

Mother's Morning Out

What Is Mother's Morning Out

Mother's Morning Out is a drop-off program provided on a 3-day basis for children ages 2-6 years old on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 8am-10am. Our goal is to provide a fun, stimulating and safe environment to contribute to the growth and development of young children. We accomplish this mission through educational activities, socialization opportunities, physical exercise and life skill introduction. Palmetto Proper extends the research-based knowledge that children in early childhood are curious individuals who learn best through pretending, exploring and discovering within play!

You can expect your child's day to include music, story-time, crafts, STEM, sensory activities, circle time (discussing weather, shapes, colors, etc), and of course a WHOLE LOT OF PLAY! We will spend our mornings together in our premier indoor playground as well as the loft classroom for both group and station-based learning activities. Physical, social and emotional skills will blossom as your children interact with peers and staff, fostering self-esteem, independence and strong relationships.

Arrival / Dismissal

Safety is of the utmost importance at Palmetto Proper and an even greater focus is placed on proper procedures for the children of Mother's Morning Out. We ask for your full cooperation and understanding to ensure smooth and safe transitions during the daily check-in and check-out process. Upon arrival, be prepared to walk your child in, place belongings in cubbies and escort them to the enclosed play area. For pickup, we use the side door located on the left side of the building when facing the exterior of the facility. Using our security tag system allows our staff to quickly and securely match approved adults with their child. As your child adjusts to the school routine, we ask that you drop them off at the cubbies and allow them to enter independently. Parents are asked to not enter the play area to ensure a smooth drop-off for everyone. If an alternative person will be picking up your child, a written permission note must be given to staff at check-in and ensure the pick-up person either has your pick-up tag or is prepared to verify identity with a photo ID – no exceptions!

Late entries will not be permitted after 8:10am at which the door will be locked. Ensuring your child is on-time will allow them to receive the full benefit of the program as well as limit interruptions to the staff and other children. Children may not be dropped off prior to 8am. Dismissal is at 10am, at which time you will present your pick-up tag prior to gathering your child with their belongings at the side entrance. Please ensure you are on-time for dismissal to avoid a \$1 per minute fee for late pick-ups.

Daily Schedule

Children love consistency, so your child can expect fun and stimulating pre-planned activities that follow a consistent schedule. MMO provides children with growth and developmental opportunities through educational experiences and hands-on play!

Arrival (8:00 ~ FRONT ENTRANCE)

Children arrive and get checked in for the day while awaiting the arrival of all their friends.

Open Play in the Playground (8:00-9:00 ~ PLAY AREA)

Free play is an important part of our program! Children play, explore, and pretend in our extensive indoor play area, choosing their activities while strengthening their independence, building friendships, and learning about the world around them.

Cleanup & Bathroom Breaks (8:45-9:00)

Straightening after ourselves provides children with a sense of responsibility and accountability. Children practice working together by tidying toys in the play area followed by a restroom break and hand washing.

Group Time (9:00-9:45 ~ CLASSROOM)

Time in the loft classroom is utilized by learning about new and exciting topics and getting hands-on with engaging center activities! Group Time includes music, story-time, crafts, STEM, sensory activities, circle time (discussing weather, shapes, colors, etc) and more.

Dismissal (9:45-10:00 ~ SIDE ENTRANCE)

As we prepare for dismissal, children tidy their areas, gather their belongings and put on shoes while awaiting the arrival of parents.

What to Bring Daily

- Backpack filled with a change of clothes, extra underwear, extra socks, diapers/wipes (if applicable)
- Dress in socks and play clothes that can get messy
- Water bottle labeled with your child's name (please only send plain water)

Discipline Policy

Corporal punishment will never be used as a means of discipline at Palmetto Proper. Our first means of correcting behavior is redirection. If misbehavior continues, a calm time will follow (minutes equal to child's age). If a child demonstrates ongoing, challenging behavior, a parent will be notified to develop a plan to support the child at home as well as in the program. If a child is causing harm to themselves or to others and a staff member is unable to rectify the situation, a parent will be notified to pick up their child. Continuous unresolved behavioral issues may result in termination of services without refund of tuition and associated fees.

Sick Policy

We ask that children be kept home with signs of excessive runny nose/coughing/sneezing, fevers, red/watery eyes, rashes, sore throat, vomiting within the past 24 hours and digestive issues resulting in upset stomach. If a child develops signs of illness while at the center, a parent will be notified to pick up the child. If a child receives a diagnosed illness from a healthcare provider, we ask that parents notify Palmetto Proper staff immediately.

Communication

A clear line of communication is vital between parents and teachers/staff for a healthy childcare experience. You can expect a daily report about your child to include notes about their morning. On occasion, we will share photos of your child so that you can see all that they are experiencing at Palmetto Proper! Photo updates, upcoming events and other important notes can be found on our *private* Facebook group, exclusive to the parents of Palmetto Proper Mother's Morning Out. We encourage you to engage in daily conversation with your child about their daily experiences!

Ratios, Group Size and Supervision

In accordance and suggested by the State of South Carolina, our staff to student ratio will never exceed 1:8 (one staff per 8 students). This ratio may relate to fewer children based on the age demographic of the group, but never exceeding 1:8. Our lead teacher is trained to provide direct supervision to all children at all times. Children will stay with their group in accordance with their daily schedule throughout the program.

Payment for Childcare Services

Upon signing your child up for care, a family registration fee of \$50 and a supply fee of \$50 is due per school semester. Registration & supply fees are not pro-ratable for partial semester attendance. Monthly tuition is due on or before the last day of the preceding month. A \$25 late fee is added for all tuition paid after the last day of the previous month. Children may not be dropped off if your account is delinquent. In the event your child withdraws from the program for any reason, the registration fee, supply fee and tuition are non-refundable and non-transferable. If there is more than a 1-month gap in care, your registration fee will expire, and you will lose your spot in the program. Your spot in the program is subject to removal with recurring late tuition payments. Monthly tuition, per child, is calculated at \$80/week for our 3 day per week program. Supply Fees are \$50 per student per semester to include all activity supplies. **Fees paid in full for the semester will receive a 10% discount. Payable in cash or credit card (2.7% processing fee for credit cards) at our checkout counter.**

Volunteer Opportunities

We love to celebrate special events & holidays! Occasionally, classes will have celebrations or special activities in which we will need snacks, supplies and extra hands! These needs will be posted during drop off / pick up for parents to volunteer. If you would like to provide a special birthday snack, please coordinate this information with your child's teacher.

Emergency Plan of Action:

We do not administer over the counter or prescription medications of any kind. Staff have immediate access to emergency numbers and fully stocked first aid supplies. In the event of an accident, critical situation or emergency, we will provide treatment to the best of our ability and contact a parent. If your child has a serious or life-threatening injury, we will call 911 **prior to** contacting a parent. In the event your child should be taken to a hospital, a Palmetto Proper staff member will accompany the child until a parent has arrived. In all instances, an injury report will be completed and signed by staff and parents.

In the event of fire, natural disaster, or other situations posing a threat to your child's health or safety, children will be escorted from the building by a staff member and will not be allowed to return to the building until cleared to do so by an authorized representative.

Inclement Weather:

In observance of the safety of our students and families, weather-related closures may occur. Decisions are made as soon as possible to provide ample notice through our MMO Facebook group as well as a mass text message. In the event that school is closed, we are unable to provide a makeup day or issue refunds.

Calendar:

Our program follows the Greenville County Schools calendar, beginning in September and ending in May. We will follow holiday closures as well as teacher workdays. In the event of Greenville County Schools closures due to weather, Palmetto Proper MMO will also be closed. Early dismissals and weather delays will not affect our operational hours. Please refer to the publicly posted calendar on the Greenville County Schools website for specific dates of planned closure.

Palmetto Proper offers daily open play (ages 0-6), themed summer camps (ages 3-8), an afterschool enrichment program (grades 1-8) and birthday party packages. We encourage your family to explore all Palmetto Proper has to offer!