

MMCH Newsletter

May 2011

May Themes

Cinco de Mayo
The Farm

Machinery and Jobs on the Farm
Different Types of Farms
Animals on the Farm

Mother's Day
Memorial Day



Upcoming Events

5/2-5/6 Staff Appreciation Week!

This is a special week of recognition for all the dedication and hard work our ENTIRE staff (classroom staff, cook, maintenance, cleaning staff, administrative staff) put into their jobs here each and every day.

The center has planned some treats for staff to enjoy throughout the week and we invite parents to share a little note of thanks or support with their child's teacher (and other staff members!) to make the week "warm and fuzzy" all around.

5/8 Happy Mother's Day!!!



5/13/11 FIA Meeting 12-1 Transition Meeting for Preschool & Pre-K/K Parents

This meeting will focus on children transitioning from our center to another school. Sandy Bigelow, Debbie McLaughlin and alumni parents will share tips with parents that might help ease the transition. We encourage all Pre-K parents to attend

and anyone else who plans to transfer their child to another school this summer/fall. Some parents have even suggested attending if your child will make a change NEXT fall. The info is always worthwhile!

5/20 Field Trip for P1, P2, P3, P4 and Pre-K/K to McCray's Farm.

The children will tour the farm, feed the animals and have an ice cream snack with their chaperones. Permission slips will be sent home soon. Chaperones are needed. Please see your child's teacher if you'd like to help out.

5/27 Progress Reports Going Home

T1 through K Progress Reports will be sent home on 5/27. Parent/Teacher conferences will begin right around that same time frame. Please see your child's teacher to sign up for a conference! End of year conferences are *strongly encouraged* so that parents and teachers can discuss the year's progress and prepare for summer transitions.

Parents should know, at the time of conferencing, teachers will not know future classroom assignments. In general, the staff will be given 2-3 weeks notice for transitions. This information will be passed on to parents as soon as dates and classrooms are confirmed.

5/30 Memorial Day

Children's House will be closed in observance of the holiday. Enjoy the long weekend and the beginning of picnic season!



Next Month...

6/24/11 Pre-K/K Graduation Ceremony The ceremony will begin at 10:00 a.m. on the Preschool playground.



"**Graduates**" are children who make the cut-off date in their city/town for either Kindergarten or first grade in September. *Please see your child's teacher if there is a question about if your child is considered a "Graduate" from Pre-K or K.*



Nice Weather Has Arrived...

But we still need sweatshirts or light jackets for those chilly mornings. Please be sure your child has one at the center every day.

Please note that teachers will use their judgment as the day goes on and the temperature increases. If parents prefer otherwise, please let your child's teacher know.

New Cell Phone Policy

We appreciate everyone's recent cooperation with this new policy and really feel all involved - parents, staff and children - will benefit from the increased opportunity to connect with each other.



Special Requests

- Please remember to sign in and out with time *and initials* every day ~ remember that tuition covers a **9-hr** time slot.
- If you would like sunscreen to be applied to your child in the afternoon, we must have signed permission in your child's file to do so. Staff can only apply **AFTERNOON** sunscreen. Parents are expected to take care of the morning application. It just takes too much time for staff to do this twice per day. Labeled sunscreen bottles can be given to your child's teacher.
- Please check extra clothes in backpacks or stored on site to be sure they are weather appropriate and still fit well.
- Please label jackets, caps and sun hats.
- If you would like your child to wear sunglasses while outdoors, the glasses must be labeled. Staff will have a hard time keeping track of these, so please talk to your child about taking good care of his/her sunglasses.

Shoes & Safety on the Playground

Just a reminder that children must wear **CLOSED** shoes with rubber soles on the



playground. We cannot let children play on the equipment or trikes with open sandals, crocs, jelly shoes, flip-flops, etc. Children who come to the center without proper shoes for outdoor play will still go outdoors but will be restricted from playing on equipment, walking in mulch/pea stone areas and using trikes.

As of June 27th, when our summer program begins, we also encourage children to have water shoes (again, closed shoes - not flip flops or crocs) for water play outdoors.

Vacation Notices



We are trying to plan for new enrollment, transitioning and staff vacations. Your early information about summer vacation plans will really help us in this endeavor!

Vacation forms are located on the credenza in the main hallway and have been sent out via email.

We would also appreciate knowing withdrawal dates from families who will be leaving us over the summer or in early September. Please send your intention notice in as soon as possible.

~Thank you!

CHILDREN'S HOUSE OPENINGS

Openings are becoming available in our Infant rooms and Preschool/Pre-K and K classes. Please let your friends, co-workers and extended family members know.

Just recently two families received \$50 WalMart gift cards for making a referral to our center.

Thank you for supporting us and offering others positive feedback about the care your child receives daily!