

# TPCDC Newsletter

Summer 2017



## Director's Notes

We're wrapping up another busy year at TPCDC, and I hope you have enjoyed all the many things that your children have learned this school year. Please, please, take the time to participate in the parent survey; the information that you share with us is so valuable to help us to improve our program and to have acknowledgement of what we are doing successfully. For example, we switched photographers this year, is it a good change or is there a better option? Another example of how we use information from the survey to get a feeling of parent priorities for the program. The more responses and explanations given, the more we can incorporate suggestions for program improvements or know which activities we should continue to benefit your children. Also, I'd like to make a request for parent participation – TPCDC has always benefited from parent engagement in the classroom, on the Parent Board or with special projects, like the clean-up day or the concerts. Currently, our big project is a playground renovation, which we hope to start with the replacement of the rubber tiles in the lower area. We'd love to recruit additional volunteers to help with the planning of the renovations. Plus, when you volunteer, your child see that you value the school and all they learn at TPCDC.

## Important Dates to Remember



**June 9<sup>th</sup>** -Graduation and Family Day Cookout

**June 16<sup>th</sup>** -Last Day for Public Schools

**June 19<sup>th</sup>** -Summer Camp Begins

**July 4<sup>th</sup>** -TPCDC Closed/Fourth of July Parade!

**August 25<sup>th</sup>**-End of Summer Cookout

**August 28 & 29**-Transition Days

**August 30, 31 & Sept. 1**-TPCDC Closed for Professional Development

**September 4** - TPCDC and Public School Closed for Labor Day

**September 5** -First day of School (TPCDC and Public School)

## Graduation and Family Day Cookout

On Friday, June 9th, 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 Tuesday, July 4<sup>th</sup> 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. 28th and Tuesday, August 29th 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 30, 31, and September 1st for staff development (training) and preparation for the fall. The first day of fall session will begin Tuesday, September 5th.



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

- **This information can also be found in our updated parent handbook location on [tpcdc.org](http://tpcdc.org)**

Director informs the parents of the move date, and does a welcome letter/packet for new families [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 Friday, September 15th 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, please contact the co-chairs, Aubin Maynard at [aubinoak@gmail.com](mailto:aubinoak@gmail.com) and Kimberly Cole at [cole.kimberly@gmail.com](mailto:cole.kimberly@gmail.com).

### 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

Summer is approaching and the Teddy Bears are so eager to splash and have water play every Monday and Friday. Splash days will start on Monday, June 19th through August 18th. The theme for June will be Water Animals. We look forward to have fun activities such as hand print fish, shell prints, sandpaper star fish and many other activities that will foster children’s social, language, and fine motor skills. The field trip for this month will be to the Pet Store on June 14th, we will also have an Under the Sea Show at the center on June 20th. We have planned a fun summer talking about Community Helpers in July and will do some reviewing of Shapes Numbers and Letters in the month of August. In July we will visit the Fire Station, the Police Station, the Library, and the Post Office. We will also have a metro ride field trip to Glenmont. We will do some art activities and read books about Community Helpers for the children to have ideas about how people help in the community. Also, we have planned to bring a Fire Fighter and a Nurse to give us information about what they do in their jobs. In August, we will have fun art activities relating to letters, shapes, and numbers as well continuing practicing colors recognition. We hope you have a great summer.

### MUNCHKINS NEWSLETTER- Ms. Razia

Welcome to summer! We have an exciting three months planned for the Munchkins. We will kick off the month of June with the themes of Clothing and Transportation. We will discover different kinds of fabrics and learn about the process of how clothes are made. The Munchkins will make tie-dye t-shirts and learn about the coloring process. On June 7th, we will go on a field trip to the Playseum. The Playseum is a fun and interactive miniature city where children will be able to explore different mini-areas including a farm, pirate cove, grocery store, Chinese market, Presidential area, and so much more! On June 20th, we will have an in-house show called Under the Sea, where children will get to see different types of sea creatures up close. Then on June 21st, we will go to the Botanical Garden! The Munchkins will get to learn all about different kinds of plants and flowers and how they grow. Then in the final week of June, we will begin the topic of transportation. During this week, each day we will talk about a different method of transportation. Then on June 28th, we will go to the Udvar-Hazy Center National Air and Space Museum and learn all about different methods of flight. Moving into July, we will begin our next topic with a Splash! The topic will be Under the Sea. During this month, every week we will learn about different sea creatures. The Munchkins will learn about what kind of animals live underwater, what they eat, where they live in the sea, their family sizes, and so much more. We will have a field trip on July 14th. Munchkins will read about many different sea creatures and do lots of different underwater-based art activities. Finally, in August, we will begin our topic on different kinds of animals. The theme will be divided into three different categories: Farm Animals, Pets, and Jungle Animals. The children will learn about their different eating habits and where different animals live. On August 4th, we will have a field trip to the zoo and the Munchkins will get to see all the animals they learned about up close. Then on August 23rd, we will go to the pet store. Finally, to wrap up the summer, our class is going to be visited by a special pet. Stay tuned!

### **Summer Activities:**

Every Tuesday and Thursday: Water Play Every; Friday: Trip to the library and picnic

### RAINBOWS NEWSLETTER – Ms. Corina

During the month of June as the fields of crops continuously grow; some begin to yield their fruits. The Rainbows will be planting some flowers and vegetables in pots, they will take care of them, eventually reap the fruits of their labor. We will also learn about what makes a fruit a fruit and a vegetable a vegetable, in addition, we will experience through our sense of smell and taste a variety of herbs that some use to add flavor to foods. We will also see or visit other sources of foods. Lastly, see how some people around the world eat their first meal of the day - Breakfast. Summer Fun is the theme for summer which will begin on June 22 with SPLASH DAY every Thursday through the end of August and Brown Bag Lunch at the park every Friday, weather permitting, otherwise, we will brown bag it in the classroom. July and August in the Rainbow classroom will be fun filled, we will study about the ocean, have camping adventures, picnics, games and crafts. This will be a busy summer for the Rainbow “we have no time for gray days even if it rains, because WE ARE THE RAINBOWS” We have many fieldtrips planned, please keep the monthly calendar in plain view. The Rainbow staff

### EXPLORERS NEWSLETTER – Ms. Sherri

Hello Parents, We are just a few weeks away from summer and we are very excited. We have many exciting things planned for June, July and August. We will start the month of June as chefs and prepare delicious treats, while learning about safety, healthy eating, smart food choices, nutrition and food groups. Many of our activities will center around water; MLK Pool, Silver Spring fountain, DC fountain, Cameron Run Water Park, Splash Down Water Park and water play at TPCDC. Before each outing we will discuss rules to keep us safe in the water. Children must have a swimsuit and towel for each water activity. Water shoes are optional, **but highly recommended** by the teachers to prevent injury to the foot. Water shoes must cover the foot and fit securely. Please label everything. Sun protection shirt are recommended for all outdoor water activities. Permission slips for each outing will be posted soon. Friendly Reminder: Sunscreen season is here please make sure your child has a bottle at school. Parents are responsible for the first application and the teacher will reapply in the afternoon. For children with skin that’s sensitive to the sun, we recommend sending a hat for added protection. For safety reasons, open toe shoes, crocs and flip flop are not permitted at school. We have almost completed our time as Explorers and we’re going to celebrate with a graduation on Friday, June 9<sup>th</sup> in the Assembly Room, 3:30-4:00pm. We hope to see everyone there. Enjoy your summer.

### BRIGHT STARS, SHINING STARS’ AND SCHOOL AGERS NEWSLETTER – Ms. Brenda

We are excited to provide your child(ren) with a great 2017 Summer Camp experience! Your child(ren) will spend their time at summer camp learning their specialty, swimming, arts and crafts, etc. This summer will surely be one filled with fun and excitement for all! It is our primary goal to provide your child with a safe and fun summer. However, summer programs can be a lot more...a chance to learn from new experiences, to grow, to make new friends, and to develop important social skills that will last a lifetime. Our Summer Program blends fun, adventure and learning. Your child will love our unique summer activities where play and educational opportunities abound. Our efforts go far beyond just summer camp fun. Plenty of science and nature, arts and crafts, literature and language, music and movement, sports and games, and much more are brought to life in a safe, nurturing environment. Summer camp this year is designed to provide a well-rounded experience and ensure children become confident, joyful and fully engaged. Enrichment programs such as chess, music, yoga, drama and foreign languages we be incorporated into our summer program. We are looking forward to a great summer.

