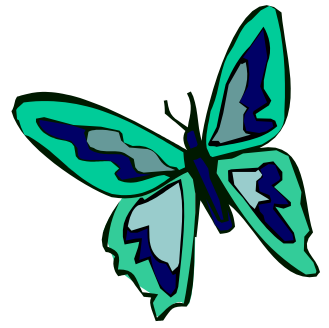


June Newsletter



June 1, 2012

Dear Families,

Can you believe it is already June? Your children have grown so much, and they have learned even more! You should be very proud. Each child in this class has something special to offer the world, a precious gift that God has given to each of them (whether it be their humor, memory, cheerful demeanor... I could go on and on). Each child and each family has certainly been a huge blessing in my life, too. I can't thank you enough for welcoming me into your life with open arms this Fall.

Over the next 2 weeks, we will continue reviewing everything we have learned this year. At circle, we will take time to review the alphabet and our numbers 1-30. We will also be reviewing some of the children's favorite Bible stories. In the final weeks of school, we hope to keep your child's routine in tack. We do, however, have one last special event coming up that you are invited to attend. On Friday June 8th, we will have Watermelon day. This event has been a highlight for K3 & K4 for several years. It is such a special time (and a lot of fun) to share with your child at school. We also need volunteers for this event.

As the school year comes to a close, I continue to reflect on the past 9 months with your students. I am so thankful for the chance to be part of their education. This class is also very dear to my heart, as it is likely my last preschool class. I will be starting a master's degree program, studying school counseling, at James Madison University on June 25th. Please pray for me as I make the transition from teaching to student. I will also continue to pray for your children as the transition to K4. They are going to do awesome! I am looking forward to hearing stories about their future successes.

With thanks and love,

Ms. Elizabeth Cranford

If a child is to keep alive his inborn sense of wonder, he needs the companionship of at least one adult who can share it, rediscovering with him the joy, excitement and mystery of the world we live in.

- Rachel Carson -

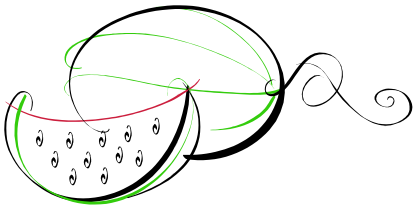


In Case You Forgot:

- ❑ Please initial your child's folder every night and check the calendar for important dates
- ❑ Everyone's lunch needs to contain a drink, every day, especially with the warm weather.
- ❑ **Don't forget to send in your box tops to raise money for LFP/GSCA.**
- ❑ If you are planning on buying uniforms, this summer, make sure to buy a Land's End gift card from Ms. Sherry.

Watermelon Day:

Come find out the secret of the watermelon on Friday, June 8th with K3 & K4! We will begin at 10am in the social hall. It is an outdoor event (for the most part), so please wear weather appropriate clothing. As the day approaches, we will also be asking for a few parent volunteers for some of the activities.



Important Dates:

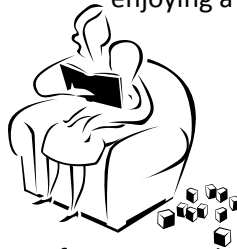
6/8: Watermelon Day – please plan to attend
6/12: Last Day of School for LFP
6/13: No School for K3 & K4

Why is that important? Reading Books

The love of books is a powerful gift, to present to your child. Each book that is read has a different idea, a different story, a unique take on the world around us. Sharing books with your children is the best way to nurture and create a love of books and reading in each of them.

Reading aloud has many offerings. Possibly the most important is the bond created between a child and the reader. Sitting, enjoying a story, together is such a precious moment. This time does more than just share a story, it shares your love toward that child. It tells a child that "I love you a lot.

I want to take time out of my busy day to read with you." It builds a stronger emotional bond.



Of course, reading aloud has many academic benefits, too. Children, who are read to, have an increased vocabulary. They begin to associate the letters on the page with the story being told (especially if you use your finger to underline the words as you read them). The stories in books challenge your children to ask questions, to relive their own life experiences, and to experience cultures and events in other's lives.

Here are a few ideas on how to make reading with your child even more special: create a comfortable space with pillows or a favorite blanket, occasionally change the lead character's name to your child's, use funny voices for each character, take trips to the library to pick out books together, write a story together and read it often. Libraries usually offer a story time for preschoolers too... a great way to spend time this summer.



Ideas for Summer Fun

1. Visit your local library and join the summer reading program!
2. Ride the carousel at Burke Lake Park
3. Take swimming lessons
4. Visit the baby lambs at the Frying Pan Park & Kidwell Farm
5. Go see the Nationals play baseball!
6. Try something new while you have a special lunch at Whole Foods
7. Go bowling
8. Attend Celebrate Fairfax June 8-10 at the Fairfax County Government Center
9. Have a picnic at the park
10. Attend *Children's Theater in the Woods* at Wolf Trap
11. Go to a county fair
12. Bake cookies and decorate them
13. Blow bubbles outside
14. Explore space at the Udvar-Hazy Center
15. Check out the dinosaur fossils at Great Falls Grange Playground
16. Pick fresh strawberries at Hollin Farm in Delaplane, VA
17. Write a story and illustrate a book with your child
18. Take a Zoofari wagon ride at the Reston Zoo
19. Take a ride on the Metro Train
20. Watch *How to Train Your Dragon* (PG) at Movies under the Moon at Van Dyck Park on June 24th



Wonderful Summer Reads

- Children's Bible
- The Story of Ferdinand by Munro Leaf
- Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What do you see? By Eric Carle
- Owen by Kevin Henkes
- On Noah's Ark by Jan Brett
- Swimmy by Leo Lionni
- Strega Nona by Tomie dePaola
- Guess How Much I Love You by Sam McBratney
- Rumble in the Jungle by Giles Andraea
- The Napping House by Audrey Wood
- Is Your Mama a Llama? By Deborah Guarino
- Love You Forever by Robert N. Munsch
- The Little Mouse, the Red Ripe Strawberry, and the Big Bear by Don Wood
- Make Way for Ducklings by Robert McCloskey
- Commotion in the Ocean by Giles Andraea
- If You Give a Mouse a Muffin by Laura Numeroff
- Chrysanthemum by Kevin Henkes
- Just In Case You Ever Wonder by Max Lucado
- Oh, the Places You'll Go by Dr. Seuss
- What is Heaven Like? by Beverly Lewis
- Goodnight Moon by Margaret Wise Brown
- Where the Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak
- It Looked Like Spilt Milk by Charles G. Shaw
- Mama, Do You Love Me? By Barbara M. Joose
- Madeline by Ludwig Bemelmans
- Whoever You Are by Mem Fox
- The Rainbow Fish by Marcus Pfister
- The Kissing Hand by Audrey Penn
- The Very Busy Spider by Eric Carle
- Corduroy by Don Freeman
- Caps for Sale by Esphyr Slobodkina
- Owl Babies by Marin Waddell
- Freight Train by Donald Crews
- Stellanuna by Janell Cannon
- The Mitten by Jan Brett
- Sassafras by Audrey Penn
- Little Cloud by Eric Carle
- The Umbrella by Jan Brett

