

CHILDREN'S HOUSE CHATTER

Wednesday, April 22, 2009.

SPRING CLEAN UP Many thanks to all the parents who gave up part of their Saturday to help with our clean-up. We really appreciate all your hard work!

TUITION for the month of May will be due and payable on Friday, May 1. Since this is the last month of school year 2008-09, we ask that all accounts be paid in full. We cannot accept for summer school any child whose account is not paid entirely and in full. Thank you.

MEMORIAL DAY School will be closed Monday, May 25 in observance of Memorial Day. There will be no classes and no child care on that day.

THE LAST DAY of the school year will be Thursday, May 28. We will also be closed on

FRIDAY, MAY 29 for our teachers' work day.

SUMMER SCHOOL begins on Monday, June 1. Your child must be pre-registered in order to attend at any time during the months of June, July and August.

CLASS PICTURES were taken last week. There are order form/envelopes in the children's files if you wish to place an order. The classroom proofs are on display in each classroom, and the proof for the entire school can be viewed on the bulletin board in the main entry hall. Orders should be handed in no later than Friday, April 25.

DOWNSTAIRS CLASS We would like to thank the parents who attended the spring clean up. We now have 2 tractor tires for the children to climb on in our playground. The children are really enjoying them! Kai's parents brought us two cichlids for our fish tank! We have named them "Frank" and "Gary". Thanks guys!

We have several lessons that are intended to prepare the children for writing. Painting, drawing, and coloring in stencils are all fun "art" projects which give the child an opportunity to practice the grasp that will be used for writing later. We also have new writing development boards in which the children are able to trace shapes and lines. When the children trace the sandpaper letters from top to bottom, they are preparing to write the letters correctly. Also, we present lessons in a manner in which the movement is from left to right. This reinforces the proper writing orientation and progression.

JUNIOR ELEMENTARY CLASS The Juniors have had a busy week. On Tuesday we went to Fletcher library by bus. To day we celebrated Earth Day by drawing ourselves holding the earth. We wrote stories about how we could help the Earth and we discussed recycling, reusing and reducing. We thank Missy Shuffield for taking our soup committee shopping this afternoon. This month our committee members are: Katie, Austin, Rowan and Olive. They will make French Bread Pizza for the Juniors lunch tomorrow. On Friday we are going to the Zoo. We thank Stacy Fortney, Clare Burks, Eddie Conners, Jake Hillard and David Triplett for driving. The Juniors will come back to school for lunch.

Science Fair Experiments are due on Monday, April 27. We will walk to Allsopp Park that day to celebrate Eleanor's birthday. Clare will bring lunch to the park for the Juniors to have a picnic.

SCIENCE FAIR - Tuesday, April 28 at 6:00pm.

The Juniors will demonstrate their experiments for the Junior families.

OUTSIDE CLASS This week the children have enjoyed learning about two senses - smell & taste - with our new smelling and tasting lessons. They have also been learning the parts of a horse and a bird. The five year olds are continuing to practice with the bank game. Some of the children have been learning to spell their names in sign language.

UPSTAIRS CLASS The children are enjoying learning (and making up) new songs for our Spring Program, which will be presented on May 26 & 27. Thanks to the Duzan family for sharing a set of 30 phonetic readers - they are very popular. We are ready to plant our sprouted seeds! If you have any cuttings or divisions of plants to share, we'd love to have some! Thanks.

DOWNSTAIRS TODDLER CLASS Thanks so much to the parents who participated in the spring clean up. We really appreciate the help. The toddler playground looks great and we were able to "plant" several tractor tires that the children are enjoying. We still intend to plant several flower beds - if anyone has some shade loving plants, cuttings or seeds, the children would enjoy planting them and watching them grow.