doing this, Sarah helps tweak our menu items, recipes and introduces new snacks and meals. She will guide us through allergens we encounter to guarantee children with allergies still have the same balanced food served. She will also advise us on what to do when our vendors cannot fulfill our orders.

She also hosts parent workshops and shares all her resources with our families on a private website as well as shares tips and tricks on our social media pages!



Splash Pad FUN!

Summer is right around the corner, which means our Splash pads will soon open for some summer fun! We wanted to give you a heads up of some items that your child will need once our splash pads open for the season!

WHAT YOUR CHILD WILL NEED:

A bathing suit

A towel

Water Shoes

Sun Screen

***Please be sure to label all of your child's belongings as we don't want anything to go missing!

Families will receive an email with opening dates, so please be sure to keep an eye out for that email! We can't wait to get our splash pads open for some fun water play in the warm weather!



Did you know... we host parent tasting events?!

Children go home and talk about how much they love certain menu items, which got us into menu tasting events for our parents to give our recipes a try!

Jamal, goes around to all centers to share our different recipes with our parents and these are always a HIT! We are dedicated to providing our families with as much as we can to help support their family!



LT Homemade Chicken Veggie Skillet

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 Chicken Breasts
- Salt & Pepper - Dash to taste
- 1 tsp Granulated Garlic
- 1/2 tsp Onion Powder
- 1 lb Penne Pasta
- 1 1/2 Cup Heavy Cream
- 1 1/2 Cup Grated Parmesan Cheese
- 2 Cup Frozen Peas

DIRECTIONS:

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees.

Cook 2 chicken breasts to 165 degrees internal temperature, season with salt, pepper, and granulated garlic. Cut into bite sized pieces and set aside.

Cook 1 lb penne pasta according to package, drain and place in large mixing bowl.

In the mixing bowl add the diced chicken, 1.5 cups heavy cream, 1 cup parmesan, 2 cups frozen peas, 1/2 tsp onion powder to the penne pasta and mix well.

Move mixture to a greased casserole dish. Top the casserole with 1/2 cup parmesan cheese and bake 45 minutes.

Allow to sit for 5 minutes and enjoy!

Nutrition Tip from Sarah!

Kids need snacks. These little “mini meals” in between meals (eating opportunities should be spaced out every 2-3 hours) help to fill nutritional gaps and provide energy between meals. Should snacking be an all-day grazing event? NO. Should balanced snacks be offered between meals? Probably.

But what does a balanced snack look like? Well, I think of snacks sort of like little “mini meals” containing 2-3 different foods. It’s important to include a protein-rich food so that tummies can be satisfied for a good amount of time, and carbohydrate for energy and to help kids concentrate and focus. So I suggest pairing a protein rich food with a fruit or vegetable AND/OR a whole grain or starch. Here are some examples:

I’m sharing a list of 20 snack options to try with your kiddos – I hope you enjoy!



Nutritious snack ideas

@sarahremmer

- Protein-rich blender muffin + blueberries
- Homemade trailmix (nuts/seeds, unsweetened dried fruit, whole grain cereal)
- Protein-rich granola bar + strawberries
- Hardboiled egg + peach
- Roasted chickpeas + crackers and cheese
- Cheese strings and length-wise cut grapes
- Watermelon “fingers” + *Protein ball/bite
- Nut butter and banana tortilla wrap “sushi”
- Nectarine with yogurt dip
- Leftover pancake strips with cream cheese + hemp hearts
- Raw veggies, whole grain crackers and hummus
- Whole grain mini pitas + seed butter +jam
- Apple slices with cinnamon sprinkled on top and cheese cubes
- Leftover French toast or waffle strips with dip (Greek yogurt + seed butter + honey)
- Apple + nut or seed butter
- Energy/protein balls + honeydew melon
- Mini Greek yogurt parfait
- *Chia pudding + pineapple
- Cottage cheese + cantaloupe
- Cucumber + tzatziki+ wholegrain cookie

SPECIAL SHOUT OUTS TO OUR AMAZING TEAM!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Brooke, LT South - May 4th
Gwenna, LT Howell - May 15th
MaKayla, LT Howell - May 19th
Sarah, LT North - May 26th
Tay, LT South Lyon - May 21st
Gabrielle, LT South Lyon - May 18th
Carrie, LT South Lyon - May 1st
Paula, LT Regional Team - May 2nd

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Taylor, LT Howell - 3 years
Jennifer, LT North - 2 years
Samantha, LT North - 7 years
Brenda, LT North - 4 years
Roselyn, LT South - 1 year
Tyler, LT South - 6 years
Danelle, LT West - 4 years
Shaniqua, LT West - 1 year

Did you know... our day camp program has cooking projects?

We LOVE cooking projects in our classrooms!

Made from scratch meals and snacks are prepared 100% by the campers themselves. Over the past few years our cooking projects have gotten bigger and our day campers have learned to be some outstanding chefs. Our day campers will learn about different ingredients, how to measure, stir, cut, serve, etc. They will learn every aspect of the cooking process alongside some famous chefs through cooking videos! And of course, they will enjoy the delicious snacks, meals and treats!



Ribbon Cutting at South Lyon

Lyon Township officially welcome our new building back to the community. We are so thankful to be part of such an amazing and supportive community. A very special thank you to everyone who came out for our ribbon cutting a few weeks ago and THANK YOU to everyone in Lyon Township who supported us and helped us get our new building up and running. We are so grateful and happy to be back in our building!



Did you know... we implement Family Style Dining?!

Family style dining is a practice that encourages independence at mealtimes! When the children graduate from Pre K, they are equipped with the skills to pour themselves drinks, serve themselves from shared bowls at their table, properly dispose of unfinished food, and put tableware in a designated place to be washed. All while learning exemplary table manners!



Parent Testimonials

We love the Learning Tree North! Their COVID protocol is second to none and I feel safe sending my kids into their care. I love the hand sanitizer available at various touch points. All of the staff at the Tree are friendly and make my 2 year old son feel like a rockstar when he walks through the hallways. Our son is a high spirited and determined little one and Noreen, along with her team, have been incredible. Her humor and grace have helped my son (and us) get through the mornings. I am beyond impressed what Noreen and her team have taught our son. He continues to surprise me with everything he has learned at his age. I appreciate the thought that goes into the curriculum and how it is posted on a weekly basis so we can enforce what he's learning at home. I appreciate the daily updates (and pictures!) on what the kids are doing and why because 1. I love knowing what they are doing and 2. I have learned about different skills that I can help develop. Noreen is an incredible teacher who's passion for teaching young children is undeniable. I am thankful beyond words for how she has helped shape our son's foundation in life.

-Becky E.

Both of our kids are enrolled at the Learning Tree West. We have been extremely happy with all of the staff that have worked with our boys. The food is amazing, they are always on top of COVID health guidelines, and the place is very clean. Ms. Bobby has been working with our younger son and he absolutely adores her. She takes the time each day to update us on our son's updates for the day, which we appreciate. Ms. Bobby is attentive with the children, plays with them, and makes daycare fun. Ms. Connie is with our older son. She does an excellent job educating and getting our son ready for Kindergarten. They both enjoying going to the Learning Tree each day and I credit that to the wonderful staff.

-Shannon T.

We have had both of our children go through the Learning Tree and have had so many positive experiences. Our kids have been fortunate to have several great teachers. Most recently, our son was in Miss Paige's preschool room and he (and we) absolutely loved Miss Paige! He really grew with her and loved every day with her. Even after moving up a grade he still makes sure we stop and see her every morning before school, and he refuses to leave without giving her a hug! His current teacher is Miss Marissa and she's awesome too! If you have kids at LT, ask for Miss Paige and Miss Marissa!

-Seth G.

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