

CHICKADEE NEWSLETTER

May 2011

Dear Parents,

This is it, the final newsletter of the school year! It may be hard to believe that your child's first year of preschool is coming to a close. We have enjoyed the partnerships that have developed between our families and teachers. Your support throughout the year has made your child's journey a success in the Chickadee room. Many thanks for your donations, volunteering your time and most important, sharing your child with us!

LOOKING BACK IN APRIL...

We began the month exploring a favorite topic, dinosaurs! The Chickadees enjoyed learning new words like paleontologist, fossil, and extinct. We learned how to tell whether a dinosaur was a plant eater or meat eater. They explored volcanoes and the ice age trying to figure out how dinosaurs became extinct. Many art, sensory and creative play experiences helped the Chickadees "dig" dinosaurs!

The Chickadees loved Week of the Young Child (April 11 – 15) which included special events like rainbow day and costume day. Yummy snacks and pizza lunches filled hungry tummies. All school assemblies were a blast with storytelling, music and singing entertainment!

We celebrated Easter and the rebirth of spring at the end of the month. From the excitement of egg hunts to egg science, egg coloring and creative egg art, it was an "egg-stravaganza"! Thanks to all who donated goodies for our nests, items for Easter activities, and time as volunteers

The eggs incubating in the gym hatched this month. What a great learning opportunity this proved to be for the Chickadee children. We all were thrilled to touch and hold those adorable "peepers". We even had a chance to see a full grown rooster that visited Wee Know for a morning.

For many Chickadees the week after Easter was a welcomed and calming break with family, or vacationing or hanging at Wee Know in relaxed & playful classes.

LOOKING AHEAD TO MAY...

In May, the children will finish up work on Mother's day cards & gifts (inspired by artist Karen Norris of Our Creative Outlet in Delafield); celebrate our summer birthday friends and review alphabet letters, numbers, shapes and colors. Our final task is to help the children transition to their summer routines & send them on their way to new journeys. May is also a busy month for special events (read on for details). Phew, what a finish!

MAY CONCEPTS, DATES & ACTIVITIES

Shape: review

Color: review

Numbers: review

Letters: X,Y,Z & review

May 2 – 5

Vision Screening: Details in school newsletter. Turn in permission slips to teachers.

May 8

Happy Mother's Day!

May 12 & 13

Chickadee Conferences: see below for details.

May 11

Scholastic Book Orders due to school office.

May 16

Chickadee End of the Year Celebration: see below for details.

May 23 – 27 **“Summer Birthdays” Celebration Week:** summer birthday Chickadees will celebrate their special days this week. Fun includes playing games, decorating cakes, making hats and sadly, saying “good-bye” to our friends.

May 23 **Schlitz Audubon Center Field Trip:** Our final field trip and our best one yet!
• ***Bus leaves promptly at 9:00 am, sharp, and returns about 1:00 pm!***
• Wear Wee Know t-shirts.
• Bring a disposable bag lunch and drink. Coolers provided for storage.
• Chaperones are welcome. \$4.75 fee per chaperone.
• If this is not your child’s regular day, you may add or trade the day. See permission slip for details and charges.

May 30 **Memorial Day...Wee Know Closed**

June 13 **Camp Lotta Fun Begins:** summer enrolled children transition to new rooms.

CONFERENCE UPDATE

- Chickadee conferences are May 12 & 13. Sign up schedules are posted in the main hallway above the boot shelf.
- Conferences are optional. **All** families will receive a written evaluation on their child.
- Being prompt keeps the process running smoothly. Please have your questions prepared in advance.
- Meet at the Chickadee room for your scheduled conference time.

CHICKADEE “END OF THE YEAR CELEBRATION”

Our Chickadee “End of the Year Celebration” signals to us that the school year is coming to a rapid close.

- Chickadees and their families are invited to attend a potluck dinner in the gym on Monday, May 16th from 6:00 – 7:30 pm.
- Fun activities and special singing by the Chickadees will be the night’s fare.
- Bring cameras to capture those special moments.
- A sign up sheet for food donations will be posted on the classroom clipboard.

MAY HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

Olivia – May 23

Sawyer – May 29th

SUMMER HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

Lilly – June 9

T.J. – June 14

Channing – June 21

Yamato – July 15

Rachael – July 31

Colin – August 8

Avery – August 19

Have a wonderful and safe summer!

Amanda Meyer

Pam Semler

Catherine Sullivan

Chris Behrend