

A Child Becomes Newsletter 2011

Quote: “Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn.”

September News from the Director

Parents, this is your first of 9 newsletters covering your child’s year at *A Child Becomes*. I hope that you find this information helpful as well as useful as we present upcoming events and happenings of the past. Personally, if you have information to share with families send me an email and I can add it in a parent section. Ideas such as a successful or recommended outing you had with your child or a new business you have started, etc. Just make sure I receive your information 3 days before the end of the month.

We had a very successful start for the year although having to repair a few glitches in the system such as proper emails and addresses. I believe all has been repaired and we hope the routine of coming to school each day is fitting into your family’s schedule smoothly. I see all children with their canvas bags and this pleases me immensely as we know work from school makes it home safely and communication from you is accessible to us. Thank you for making this a priority.

So far, we are full in the Threes and Pre-K. We still have 4 openings in Monday and Wednesday Two’s class. The Birth date deadline is July 31st 2011 for turning 2. The cost is \$200.00 per month. Please let your friends know!

I would like to inform you of my staff this year once again as I have added a new teacher and want to make sure everyone knows my office team who do a fantastic job of helping run this organization and allow me to spend more time doing what I love best...teaching and going back to school!

New this fall: Welcome Teacher Katie Hunt-from Tennessee and very well qualified! She will be lead in the Monday and Friday 3’s class.

School Office Staff: (You can reach them at: 206-932-4642 or achildbecomes@gmail.com)

Mondays: CB OFrancia (Preparation for A-Z program. All those small abc books!

Tuesdays: Brenna Bond (class lists and field trip coordinator, office admin.)

Wednesdays: Ann Limbaugh-Development, School Curriculum implementation, policy, office admin.)

Twos team: Teacher Jan Newjent, Ruth Fitzharris

Threes Team: Teacher Pam Bigatel, Leanne Griswold, MaryKay SPosari, Alexis Whistler (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday)

Katie Hunt, Leanne Griswold (Monday and Fridays)

Pre-K team: Teacher Shelley, Kristi, Angela (AM)

Teacher Shelley Teacher Liz, and Jan (PM)

Art Specialist (Pre-K only) Teacher Kiran Robertson, M.A.

Spanish Specialist: Teacher Kristi Houk, M.A.

Literature Guest: Grandma Dorothy, (retired elementary librarian. Pre-K only)

Important Dates to Mark on your calendar:

10/3 Monday 7 PM. First of the lecture series.

Positive Discipline Introduction 1 hour. \$5.00 at the door. Upstairs, outside entrance of this building. Don't miss this opportunity to sign up for the 6 week course in later October.

10/6 Pre-K Field Trip to see Spiders

Picture Day

10/11 Tuesday **Pre-K** Picture Day and **Twos Tue/Thurs** class only

10/12 Wednesday **Twos** Mon/Wed Picture Day only

10/13 Thursday **Threes** Picture Day T/W/Thurs class only

10/14 Friday **Threes** Mon/Fri class picture day only

10/11 and 10/19 Threes see *Harry and the Purple Crayon*

10/20 Pre-K to *Remlinger Farms*. All day both classes.

Below Halloween Parties. Dress up!!

10/27 T-W-Th Threes Class only Halloween Party and **Twos Tue/Thurs** class

10/31 Twos Mon/Wed class, Threes (M/F class only), and all Pre-k

Wrap Up for September

Pre-K

We have been busy making new friends and learning the school routines and procedures. We wrote all of our own rules for the classroom. We have made our job chart and have 20 jobs conducted daily. From feeding our own bearded dragon to setting up snack on top of our own handmade place mats! We have begun writing daily in our journals; we are becoming readers and writers and are growing to become awesome Pre-k-ers by learning to be “masters of our brain” ; focusing at carpet time and learning not to bother others when it’s learning time. Pre-K kids are so capable and we are all having fun learning and growing together. It’s now October. We know that word has 3 syllables and that it is the fall month incorporating one of the most favorite holidays, Halloween. We have 2 field trips this month. Can’t wait to learn about spiders!!

Threes

We have been having a wonderfully warm and fuzzy time getting to know each other and our classroom!

The first week of school we learned about all the things we can do at preschool, and we went home with awards at the end of the week. Students awarded themselves something (or all things!) that they did best. Many chose Yes, I Can- "be kind to a turtle", as we had Tucker and Louise visiting our classroom that week. After reading "Llama Llama misses Mama", we practiced building the letters L and M with Popsicle sticks. We also kept Small Moment Journals filled with our ideas and favorite things about preschool. These may have come home already, or possibly they are still in progress!

We have also learned about friendship and being kind to others. We learned from the Rainbow Fish how important sharing is when making friends. We learned that our kind actions can leave lasting impressions on the hearts of others, and we made "Heart prints" to preserve our little handprints from this preschool year.

Last week we had an exciting week working at our Farmer's Market! Students practiced being farmers (those who stocked the store with many items donated by our families- THANK YOU!), vendors (those running the register) and customers. We discussed apples and learned about how an apple forms on a tree. Ask your child what an apple bud looks like before it blooms into an apple blossom- they may show you a fist with a little thumb peeking out. Then the blossom comes, with five petals, just like our open hand! The five petals reflect the star shape found in the core of an apple cut in half- five seeds can be found there too. Ask your child how to pick an apple from a tree- (twist and pull gently!) We taste tested apples (granny smith/green, golden delicious/yellow and gala/red) and graphed the results of our favorites. Teacher Leanne taught us how to make applesauce on Thursday, and we will use this to make apple muffins on Wednesday of this coming week!

Preschool is well underway and we are loving every minute of our days together- the children keep us smiling and laughing and the hugs and thumb kisses flowing!

Twos

Things have been running so smoothly in the 2s program that teacher Shelley has been in awe when she joins us. The students are really starting to feel that their classroom is a comfortable place to be. At the beginning of the school year we focused on being able to separate from mom, dad or caregiver. Once we had accomplished this, we began to work on our routine, how to transition, make new friends and learn about our classroom and our school. Now I hear the students asking to share playdoh tools, cars and taking turns. We continue our fine motor skill work with gluing and markers. The concept of putting glue on the paper first, then sticking our project is a new one for many. We have been learning that glitter only sticks if we use glue first. At the playdoh table the students have been able to experience cutting with scissors without the frustration that cutting paper sometimes presents. The students absolutely love music time and now have favorites that they request. "Hot Potato" by The Wiggles gets everybody dancing. You have noticed the fantastic projects coming home

and the students really enjoy creating them. On Thursday we decided to set out a large piece of paper and work together making apple prints and learnt to share our paints by asking "please may I have..." We are having more and more singers joining in our goodbye song and I even heard it being sung going home up the ramp with mom. Natalie celebrated her birthday on Thursday and our class enjoyed pink frosted cupcakes. That was a photo opportunity with frosting from ear to ear. Teacher Ruth will get copies out for you to see shortly. Teacher Ruth had a death in her family and will be absent till next week. We have sent flowers from the preschool. Filling in for her is Teacher Alexis, borrowed from the threes program. She is doing an amazing job. This month we have four birthdays, Dignan M/W , Jameson T/TH, Dakota M/W and ColtonT/ TH. Each child receives a birthday crown and a book on their birthday. Teacher Ruth and I are so very lucky to be working with such great supportive families and love your children. We smile constantly. Teachers Jan, Ruth and Alexis.

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