

TPCDC Newsletter

Summer 2016



Director's Notes

Summer is off to a great, and here at TPCDC we are planning many fun outdoor activities as well as lots of field trips to extend the children's learning beyond the classroom walls. One of our favorite activities are the Splash Day, where the kids have good, old fashioned fun with water, sprinklers, buckets, etc., out on the playground; make sure your child has their suit, towel and footwear on those days. We hope the weather cooperates so we can maximize our time outdoors to explore nature and keep moving.

I know you have a lot of fun activities planned with your children for the summer, but here are some links for additional active learning ideas:

<http://www.pre-kpages.com/summer-learning-activities-preschool/>

<http://www.readingrockets.org/article/get-ready-summer-ideas-teachers-share-families> - This resource has links to other summer idea sources that are great!

<http://www.greatschools.org/gk/articles/summer-learning-activities-that-are-practically-free/>



Important Dates to Remember

June 10th -Graduation and Family Day Cookout

June 20th -Last Day for Public Schools

June 21st -Summer Camp Begins

July 4th -TPCDC Closed/Fourth of July Parade!

August 19th-End of Summer Cookout

August 22 & 23-Transition Days

August 24, 25 & 26-TPCDC Closed for Professional Development

August 29 -First day of Fall Session

Graduation and Family Day Cookout

On Friday, June 10th, at 3:30, we will have a graduation ceremony to celebrate our Explorers anticipated entrance to Kindergarten, and this will be followed by a **Family Day Cookout at 4 pm**. All our parents are warmly invited to join us and socialize with our TPCDC community until 5:30 p.m.

Fourth of July Parade



TPCDC will be closed on Monday, July 4th for Independence Day. Please join us on as we walk in the annual Takoma Park parade. More information will follow soon. Show your support by marching or riding your bike/scooter, etc. along with our group. Parade participants can meet us at the starting point or just join us along the way when you see our group passing by.



Fall Preparation

Monday Aug. 22th and Tuesday, August 23th will be Transition days. Those mornings, the current children will be able to visit their "new" classroom, and any new students will also come to visit and enjoy. There will also be an orientation meeting for new parents and returning parents, to help families learn more about TPCDC life, during the Monday transition visit. The center will be closed August 24, 25, and 26 for staff development (training) and preparation for the fall. The first day of fall session will begin Monday, August 29th.



[Transition Reminder- TPCDC Room-to-Room Transition Checklist](#)

- **This information can also be found in our updated parent handbook location on tpcdc.org**

Director informs the parents of the move date, and does a welcome letter/packet for new families [early June].

- ✓ At the beginning of summer, a meet-and-greet will be held from 5-6 pm to encourage parents to meet with the teachers of the new classroom about the activities and curriculum of the new room. Incoming parents can visit the new classroom, getting to know teachers, sharing information about their child and needs and goals, and learning about the class and its operation. We like to build the bond early between the parents and the teachers.
- ✓ In the week prior to Transition Days, in a “visiting teacher” program, one of the teachers from the new classroom visits the upcoming group each day and leads ½ to 1 hour special activity with the transitioning children.
- ✓ The 2 Transition Mornings are on Monday and Tuesday of the last week of summer, so the new children can visit their new classroom between 9:30-11:30 am. A temporary transition teacher from the originating room accompanies the children. A New Families Orientation is held the transition time for the director to share information about TPCDC programs and answer questions.
- ✓ The “Parent Night” Orientation is held Thursday of the first week of school from 6:15 - 7:30 pm to help parents gather in-depth information about the class, teachers, activities and goals for the year.

[Join the TPCDC Board of Directors](#)

We need you to join the Board of Directors this coming school year! The board is responsible for determining policies and oversight of employee benefits. They provide assistance with personnel, finance, operating policies and program matters, like nutrition and staff development. If you think you might be interested, contact the office or talk to one of the current board members.

[Summer Reminders](#)

- Sun protection shirts and water shoes are required for all outdoor water activities.
- For your child’s safety, children must wear shoes that fit securely to their feet and cover their toes (no crocs, flip flops or sandals).
- Yellow TPCDC t-shirts and written permission are **mandatory** requirements for all field trips.
- There are absolutely no drop offs/pick-ups during field trips. If your child leaves the school with his/her class, he/she must also return to school with the class.

[TEDDY BEARS NEWSLETTER – Ms. Ana](#)

Dear Parents, the Teddy Bears had a great time learning about the different flowers as well as continuing practicing color recognition and language skills while creating art and naming the flowers and their colors. For the month of June, we look forward to continue learning and having fun while discovering all about Sea Animals. The children will come to know more about animals such: star fish, oysters and hermit crabs. We will base our art activities on the topic so the children to continue using fine motor skills and cognitive skills while creating art and discussing colors, texture and size of some sea animals. Also we will have a show Under the Sea in the center and we have planned a field trip to the Pet Store where the children can see the different fish. The theme for July will be “Community Helpers”. We will discuss police officers, fire fighters, librarians and several other careers. We will have walking field trips to the police station, fire department and post office In August we will review shapes, numbers and letter recognition. We will read the “Eating the Alphabet” book as well as additional books about shapes. Lastly, August will be filled with cooking projects too!

As part of our summer program, we will have two splash days weekly: Every Monday and Friday, starting Monday June 20th and ending Friday August 19th. For these days, your child will need a plastic bag for his/her wet clothes, also (for those not potty-trained) a water proof or swimming diaper, a towel, water shoes and bathing suit. (Please put all these stuff in a bag and bring it to the classroom, we will dress the children when is time to go outside.)

[MUNCHKINS NEWSLETTER-Ms. Razia](#)

Summer is finally here! We have an exciting few months planned. Our theme for the month of June is “Under the Sea.” Munchkins will explore what kind of creatures live underwater and learn a lot more about them. Each week, we will focus on different sea creatures and learn about what they eat, their family sizes, where they live in the sea, and so much more. We will also have an in-house field trip on June 9th where the children will be able to see sharks, starfish, crabs, fish and snails. Parents are welcome to come! We will also have another field trip to the Congressional Aquarium in Rockville to learn more about sea creatures and see them up close! In July, our themes will be “Jungle Animals” and “Dinosaurs”. During the first 2 weeks we will talk about different kinds of jungle animals and learn all about what they eat, where they live and what kind of sounds they make. During the last 2 weeks of July the Munchkins will learn about different types of dinosaurs as herbivores, carnivores and omnivores. Our field trip July 1st will be to the MLK Pool. On July 25th we will also be going to the Natural History Museum to explore the dinosaur exhibit. Finally to wrap up our summer, the theme for August will be Transportation. During this month, we will learn about different types of transportation: by land, air and sea. We will go to the Air and Space Museum on August 15th where we will get to learn more about air transportation - planes and spacecraft. We look forward to having an amazing, splash-filled, wild and out of this world summer!

RAINBOWS NEWSLETTER – Ms.Teresa

Hi, Rainbow Families. For the month of June our study is divided into 2 different units - Recycling and Safety. The first 2 weeks of June we will focus on recycling, reduce and reuse. The children will collect recyclable items from home and bring to school for show and tell days. We will investigate what happened with the trash that has been thrown away, where does it go and how we can reuse some of these used items creatively. The last 3 weeks of June the children will learn some safety tips such as how to be safe at school, how to protect our skin from sunlight and how to stay safe from strangers. One of the concepts they will learn is staying in cool places during hot days and drinking plenty of liquids. Finally, for the month of July and August summer fun begins! During these 2 months we have planned some fun activities such as lunch in the park, splash days, field trips to the pool, camping inside the classroom and making tie dye t-shirts. We will end the summer with a cook out at the park.

Reminders: Please don't forget to put on the first application of sunscreen to your child in the morning before coming to school.

*Future events will be posted on the parent information board and on the listserve to update you about field trips, splash days and excursions to the park.

EXPLORERS NEWSLETTER – Ms. Indira

Goodbye Spring, Hello Summer! This has been a wonderful school year! This year was full of all different types of educational fun. We will wind up the fantastic school year with the Explorers Graduation Ceremony on Friday, June 10th at 3:30 in the Assembly Room. Following the graduation friends and families will enjoy refreshments. The TPCDC Family Day will start at 4pm and all are welcome to attend. Our theme for the summer is "Summer Outdoor Fun! We have lots of great field trips planned. We will be swimming at MLK pool twice a week, sailing on the high seas at the Pirate Adventure tour and visiting the Baltimore Zoo, just to name a few. In addition, we will have tons of arts and craft projects, and community and nature walks will be frequent. This summer promises to be a great adventure of fun!

BRIGHT STARS, SHINING STARS' AND SCHOOL AGERS NEWSLETTER – Ms. Dorothy

Hurray! We have successfully completed a whole 2015-2016 school year. Get ready to pull out your sunscreen, sunglasses, swimsuits and everything else summer. We will be kicking it off the summer with our June 10th family cook out starting at 4pm. If you haven't already signed up for summer camp you still can we still have spaces available! Our field trip schedule and policies are on the website, if you want to check it out. Hope to see you there! Enjoy your summer and we are looking forward to seeing everyone again next school year!

