

# TPCDC Newsletter



March 2015

Dear TPCDC Parents,

We're really looking forward to the warmer weather of spring although it seems like its light years away! The children will really enjoy more time to play outside once it arrives. Until then we will turn our focus on the highlight of this month, our first Family Concert. Come socialize with our friendly TPCDC families, purchase light refreshments, and above all enjoy the performances! This event will take place Saturday, March 14th, 11am-12pm in the big gym. Tickets are \$8 per person. Stop by the office to pick up tickets now so you can avoid the long line at the door. Additionally, you can purchase tickets online through [brownpapertickets.com](http://brownpapertickets.com) (search TPCDC). We want to thank Lauren Williams and Patrick Burns (mother and father of Delia in the Teddy Bears), Jen Striegel (mother of Alice in Rainbows) and Jenny Johnson (mother of Juna in Explorers and Willa in Munchkins) for coordinating the Family Concert. The goal of the Family Concert is to fund our Staff Development Scholarship Program in order to assist staff members who are either taking Early Childhood college courses, or pursuing other related coursework. Although many of our staff are receiving partial financial aid from the State of Maryland or other sources, TPCDC is also actively supporting them in their pursuit of education. This is all part of the big initiative to help meet Maryland State Department of Education's training requirements for the teachers of our Credentialed Program.

## Spring and Summer School Age Camp Registration

Spring Break is just around the corner and summer is trailing closely behind it. Don't wait until the last minute to enroll your child in our TPCDC Spring Break Camp. Space is available on a first come-first serve basis, so secure your child's space TODAY! To register for Spring Break Camp contact the office by stopping in, emailing at [tpcdc1111@yahoo.com](mailto:tpcdc1111@yahoo.com) or calling (301)270-6824. School Aged Summer Program flyers are available now. Plan to register soon, because we are already getting outside inquiries. Please pick up a few brochures to pass onto your friends and neighbors. The summer camp teachers have been working hard to update and improve the summer plan; introducing many new attractive activities, various unique field trips and visiting artists, while still incorporating several of our favorite trips. If you would like to register for TPCDC Summer Camp please [click here](#) to fill out the registration form.

## Parent Satisfaction Survey

Please keep an eye out for this survey. We would love to gather feedback from your experience this year in order to continue to provide quality service and gather ideas for better programming.

## Play

There's a lot happening during playtime. Little ones are lifting, dropping, looking, pouring, bouncing, hiding, building, knocking down, and more. Children are busy when they're playing. And, more than that, they are learning. They are learning key scientific concepts such as what sinks and floats; mathematical concepts, including how to balance blocks to build a tower; and literacy skills, such as trying out new vocabulary or storytelling skills as children "act out" different roles. Play is the true work of childhood. And when your children play with you, they are also learning that they are loved, important and that they are fun to be around. These social-emotional skills give them the self-esteem and self-confidence they need to continue building loving and supportive relationships throughout their lives. Tips and Tools On Play [Birth to 12 months](#), [12 to 24 months](#), [24 to 36 months](#).

## Dates to Remember

**KARAOKE NIGHT**  
Wednesday  
March 11, 2015  
5:30p-6:30p  
TPCDC Little Gym  
School Aged Shining Stars Bright Stars  
Please bring your BEST singing voice with you!  
Light refreshments will be served and parents are welcomed to attend.

Takoma Park Child Development Center (TPCDC)  
**FAMILY CONCERT**  
Saturday, 11am-12pm  
March 14th  
FUN FOR KIDS & THE WHOLE FAMILY  
FEATURING:  
LOCAL MUSICIANS AND PERFORMERS FROM MANY OF THE AREA'S BEST THEATERS AND STAGES  
• Mr. Usher • Elizabeth Rodgers • Nova Payne • Blakey Patten • Presley Carter • Finn DeLuca • Corina Torres • Colby Sharp • Jazzy Felix • Kaitlin Hamilton • Evan Casey  
Tickets \$8  
(Includes refreshments) (For info TPCDC)  
TPCDC (AT THE TAKOMA PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH GYM)  
310 TULIP AVE.  
(FUNDS BENEFIT THE TPCDC STAFF DEVELOPMENT)

- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 27 Public Schools Closed-  
TPCDC Open

## Board of Directors

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### **Teddy Bears by Ana Rodriguez**

Dear Parents, the Teddy Bears had a great time learning about shapes and practicing their language skills by naming each shape. For the month of March, we are excited to talk about Zoo Animals. The main goal is for the children to identify which animals reside at the zoo and to be able to describe them. Also, there will be working to identify some of their physical characteristics, such as which animals are big and which animals are small. We will do art activities related to the daily topic such as: painting pictures of the animals, coloring and pasting zoo animal pictures and asking questions of the children about the animals to promote their language skills.

### **Munchkins by Pam Colvin**

The Munchkins will continue to have an awesome time in the month of March! We will talk about the author Eric Carle and read some of the books he has written such as: Polar Bear, Polar Bear, What Do You Hear?; Panda Bear, Panda Bear, What Do You See?; Head to Toe; The Very Hungry Caterpillar; The Mixed Up Chameleon and Does a Kangaroo Have a Mother Too?. We will also have lots of fun reviewing colors, numbers, letters and social skills through celebrations! Some celebrations to remember will be Pajama Party (wear your pj's), Ms. Pam's B-Day Potluck, Costume Party (wear a costume), St. Patrick's Day Potluck (bring something green to share) and a Pizza Party, Fiesta de Cumpleaños, a Spanish celebration.

### **Rainbows by Teresa Abanto**

It's hard to believe it is already March! This month's unit is all about Transportation. The children will learn the important role transportation plays in our everyday lives. We will focus on various methods of transportation by land, air and water. The children will also learn the names of different transportation vehicles, sort and classify things that move. Our focus for the month will also be learning teamwork by building tracks with a partner, to wait and take turns by playing hopscotch, giving out numbers to see who is going first or second, raising hands to ask a question or say something during group activities. In addition, children will expand their vocabulary by reviewing words such as: up, down, heavy, long and short. Moreover, we will include stories, songs, games, activities and pre-writing activities. We are also planning a field trip some time later in the month. Further information will be posted on the parent info board when plans are finalized. Please make sure to view the calendar to see what day your child should bring in their Show N Tell item, related to transportation. We are looking forward to have a fun and successful month.

### **Explorers by Selvi Vijayakumar**

Our theme for March will be Animal Alphabet. We will explore animals A-Z learning many facts about the animals' diet, their habitats, behaviors, as well as hibernation and migration. We will play many games such as the letter matching game to strengthen our knowledge about the alphabet and animals. During the month of March we will use Lion (very windy) and Lamb (gentle winds) to describe the weather, keep a tally of the days and discuss how very windy and gentle wind days affect our environment. At the end of the month we will compare the results. On March 2<sup>nd</sup> we celebrated Dr. Seuss' birthday by reading his famous book The Cat in the Hat along with many of his other fun books. The class also did some Dr. Seuss activities and learned some of his rhymes. March 4<sup>th</sup> we had a field trip to Adventure Theater and on March 25 we will visit the museum of Natural History to see their display of animals. Please remember that we will also be having our Show-n-Tell. Our theme will be animals. Your child should bring an item related to our topic of animals (books, stuffed animal, pictures/drawings/figurines, etc.).

### **School Agers by Brenda Roberts**

We are marching right into the month of March. During the month of March will celebrate all things green! We will be using recycled materials to create cool art projects. We will need donations of clean and empty egg cartons, milk jugs, paper towel rolls, fabric, cereal boxes, soda bottle/cans or anything else you may think of. We will be making green eggs and ham, green rice krispies and yummy limeade. We encourage all the kids to wear the color green on Saint Patrick's Day. We will have a Saint Patrick's Day Potluck on Tuesday, March 17, 2015. We will have a sign-up sheet for food donations posted outside of the classroom. We will take our Morning Glories that we planted and replant them in the garden on the back playground.