**Big Fish Academy**

**3-Year-Old Classroom**

Welcome to Big Fish Academy! We are Believers in God, Faithful in Serving Him. Our prayer is to build a Christ-like atmosphere that will encourage all families and support your children developmentally and emotionally through positive and loving interactions. We feel honored to be a part of your child’s life.

We are excited to have you and your child in the 3’s classroom and we look forward to getting to know your family. Our 3’s classroom is a fun and interactive space that helps your child learn through play and social interactions with their peers. We will work on milestones such as social/emotional skills, language and communication skills, cognitive learning and problem solving, and movement and physical development with the encouragement and support of loving teachers and support staff. We can’t wait to see your child grow socially, emotionally and developmentally throughout our school year.

Feel free to email us anytime with any questions or concerns.

Mary Cales, Director, knoxacademy@campbigfish.org

Lorrain Caro, Assistant Director, knoxoffice@campbigfish.org

Welcome to the Big Fish Academy 3’s classes!

**Ms. Kristi Mee:**

Hello! My name is Kristi Mee and this will be my 11th year teaching preschool here. I have taught in the one’s and the two’s, but was excited to step into the role of the three’s teacher for Big Fish Academy. I love this age and their budding curiosity! One of my favorite things to do with my class is art and so much learning can come from the development of an art project. I am excited to watch your child create some beautiful masterpieces this year all while growing socially, emotionally and developmentally!

My husband Rob and I have been married for 26 years. We have two daughters, Erin and Kaitlyn. Erin is a senior at the University of Tennessee studying nursing, and Kaitlyn is a senior at Farragut High School where she is a member of musical theater advanced acting and women’s chorale. I am currently a member of the FHS Theater Arts Board where I serve as secretary. I love watching tennis and Tennessee football.

**Ms. Cheyanne Feldahausen:**

Hi! I am Cheyanne, and I will be one of the three teachers this fall. I graduated from Kansas State University in Animal Science. Before seeking my degree, I worked with special education elementary age children, and after graduating, I worked in vaccine and medicine development. I also have 2 young children that keep me on my toes, so I decided to take time off to concentrate on my role as Mom. My oldest, Eli, attends BFA and is in the Pre-K classroom and my youngest Mia is in the two year old classroom. I love their preschool experience and the camaraderie of the staff. I also love kiddos, being a Mom and helping children develop and learn in a safe space, so I am excited to be a part of shaping young minds socially, emotionally and developmentally at BFA.

**Required Items: (please LABEL everything)**

* 2” thick Rest mat (for extended care students only)
* 1 fitted crib sheet (for extended care students only/for rest time)
* 1 small Blanket (for extended care students only/for rest time)
* 1 FULL SIZE backpack (no small preschool backpacks please)
* An oversized shirt to be used as an art smock
* Extra Clothes: Each child will need a complete change of seasonally

appropriate clothing - shirt, shorts/pants, socks and underwear (if

potty-trained). Please label ALL clothing and place in a gallon size Ziploc bag.

* Lunch Box, labeled with child’s name
* Sippy Cup, labeled with child’s name
* Sunscreen – Please apply sunscreen to your child every morning prior

to school. For afternoon extended care enrollees needing reapplication after rest time, send in a SPRAY can of sunscreen with your child’s name written on the bottle. A medication authorization form is required. See the leadership team to complete.

**Supply Needs:**

* 1 folder with two pockets
* 2 packs (or refills) of unscented diaper wipes
* 1 plastic pencil box
* 1 set safety kid scissors
* 1 bottle Elmer’s liquid glue
* 2 Elmer’s glue sticks
* 2 boxes tissues
* 1 clear Soft Soap brand refill bottle
* 1 set Crayola washable markers
* 1 set Crayola watercolors
* 1 6-pack AA batteries
* 2 rolls of paper towels
* 2 packs/booklet of stickers
* 1-2 containers of playdoh
* 1 box Crayola crayons (24 pack)
* 1 pad of watercolor paper
* 1 Non-returnable picture of family pet
* 3-4 Non-Returnable Family Photos (Some pics to include grandparents if possible)
* 1 package of paper plates
* 1 package of spoons (girls)
* 1 package of forks (boys)

**Appropriate Dress for Preschool**

Part of creating childhood means FUN! When choosing your child’s clothing, bear in mind that sometimes our fun can be messy! For this reason, please follow our clothing policies to ensure your child has the best experience.

**Shoes**

Children (toddler and up) will wear tennis shoes (with socks) or shoes that are rubber soled. The foot should be totally enclosed in the shoe. This is for your child's safety during active play. Clogs, Crocs or 'Croc style shoes' will require a heel strap to be worn at school.

Children should not wear:

1. shoes with Squeaker-action (usually a toddler style shoe)

2. 'heeley’ style or other skate shoes

3. cowboy boots

4. house shoes

5. sandals

6. clogs or dress shoes with slick bottoms

7. any shoe that is disruptive, or could cause a child to have accidents

**Clothing**

Children should wear comfortable clothing. Clothing should be easy for him or her to button, zip, and slip on and off easily. Pants with elastic waistbands are the best. This allows children to have the advantage of speed when making it to the potty.

Garments with buckles, snaps, and belts are difficult to manipulate. Precious time is

used up, if the child has to ask the teacher for assistance. Daily activities include active and messy play. Children should feel comfortable enough to enjoy themselves without worrying about their clothes.

Undergarments are a requirement for modesty reasons and for the prevention of waste escaping clothing when accidents occur. When wearing dresses or skirts, children need to wear bloomers or shorts that cover their underwear. This ensures modesty during active play indoors and out.

Children may not wear necklaces (including teething necklaces), bracelets, or watches.

**Dressing for Weather**

Please dress your child in seasonally appropriate and comfortable play clothes.

In accordance with DHS licensing requirements, All children will be going outside each day when the temperature is 32°F-95°F, depending on wind, sunshine, air quality, and heat index. During the summer months, we will have water play. We will notify you of the times for water play so that you may provide a swimsuit, secure water shoes, and towel.

**Change of Clothing**

Each child should have at least one, preferably two complete changes of seasonally appropriate play clothing, including socks and shoes, in his or her cubby at all times. (The number of spare sets needed may increase during potty training.) Please be sure to replace any articles of clothing that are used from the spare set.

**Label Everything**

Please label ALL items (including clothing, coats, hats, bottles, baby food, bags, and sippy cups) that you bring to the school with your child’s first and last name.

**Bringing Toys from Home**

Children should leave their personal toys at home. You may bring a soft security item, such as a blanket, stuffed animal, or doll that your child needs for naptime. This item must be labeled. Please let your child know that the item will stay in their cubby until nap time and will be returned to the cubby after naptime.

If a “show and tell” day is planned for the children, check with the teacher to see what type of items would be best to bring. Any items brought for a special reason requested by teachers need to be labeled appropriately with the child’s first and last name. Labeling all of your child’s items is the best way to ensure they do not get misplaced.

We are not responsible for personal items or toys from home that get lost or broken.

Big Fish Academy may prohibit items coming to school that are a classroom distraction. Items that are expressly forbidden include: trading cards of any type, weapons, handcuffs, nail polish, make-up, and lipstick.

**Food Service:**

The children at Big Fish Academy bring their own lunches to school. The children are to bring selections of fruits, vegetables, and milk products for a balanced lunch.

We are unable to microwave, refrigerator, or prepare meals. All items must be ready to consume out of the lunchbox. A cold pack is needed in all lunches that require cold storage.A child will not be forced to eat. Food will not be withheld from a child. Children will be given adequate time to eat. Food will not be used as a reward. Any food that is served to your child during lunch will either be eaten by your child or thrown away if not eaten. We know this sounds wasteful, but per DHS, after food has been served, we can no longer guarantee the integrity or the quality of the food and must throw away any waste. We recommend only sending any items that you know your child will eat and in quantities you know they will eat.

**Allergy Information Form**

You have been asked on the registration form for detailed information on your child’s allergies. If a new allergy arises while in our care, please let your child’s teacher and the BFA leadership team immediately.

If your child’s allergy is life threatening, an Allergy Action Plan from the child's doctor is required. Please email us at office@campbigfish.org to obtain a blank allergy action plan to give to your child’s doctor. An Allergy Action Plan from your child’s MD can be sent to us via fax at 615-754-6058 or email mjoffice@campbigfish.org.