

It is normal **AND** expected for your child to cry and cling to you the first few days (even the first month) of school. Our experience has taught us that several things will help in handling this situation and **your** cooperation is very important.

- 1) As the parent, get yourself ready **before school starts** to let go of your child. Your child will pick up on your anxiety. Mentally prepare yourself to see your child cry and cling when you leave him/her. Be firm and positive when you leave, reassuring your child you will return later in the day. **Then, please leave the classroom.** We are equipped and well prepared to handle your child. We know how hard this is for you and your child.
- 2) Even though you may see the teachers with a room full of crying children, please do not stay. We can calm the children more quickly and effectively when the children see that "all the mommies" have left. The children will immediately respond to the teacher when this happens.
- 3) If you would like to check on your child, we encourage you to text us at 512-589-8274. Not only is this easier for us to reply to texts throughout the day, we can also text you back with a picture of your child which (we hope) will be much more comforting for you. Please do not call or text your child's teacher, as they are not allowed to answer their cell phones during school hours.
- 4) We also want to let you know there is a one-way window in the classroom door that allows parents to see in. However, please do not stand too close, the children can see your shadow which will upset them even more.
- 5) Your child may also cry off and on during the day. Again, this is **normal** and gives the teachers a chance to interact with your child by comforting and soothing him/her.
- 6) **Your child is in a safe and loving environment.** We have lots of experience in transitioning you and your child into preschool life. We will not let your child cry hysterically all day – we will call you. Your child's well-being is our top priority.

Thank you for cooperating with us! Once your child realizes he/she doesn't "HAVE to go to school" but "GETS" to go to school" then the transition will be a success. You, as the parent, must lay the groundwork for this successful transition in your attitude and responses to your child.