



12901 Roberts Drive  
Eden Prairie, MN 55346

## What's going on Around School?

- A big thank you to all of the parents that attended our spring conferences last month. We value the parent/teacher relationship and appreciate you taking time out of your day to speak with your child's teacher.
- Teddy Bear Portraits came last month for spring pictures. They also sent home a code for you to purchase pictures online.
- Have you gotten a new phone number or moved recently? Please always make sure to make us aware of these changes as we are required to have information updated in your child's file.
- We would also recommend storing our phone number in your phone so that you know when we are calling you. Our phone number is 952-358-2020
- If you haven't done so already, please take home all of your child's winter belongings. However, it would be good for them to have a light jacket for the cooler days.



## Preschool and Pre-K Open House!

Tuesday May 2<sup>nd</sup>  
4:30pm – 6:00pm

More details will be posted on a flyer on each entrance doors. Please plan on attending the whole time frame. We look forward to seeing you!

## New Families

- Last month we welcomed the Manakkil family to our center. Their son, David, joined our toddler room!
- This month the Palmer family is joining our school. Their son, Wesley, will be in the toddler room!
- We also have the Cuneo family joining us this month. Their son, Louis, will be in the infant room!

Welcome to these new families. We are happy to have you joining us!

## May Birthdays

Ellis – 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Sabrina – 9<sup>th</sup>  
Nolan – 10<sup>th</sup>  
Elise – 18<sup>th</sup>  
Etta – 21<sup>st</sup>  
Nora – 21<sup>st</sup>  
Conrad – 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Isla – 31<sup>st</sup>



# Infant Classrooms

During the month of May we will be focusing on a variety of material and activities for the infants!

We plan to take the infants on walks in the stroller at least once a week so please make sure your child has a light jacket, hat, socks, etc in their basket every day.

Our sign language this month include: butterfly, love, flower, and bug. A few of the art projects that we are excited to do this month include: a footprint grasshopper, a mother's day card, and a handprint sunflower. We also look forward to letting the children mix paint and shaving cream and play with a variety of sensory bottles.

*We welcome Louis to our infant room!*

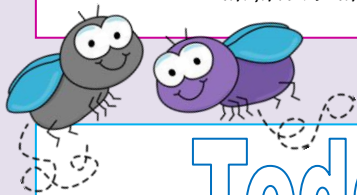
We strive to help your child develop in all areas. Some of our classroom goals also include helping the infants...

- Learn with their whole body and with all of their senses
- Sustain natural curiosity and desire to learn
- Learn within the context of trusting relationships
- Communicate what they know
- Infant 1 classroom goals: sitting up, holding own bottle, sleeping in crib, and crawling
- Infant 2 classroom goals: no pacifier, no morning nap, table food, using a Sippy cup, and walking

**What could you work on at home with your child to keep helping them learn self-help skills?**

*Infant 1: Practice holding own bottle and self sooth*

*Infant 2: Drinking out of a Sippy cup and using a spoon during meals*



## May Themes

Week 1: Caterpillar to Butterfly

Week 2: Mother's Day

Week 3: Flowers

Week 4: Bugs



# Toddler Classroom

What an exciting month we have planned! Last month we put water in our sensory bin and let the children "wash dishes" with our kitchen food! They had such a fun time so we will make sure to incorporate that into our schedule a few times again this month. Some other activities we are doing this month include: making a caterpillar out of a clothespin, a Mother's Day gift, and playing with real flowers in our sensory bin. Below you will find information about our classroom that we practice on a day to day basis.

*We welcome David and Wesley to our classroom!*

Our room is designed so that the toddlers can explore, play, learn, and use all of their senses to develop. We find that the children thrive on structure and routine so we have a predictable but flexible schedule. We also try to provide comfortable spaces for individual play or group play. We arrange the classroom so that toys are always available and at the children's level and there are distinct centers or areas throughout the class.

We respect and acknowledge each child's individual needs and preferences. For example, some children like to have their back rubbed while falling asleep before naptime where as others like to cuddle with a stuffed animal. We really get to know each child and grow with them as individuals. We do a daily group time where we review our colors, numbers, shapes, and alphabet. Beyond these daily focus points we talk about our weekly theme. We also talk to the children about the weather, days of the week, months of the year, and seasons. We read lots of books throughout the day and love getting at the children's level and interacting with them. We usually plan our art projects off of our weekly theme and do art in small groups. We take a lot of time in planning and prepping and hope you enjoy all of the work and effort that goes into our curriculum.

**What could you work on at home with your child to keep helping them learn self-help skills?**

*Feeding themselves, picking up toys, getting dressed themselves, and introducing them to the toilet.*

# Glimpse into our Teaching Style

**The 8 areas of development we focus on:** Approaches to learning; social and emotional development; physical development and health; language; literacy and communication; mathematics; creative arts; science and technology; and social studies.

Each month our newsletter will feature one of the 8 areas of development in more detail. This month we will focus on – **Approaches to Learning.**

## What Falls into the Approaches to Learning Category?

- 1) **Initiative:** Children demonstrate initiative as they explore their world.
- 2) **Planning:** Children make plans and follow through on their intentions.
- 3) **Engagement:** Children focus on activities that interest them.
- 4) **Problem Solving:** Children solve problems encountered in play.
- 5) **Use of Resources:** Children gather information and formulate ideas about their world.

**Adult's role in supporting active learning:** organizing environments, organizing routines, establishing a supportive social climate, encouraging children's intentional actions, problem solving, and verbal reflections, interpreting children's actions in terms of curriculum content, and planning experiences.

Our teachers are here to support your child as an individual. We value the teacher-parents partnership and promote information being shared in both directions. Parents should educate teachers about their children and teachers can offer parents insights into child development and how the curriculum supports their child's learning. The relationship is characterized by mutual understanding and respect. Teachers and parents are encouraged to share child observations with one another and communicate on a daily basis. Please write notes if you are not able to verbally speak with your child's teacher.

## Preschool Classroom

It's hard to believe it's already May! Springtime is our favorite around here and we are excited for the warm weather. We love taking the children outside twice a day to get fresh air, burn off some energy, and work on large motor skills. We plan to take walks with our walking rope a few times this month so please make sure your child has appropriate shoes on a daily basis. As far as our curriculum and education throughout the day we have some very exciting things planned. We plan to talk all about parts of a flower, how they grow, and how to take care of them. A few of our art projects include: making a Mother's Day poem, making a colorful flower with tissue paper, building a bug! We will focus on a new letter, number, shape, and color each week and do a variety of activities to additionally bring those topics into our learning environment. Whether it is a worksheet, making letters out of play-doh, or drawing shapes into sand we are constantly learning AND having fun!

**What could you work on at home with your child to keep helping them learn self-help skills?**  
*Brushing teeth, cleaning room, getting dressed, setting tables*

## Pre-K Classroom

We are ready for a month full of learning and fun! We have some really exciting themes this month that we can't wait to teach the children about. As you know, we focus on a main learning topic each day (Monday: reading, Tuesday: writing, Wednesday: math, Thursday: science, and Friday: geography) in order to really spend time and discussion on the topic of the day. Every Friday for Geography we spend time talking about a different state in the United States and last month we started introducing more facts about the particular state. We teach the children information about the state of the week (state bird, state flag, state food, state tree, etc) and then they cut and glue things they learned about onto their worksheet. Make sure to ask your child what they learned about – we bet you'll learn something new too!

**What could you work on at home with your child to keep helping them learn self-help skills?**  
*Zippering zippers and buttoning buttons, setting tables, cleaning up after dinner, picking up toys, brushing teeth*

## Mother's Day is Sunday May 14<sup>th</sup>!

We will be providing a light  
breakfast on-the-go in  
honor of all the Today's Life  
Mom's on the morning of  
Monday May 15<sup>th</sup>!



Happy Teacher  
Appreciation  
Week!  
May 2-7  
#ThankATeacher