



# First English Lutheran Preschool

## April 2026 Newsletter

*From the Director's desk:*

It is hard to believe that spring has officially arrived; now let's hope the spring weather will stick around too. We hope your family will enjoy activities together this upcoming week and especially have a blessed Easter. When we return to school, we will celebrate NAEYC'S Week of the Young Child. There will be daily themes and several ways families can participate. Thank you to all who secured donations for our auction as well as participated in the bidding! We made over \$2800 with all the auction options. We look forward to getting some new tables for some classrooms! We have also gotten through our 2026-2027 registration time and only a few openings to fill! If you know of a 2 year old for MWF class or 3/4 year old for the TTh class, please share our website!

Don't forget about the MAC pantry items for this month of shampoo and pasta  
Be seeing you all soon, Mrs. Gleissner

Best form of contact: [gleissnerfelp@gmail.com](mailto:gleissnerfelp@gmail.com) Church office/preschool: 574-255-4234

### *Upcoming Events:*

**April 3-10: NO School- Spring break**

**April 5: Easter Services at FELC (10:30am)**

**April 13-17: Week of The Young Child Activities**

**April 14: Portillo's Give Back Night 5-8pm (use coupon to dine in/carry out for 20% back to FELP)**

**April 22/23: EARTH DAY Recycling presentation**

**April 22: Administrative Professionals Day (Ms. Marsha!)**

**April 27/28: Mrs. Burson small group extended day to 2pm**

**April 29/30: Mrs. Paul small group extended day to 2pm**

**April 29 and May 6: Family Conscious Discipline session (parents and children)**

**May 5: Mrs. Burson small group extended day to 2pm**

**May 7: Mrs. Paul small group extended day to 2pm**

**May 14: (date change) Open House new families (4-5:30pm)**



# BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

2/3's class: April 26 **Lark** (3rd)

3/ 4's class: April 4 **Oliver** (4th)

April 10 **Vivian** (4th)

April 12 **Huxley** (4th)

April 26 **Ellie** (4<sup>th</sup>)

April 30 **Vaeda** (4th)

Pre-K class: April 4 **Mrs. Emmons**

April 10: **Eli** (6<sup>th</sup>)

April 15: **Josie** (5<sup>th</sup>)

April 29: **Kamden** (5<sup>th</sup>)



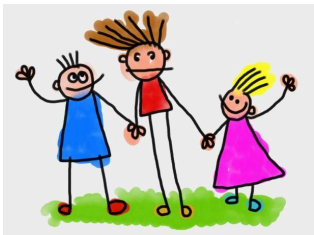
Fall Openings: We have completed our program registration with previous and current families for the 2026-2027 school year and we are in the process of enrolling new families. We do have a few spots available if you know someone with a 2–5-year-old who would like placement for the fall, please share our information. We are going to offer an afternoon PreK class on TWTh from 11:45-2:45 to combine with extended day options. We did this several years ago as a way to offer space for new families as our morning PreK classes are FULL! Also, Pre-K class is an On My Way Pre-K participant so Indiana will support tuition payments for 4-year-olds to attend our Pre-K class. The application will be available soon at: [FSSA: Carefinder: On My Way Pre-K](#) . As well we offer ChildCareDevelopmentFund (CCDF) vouchers if you would qualify financially for those. It is worth investigating! [Early Ed Connect \(in.gov\)](#)



NAEYC's Week of The Young Child: We hope to enjoy classroom and program wide activities as we celebrate young children with our NAEYC themes of: Music Monday, Tasty Tuesday, Work Together Wednesday, Artsy Thursday, and Family Fun Friday upon our return from Spring Break.



Tuesday, April 14 Families may celebrate with us by getting dinner (5-8pm) at Portillo's ( N. Main St., Mish). Families will be asked to stay on Wednesday after school, as we do a work together project to help clean up the garden/playground areas. Friday we will invite families to stay to enjoy an after school picnic inside or out depending on the weather. Monday, Tuesday and Thursdays activities will occur during the school day but we will make sure to take photos to share with families later.



Conscious Discipline inspired Family Event: We will be hosting a family event with activities for children and adults from 5-6:30 pm on Wednesday, April 29 and May 6. We will start with dinner from 5-5:30 pm then at 5:45 we will have an adult/child "song" then separate so the adults can enjoy some time understanding some essential skills/strategies from Conscious Discipline. The children will have their own activities with peers. Families will gather back together (6:30) to end the evening with another short activity. This entire event is FREE and we hope you can prioritize attending! You may share the information with other family/friends. Use the link to let us know **BY APRIL 24th** if you will be able to join us <https://forms.gle/wW1t87B2Mt9DYpEfA>



Extended day: Due to the cancellation of the 3/4 's class in December with the flu outbreak, we are offering several afternoon sessions for Mrs. Paul's and Mrs. Burson's small groups to enjoy lunch and several activities on specific dates. Families should have received the email to inform about the dates their child should plan to attend. Let us know if your child will not participate. **Extended day will dismiss at 2pm for each small group!**

## Things happening in Michiana this April

### **Elkhart Public Library:**

April 3 @ 5-6pm Stuffend animal sleepover (Osolo Branch)

April 4 @ 9am-2:30pm Friends of Library Book Sale

April 6 @ 2pm Just Dance with Nintendo Switch (Downtown Library)

April 6-10 Spring Break crafts/Boredom busters activities at most libraries



### **Mishawaka Penn Harris Public Library:**

April 6-12 @9am-7pm Spring break walk in craft (all branches)

April 8 @ 10:30am Banzi Balloons Space Show (downtown)

April 9 @ 6pm Unicorn Sparkle Storytime

April 11 @ 10:15am Picture Book Bingo (downtown) -offered 2pm at Harris

### **St. Joseph County Public Library:**

April 2 @5-6pm Evening Story time (Downtown-story house)

April 6 @2pm Phoebe and Jay screening with PBS and hands on activities (Downtown-story house)

April 16 @ 3-5pm Game night at North Liberty branch

April 17 @4pm SB Symphony Brass Quintet (Downtown-story house)

April 18@ 10am-1pm Storytellebration- Celebration of Stories (Francis Branch)

April 25 @ noon-1:30pm SB Symphony presents "Tales and Tunes" (Downtown -story house)

## Things to do, continued

**Mishawaka Parks and Recreation Dept.** has a variety of outdoor sports activities for preschoolers like: T-ball (registration ends May 4), tennis (sessions in May, June, July), Track and field (registration ends July 13). Mishawaka Greenhouse is also offering a plant sale April 18 from 10am-1pm

**St. Joseph County Parks:** Rummage Sale at the Red Barn (50651 Laurel Road-St. Patrick's Park April 25 from 8am-1pm)

### **South Bend Venue Parks and Arts Events:**

April 25 from 9:30-11:30 am will host an Arbor Day at O'Brien Park

## **Plan some at home activities for Earth Day, April 22<sup>nd</sup> like:**



1. Recycle or swap some items your family doesn't need with another family
2. Hold a family meeting to talk about ways to help the earth and how to reduce waste
3. Conduct a trash walk as everyone looks for litter; come prepared with trashbags and gloves to pick it all up
4. Make a nature craft/mobile with things found; use contact paper to stick little treasures to the window
5. Watch a documentary about the Earth or take a virtual tour of a National Park or the Great Barrier Reef.

*You're invited to a*

**Portillo's<sup>®</sup>**

**FUNDRAISER**



**Come Join Us!**

Present this flyer in-restaurant or use the online code for online/app orders, and 20% of the proceeds will be donated to:

**First English Lutheran Preschool**

**At the Portillo's located at:**

5102N Main Street

Mishawaka, IN

**When:**

April 14, 2026

5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

**ONLINE CODE: PORTILLOS54**

Learn [more](https://portillos.com/good) about Portillo's Fundraisers at [portillos.com/good](https://portillos.com/good).

For online/app orders to qualify for the fundraiser, orders must be placed for pickup only, from the participating restaurant, on the fundraiser date and during the listed fundraiser hours. Gift card purchases, delivery orders, and orders placed on the third party websites are excluded from the fundraiser. Online ordering subject to availability. \$200 minimum fundraising sales required for the organization to receive donation. Cannot be combined with other offer codes.

See you  
there!

**Portillo's**  
FOR GOOD

**WE'RE HIRING! APPLY AT [PORTILLOS.COM/CAREERS](https://portillos.com/careers)**