

TPCDC Newsletter

May Newsletter 2015

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Dear TPCDC Parents,

The Children's Performance was a great success. This event raised approximately \$1069 to support the Staff Professional Development Fund. But, the best part was the community spirit and fellowship that came with everyone being together for one night of fun and laughter. A big thank you to the many parent and teacher volunteers who worked so hard to make the evening run so smoothly.

Staff Appreciation Week

The focus for this month is "Staff Appreciation." During the week of May 4-8, we will have our annual Staff Appreciation week. The teachers and support staff at our center are essential to creating a warm, energetic learning environment for our children. These dedicated, imaginative, spirited and loving people have a huge impact on children and families lives. Let's show them how much they mean to us! Here are suggestions for ways to show the staff how much you appreciate them:

All Week Long – Post Love Notes on the Staff Bulletin Board or Classroom Door.

Monday – Children bring cards, letters or pictures for their teachers

Wednesday – Children Bring Flowers for the Teachers

Friday – Children bring treats for their teachers

Breakfast will be provided by the Parent Board on Tuesday and lunch (from the school, set up by Room Parents) will take place on Thursday. The Week of the Young Child was lots of fun. The children had a blast, especially when the staff performed familiar fairy tales for them, and the special breakfast time with parents. It was nice to celebrate our precious children.

Early Language and Literacy

Learning to read and write doesn't start in kindergarten or first grade. Developing language and literacy skills begins at birth through everyday loving interactions—sharing books, telling stories, singing songs, and talking to one another. In this section you will learn how adults (parents, grandparents and teachers) play a very important role in preparing young children for future school success and in becoming self-confident and motivated learners. [Beginnings of Literacy Article](#) Click this link for a *Zero to Three* Journal article that explains how early literacy skills emerge in the context of imaginative play and loving relationships.

Parent Survey & Suggestions

This month we are asking all of our families to complete a short Family Satisfaction Survey. Please complete the survey by May 15, 2015. [Click here](#) to be taken directly to the survey.

Please keep in mind that our electronic suggestion box is still up and running. Please feel free to give feedback or make suggestion for improvement by [clicking here](#).

As Tulip Turns!

We would like to remind all of our parents of the effort to lessen the traffic issues experienced on Tulip Avenue. To do so we are asking all of our families and visitors to do their part by: • Entering Tulip from the Carroll Avenue end rather than the Maple Avenue end heading west. • Refrain from making U-turns on Tulip. • Treat Tulip Avenue as if it is a one way street. We are hoping to create a larger impact by diminishing traffic congestion experienced outside of the center. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in regards to this request.



May Dates to Remember

4-8 – Staff Appreciation Week

25 - TPCDC Closed for Memorial Day

Board of Directors

Patrick Byrne /

Lauren Williams

Sarah Davidson /

Jason Levitis

Jen Engledow

Steve Coleman

Matt Hobbs

Jared Hughes

Adam Hatton

Coco Jervis

Jenny Johnson

Aaron Kofner

Cara Long

Jason Witteman

CLASSROOM UPDATES

Teddy Bears' Newsletter

April has been fun and the children have had a good time talking about baby animals. For the month of May they will learn about flowers. We will focus on the colors of yellow, orange, purple and red. Our main goal is for the children to practice color recognition while talking about the following flowers: marigolds, daisies, daffodils, sunflowers. For the color orange, the flowers we will explore are zinnias, lilies, pansies and tulips. For the color purple, we will focus on irises, asters, purple tulips and crocuses. For the color red we will focus on red roses, red tulips, and red carnations. To enhance our topic we will have a field trip to Brookside Gardens, on May 20th, where the children will have the opportunity to see different kinds of flowers as well as enjoy the outdoor experience.

Munchkins' Newsletter

The theme for the month of May will be "Colors Around Us". We live in a world with a variety of climates where people and their homes, food, style, flora and fauna are diverse in all regions of the world. On a daily basis we interact with people of different races, religions, creeds and genders. With such diversity, we should enjoy a variety of ethnic flavors, colors, textures and music. The Munchkins will visit and explore via books, field trips, science projects, art as well as through their sense of taste. We will utilize all our five senses to experience the "Colors Around Us".

Rainbows' Newsletter

April showers bring May flowers. Happy May, Rainbows! The subject for this month is "Insects and Bugs". We love all things that fly, wiggle and crawl. Bugs, bugs and more bugs: we are going to explore the world of insects - here they live and what they eat. We will study the life cycles of insects and their anatomy. We will find out why some bugs fly and others crawl. How are insects beneficial to our everyday lives? What is the difference between bugs, insects and arachnids? Activities include making clothespin grasshoppers and colorful painted butterflies. We will also follow the life cycle of butterflies by raising them ourselves and documenting their development. Cooking projects include "Ants on a Log" and "A Cup of Dirt". A fieldtrip to the Museum of Natural History to visit the insect collection will be scheduled for the end of the month. Parents, for show-n-tell please remember to bring in items related to the theme for May.

Explorers' Newsletter

Our theme for May is "Things that Crawl and Fly". We will discover which insects are harmful or helpful to the environment, how they are alike and different, what they eat, why some don't eat anything and where they live. We will also observe live caterpillars and ladybug larvae, paying close attention to process of metamorphosis of a butterfly. Our show-n-tell theme is "Draw a Unique Insect". Children should use their imagination to draw a picture of an insect, give it a name, and write a sentence about it. Each year on May 1st, the Explorers walk to the corner of Carroll Avenue and Willow Avenue to watch the Mayday dancers. We will leave the center at 9:15 am and return around 10:30am. We will visit the National Zoo on Thursday, May 7th to observe insects and animals. The Explorers enjoy going to the Natural History Museum because there are so many exciting things to see. We will visit the museum again this month on, Tuesday, May 12th, to walk through the butterfly exhibit and see the insects. More information about these trips will be posted soon. We will begin practicing for graduation this month. The Explorer children have worked really hard getting ready for kindergarten and we would like to acknowledge their success with a graduation celebration on Friday, June 5, 2015, from 3:30pm-4pm in the Assembly Room. Family and friends are welcome.

REMINDERS:

- Naptime officially ends May 1st.
- The weather is getting warmer so remember to check cubbies and exchange winter clothing for spring clothing.
- The Explorers are at an age where they are very aware of their bodies. Please remember to put shorts or leggings under dresses.

School Agers' Newsletter

May is here and there are only two more months left in the 2015 school year! Time to get excited for SUMMER CAMP! For the month of May the Bright Stars, Shining Stars and School Agers have decided to have our very own May Day (date TBD)! Come out and support us! We will have games, face painting, relay races, a raffle and refreshments. We will also be doing Awesome Bubble Wrap Art! Lastly, we will be working on a Mother's Day surprise gift. All in all, we are super excited about a fun filled May!

REMINDERS:

- On the bulletin board outside of the classrooms is a sign-up sheet to let the teachers know what days your child will be attending summer camp. Please be sure to complete them.
- Each of the programs now have their respective email addresses! The addresses are as follows: tpcdcshoolagers@gmail.com, tpcdcshiningstars@gmail.com and tpcdcbrighstars@gmail.com.

Week of the Young Child

