

April 2019 Newsletter



From the Directors:

Friendly reminder that we follow the PWC calendar, and will be **closed on Monday April 1st for a teacher work day and April 15th - 19th for Spring Break!!**

We appreciate all the support we receive from our families!

Tuition:

April tuition is due. Please remember we bill on the 25th of each month and you have until the 1st of the month to pay. A \$45 late fee will be added onto the account if payment is received after the 1st. Please drop your payment off this week to avoid receiving a late fee.

Field Trip:

On **Friday, March 29th, 2019** we will visit Shenandoah Valley Discovery Museum. This museum is one of the BEST hands-on learning museums for children of all ages in our area.

School will not be in-session on March 29th, 2019 due to the field trip

School Pictures:

Get your smiles ready!! School pictures will be held on Tuesday April 2nd & Wednesday April 3rd. Both class and individual pictures will be taken on these dates.

Summer Camps:

We are now registering for summer camps!! We kept some of our all-time favorites, but we added some new unique themes as well. Our camps are flexible to fit your daily needs, whether it being morning, afternoon or all-day care. You also have the option of choosing how many days per week you would like to enroll your child(ren) and we offer camps for different age groups. The camps are entertaining, informative and the children will definitely be having a lot fun! Our camps are focused on engaging students to explore, discover, work in teams and use their imagination in a fun and creative way! We are registering now for our enrolled Daytime Playtime families including siblings. We are currently running a special, please see below:

"Early Bird Special": Sign up for two or more three-day camps and receive \$20 off on each camp. This Early Bird Special ENDS Tuesday, April 30

DTPT Drop Zone:

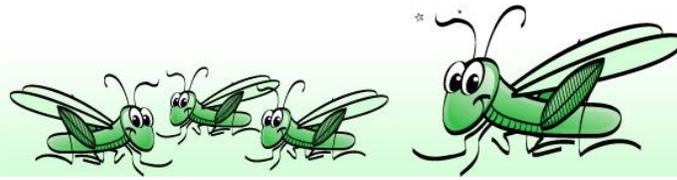
We know that life can be busy and sometimes you just need a few extra hours in your day. We are here to help by ensuring that your child is comfortable, happy, and enjoying their time at our DTPT Drop Zone. This program was created to allow our families the convenience of leaving your little one at school for the day on a drop-in basis. Your child will stay and play while you get those few extra hours in your day.

Hours: 9:00 to 12:00 pm or 12:30 to 3:30 pm

PJ Party:

We love to hold PJ Parties for our parents and our next PJ parties will be March 29th! These events allow our parents FOUR kid-free hours to run errands, go on a date night, or go out with friends while knowing you child(ren) are safe and having fun at school. Your child(ren) will be able to play games, make a craft, eat pizza and watch a movie in our Music & Movement classroom in their PJ's!

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Ms. Kristine Says...

Ladybugs:

Hi Ladybug Families! March was a long but very exciting month for our Ladybugs. Our educational character was Acceptance, so we really emphasized that all our friends are different and that we should embrace the idea that there is no "perfect" way to do a craft or activity. After explaining this concept to the class, we made sure to practice encouraging our friends to "Keep up the good work". It was amazing to see how quickly they caught onto the idea. Our Lucky Family Project was a total success! If you get a chance, stop by and check out our WOW Wall to see the awesome projects that were turned in. The class was so excited to hear that the leprechaun came by the classroom and caused some mischief-flipping chairs, leaving glitter footprints and he even left us some gold coins!

Transportation week was a super hands-on week for us. Our Ladybugs LOVE playing with cars and trucks, so they had so much fun getting to focus an entire week around them. Their favorite activity was sorting the different pictures of transportation into categories based on where they belong. They all had a blast with this because they were able to move around the carpet and show off their sorting skills. We finished out the month by learning about all different types of weather, especially what the weather is like in the Desert and the Rainforest and what those different habitats are like—including the animals that live there and plants that grow there.

We will jump right into Spring by learning all about our Earth! The Educational Character for April will be Courtesy, so our Book of the Month will be *The Lorax* by Dr. Seuss. We will kick off our month by starting right at home. We will learn a lot about Bugs and Lifecycles. We will learn so much about different insects and will even be making an "Ants in Your Pants" craft using our own fingerprints for the ants. I cannot wait to see how cute these turn out! Once we learn about how important bugs and insects are to our planet, we will celebrate Earth Day! We will really focus on our Book of the Month during this week because it will help teach us how important our role is in keeping our planet healthy and beautiful. We will learn about recycling and how easy it is to do at home. We will finish out our month by learning about Plants. We will learn about the different parts of a plant and what they need to grow. We will even examine a real flower to bring the lesson to life!



Ms. Sarah Says...

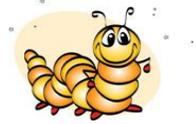
Frogs & Ladybugs: March was a busy, colorful and month filled with new concepts in mathematics, language arts and science. As we continue through these next few months, I'd love to share my enthusiasm about the different aspects of the rainbow, learning measurement with different tools, St. Patrick's Day, new sight words, vowels AND letter blends! Letter blends are going to be one of our biggest focuses for the month of April. Since the children have all successfully mastered the short and long vowel sounds - we will continue to build on that by recognizing them in words now! This is a VERY tricky concept that will give them a head start in Kindergarten. On the white board as always - in the front of the classroom I have written a LIST of monthly goals for March. This board and these goals are to not only challenge your child but to challenge myself as an educator. As a class we continuously reach and maintain consistency meeting these goals - without you, these goals would not be possible to reach!

The major milestone met this month was mastering and being able to measure objects with a ruler, a scale and compare/contrast. The students shared their enthusiasm with me in being successful in our "measuring" hunt throughout the school, the scholastic worksheets that were sent home in the green folders and the artwork displayed in the hallways incorporating math/language/art!

Our daily schedule and routine has remained the same for the last several months and will only be altered slightly come April as the year will slowly come to an end - we will continue to focus on abstract concepts (such as: cause and effect, predictions, adding, subtracting and 64-100 piece puzzles) Academically our morning focused on the letter of the week, the sound it makes, how to write it the proper way (top to bottom). A new concept was introduced way back in January that will carry over into April is VOWELS and LETTER BLENDS - I hope the children continue to practice for you at home. If not, I highly recommend you asking your child "What does a long 'A' say? What does a short A say?" and so on... 😊

In addition to our normal routine - I have been assessing all the children one-on-one which will reflect on their March progress report. At which time if there are any concerns, questions or comments my door is ALWAYS open. Ms. Victoria and I look forward to a productive month with our Frogs and Ladybugs! March will be very craft oriented and science will be magnified!

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Ms. Barbara Says...

Inchworms:

Hello boys, girls, and grownups! March was a fun month. We were able to enjoy the playground almost every day, we loved it! In March, we learned the letter "Q," "R," "S" and "T." We learned about the water cycle. We made cotton clouds, we painted with cottons, and we saw how the rain happened. The children loved to see the experiment with shaving cream on the water and food coloring; it was really fun! We also made a water bin sensory bin, that helped us with our fine motor skills, and color recognition. We also learned about the desert and rainforest. Students love animals, and we use those themes to make a lot of animals. We made snakes, parrots and frogs. We also enjoyed St. Patrick's day by working on patterns, color recognition, fine motor skills, and sensory bins. We're still working on name recognition. The students are working on recognizing all the letters in their names, then they can use markers to "write" over their names. It is a great tool for recognizing the sounds of their names. In the music and movement room, we're still using the big balls to work the gross motor skills, and the small balls to practice rolling, and targeting. In March, we had our fantastic field trip, and the children had a lot of fun at the museum; there was a lot to see and touch. In March, we started to learn about plant cycles, by planting our seeds. In April, we will enjoy all that the Spring can offer us. We will plant at our school garden, we will play with soil, and we will have our water bin back. Ms. Barbara is planning a lot of outside science experiments and activities. Remember to wear comfortable clothes and shoes. We will learn the letters "U," "V," and "W." We will also learn about recycling; bug, plants and life cycle; Earth day; and about our families. Please, check with Ms. Barbara and the office, on how to help us learn about our families. We will have a month filled with activities, academics and fun!! April will bring more beautiful weather, and we are ready to enjoy learning and playing.

Ms. JJ Says...

Busy Bees:

March was a fantastic month! It was a perfect month to learn about the weather. Mother nature made sure we experienced all the different types of weather in one month, which went hand in hand with our weather unit. We talked about the late in the season snow we had, the beautiful warm & sunny days, and we talked about the changing seasons. We also discussed the weather in different climates around the world such as the rainforest and desert. We also talked about all the different plants and animals that's live in each region. The children loved exploring the rainforest sensory bin and finding all the animals hidden in the trees. Then we traveled to the desert and talked about how plants and animal survive in that harsh environment. We created saguaro cactus artwork and covered it with sand. We also discussed different forms or transportation by exploring a planes, trains, and automobile sensory bin, which was a huge hit with all of your Busy Bees! In Language Arts we learned the letters V, Q, X and Y. In April we will cover Z and start on the vowels, starting with A, followed by I. Just so you are aware the letter book of the week will be combined for x, y and z. Please remember for any letter you are unable to find a show & tell item to bring in, you can always help your Busy Bee print a picture out on the computer. In addition to the letter books, we will also be working on some worksheets on number and letter tracing. The children have been doing a great job with tracing their names. Some have even begun using the whiteboards and writing the letters in their names independently! Please continue working on writing and scissor skills at home. In April we will discuss recycling, planting, and insects. We will be going outside more so please make sure your child always brings a jacket and that their backpacks have weather appropriate clothes. We will be getting messy in April with our planting and bug unit. As always, let me know if you have any questions!



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Ms. Lindsey Says:

Ladybugs: March has been a fun and exciting month! Throughout March, we discussed the themes Rainforest, Desert, Weather, and The Water Cycle. We celebrated St. Patrick's Day with a special green treat, Creating a Rainbow, and making a rainbow Fruit Loop Necklace. The children enjoyed a book called "Rumble In the Jungle" and completed different Jungle Animal crafts out of paper plates and brown paper bags. They are displayed on our classroom bulletin board, "Wild About Spring". We are very excited about Spring and warm weather. In preparation for the First Day of Spring, we also made big colorful flowers for our classroom bulletin board. The children used markers to rainbow color coffee filters. They sprayed the coffee filters with water to create a tie-dye effect. The flowers are beautiful! The highlight of the month was our science activity creating Rain Clouds in a jar. The students had so much fun helping pour the water, spray the shaving cream for the cloud, and watching the food coloring mix together in the water. This was such a fun sensory activity for the children! The children are doing a great job learning their phone numbers. We have been practicing them everyday. We are now going to work on learning their home addresses. Please practice this at home as well. We continue to practice scissor skills everyday and the correct way to hold a pencil. The children love to learn and you should be so proud of them! In language arts, we focused on the letters Vv, Qq, Xx, and Yy. The children had fun brainstorming together to find words that start with these letters. We also made a class list with different words and pictures that start with our letter of the week. We worked on our Letter Journals and our handwriting handouts. When writing we always sing our Letters at the top song. This is a great reminder that when forming our letters we start at the top. The children made picture collages for each letter as well. In April, our themes will be Recycling, Bugs, Plants, life cycles, and Earth Day. We will be planting grass during the month of April. We will be completing a hands on sorting activity about recycling. During April, we will be preparing for our Mother's Day Tea which will happen in May. We can't wait for this special event! I am looking forward to doing more classroom activities outside once the weather warms up! Your children are progressing so well in preschool. I can't wait to see what these last few months have in store for us! My favorite part is seeing how much they have progressed since September. As always, thank you for sharing your children with us!

Ms. Teresa Says...

Busy Bees:

In March we learned about the desert and some of the animals that live there. The class enjoyed gluing on their lizards and cactus to their backgrounds. They learned about some of the different cactus names and all liked the Teddy Bear Cactus the best - even though they didn't want to hug it! They learned about the rainforest and some of the animals that lived there. They were all in agreement that the monkeys were the best, and that almost everyone in class likes bananas too! They learned that there are different types of frogs, from regular tree frogs to the brightly colored poisoned dart frogs. They learned how the frogs will climb the tree to lay their eggs inside the bromeliad. We talked about how beneficial bats are. They were amazed that the bats eat insects and that some are even fruit eaters. Other favorite animals were the tiger and Jaguar. We celebrated St. Patrick's Day and learned a song about a leprechaun. We discussed the weather. We discussed how we might not like the rainy weather, but it is very important to us and everything around us - for our drinking water to taking care of the animals and plants. Our letters were Vv, Qq, Xx, and Yy. We went over their shapes and sounds, and continue to review the numbers in English and Spanish.

In April we will be learning about Spring, Earth Day, bugs and insects, and more about plants and how they grow. We will be making a wind sock to watch it blow in the breeze. We will be making some bumble bee crafts! Earth Day is April 22, so we will focus on recycling. We will be planting seeds in some recycled containers for the children to bring home and watch them grow in a sunny place. Our letters for the month will be Zz, Aa, and Ii and their shapes and sounds. We will continue going over the months of the year, days of the week, colors, and counting. Also, with the weather getting warmer again we will be going outside as much as we can. The class continues to work on their self-help skills. They continue to work on putting their coats on and taking them off by themselves, with help provided with the zippers! Some friends have already mastered the skill, and we are very proud of them. Also, *Spring Break will be from April 15th - April 19th*. The Busy Bees will be back in class on April 23rd. Thank you for your support at home and school! I am looking forward to another great month.

