



Applause for Our Board

Our Preschool Board

Year after year the preschool board has been there for us. They do whatever we ask, They do more than we ask. They trust us with their children and they work hard on fundraisers while hauling around their younger children.

They clean our playground twice a year, once in the heat of August and once in the cold of January. Night and day they are caring for us and on top of the smaller jobs, they put on the Auction which is almost a year round project.

Occasionally we have had a man on the board but mostly it is these incredible women stepping forward. Thanks to all of them for 44 years of service and especially to this year's board; you were small but you were mighty!

Quality Plus Preschool

We were thrilled last week to hear from Quality First that we had achieved our 4th star as a Quality Plus Preschool. This involves so much work for the teachers and we thank them for

their dedication. This is a hard star to reach and involves more intense lesson plans, using an Inclusion Specialist for those children who might need to be evaluated, it provides us with vision and

hearing screening, teachers' meetings and funds for supplies and new equipment. We will celebrate for a little while and then get back to maintaining this standard. Due again in two years!

Shadow Rock Preschool

March 2018

Special points of interest:

- ☺ March 6th Registration
- ☺ March 7th New Family Registration
- ☺ March 16th NO PM KDO
- ☺ March 19-23 Spring Break
- ☺ March 30 NO SCHOOL, GOOD FRIDAY

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Recognizing Anger in Children

As a parent, you might find that calming your angry child can be one of the biggest challenges of parenting. There are many things that make children angry, and children feel anger in different ways-just as adults do. Perhaps you were taught as a child that being angry was not "allowed" or that anger was "bad." It is important to teach your child that it is normal to get angry. Of-

ten, the first step parents must take is to set aside what they themselves were taught as children, and choose to teach their own child something new. As with all emotions, when you help your child recognize and name his anger you have helped him take the first step toward being able to control his own behavior. When your child is able to recognize the feeling and say, "I'm angry!"

it reduces the chances that he will act out.



Heard in the Halls

In the Rainbows as the children were walking to class from the playground, Mrs. Larsen could be heard saying to two boys, "OK we don't kiss at school, not even pretend."

I was sitting with a Dragonfly who was having her snack. I realized she wasn't eating

her carrots so asked her about it. Her answer was, "My blanket eats carrots so I am saving them for her."

The Dragonfly teacher asked the children what was their favorite thing to do at school?

A young Dragonfly answered, "Play with humans." He meant

the play people (play figures)! So funny.

Rainbow girls were very noisy in the bathroom. When the teacher asked why, one little princess looked at her and said, "It might have been a ghost or it might have been in your head!"

Our Auction

Cheers to our Preschool Board who put on another fantastic auction.

We met at the Newton for food, drink, gaming tables and a roaring fire.

Friends gathered and new friends were met as we mingled and ate.

There were wonderful items

to bid on and many of us came away with lovely items. I now have a beautiful blue and green quilt!

These nights do not just happen. It takes the board members months and months to collect donations, pick them up all over the valley and then to make them more attractive

to bid on. We thank them for all the hard work they do to make SPRS one of the best in the valley.



Keep Those Hands Up

Ask a group of 25 pre-schoolers if they are good at something, and they will all invariably raise their hands and proclaim their competency.

Ask a group of 24 elementary students the same question and less than 50% will raise their hands, and only one hand will pop up when high school students are asked. So what happened? More importantly how can we help young chil-

dren keep their inherent enthusiasm for life and learning?

Nothing dulls children's enthusiasm more than lackluster environments filled with plastic and laminated cardboard, commercially purchased toys and one-use learning materials. Instead, create enthusiastic environments where children can play without adult intervention; jump, sing and dance; create and con-

struct without any adult saying what to do and what not to do; be silly and fool around; have opportunities to make choices and decisions; and most importantly, have provocative, interesting and engaging natural materials and objects to explore, investigate and discover.

Sandra Duncan and Jody Martin, [Bringing the Outside In](#)

Dirty Kids

Did you get to grow up in a neighborhood where you got to be dirty? I did. If a child is worried about dirt, they are missing such a great sensory sensation. Water, dirt and hands make for a great big mess. Children who enjoy making mud have such creative ideas about what to do

with it. Some make mud pies and sell them. Some stick other bits of nature into the mud and make birthday cakes and flowing lava.

Water play matters to children and whenever it is warm, our water table is open on the playground. Sometimes it even becomes a giant bubble

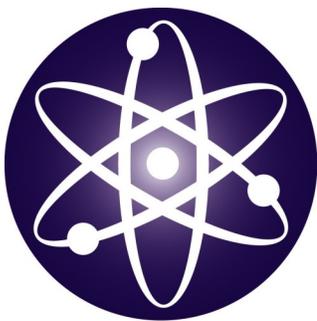
blowing event with long wands and huge bubbles. Walking in a creek is a wonderful sensory delight also.

Let's get messy!!!

All creative work begins as play. The more one plays, the better one works.

Marty Rubin

Lakeshore Learning



Science

Do you need a present for a child in your life? After walking

the halls of Target and seeing the same old things, why not try LAKESHORE LEARNING for something different. They have a section for science by age. Let your child chip away at a hidden object in an "old ru-

in." Let them mix liquids together after making a prediction of what might happen. The store has many picture books, different art supplies and more.

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Preventing Negative Behavior

We believe that children can be responsible for their own behavior. Sometimes they simply need to be reminded to stop and think about what they're doing. "Where do you need to be now?" "What is your responsibility?" "What will happen if you do that?" "You can decide to stop crying."

By helping the child to look at his/her own behavior, we help all children to make some decisions and avoid any further negative behavior. Then, a decision for positive behavior can be rewarded with praise. We all learn by doing, and at times the "doing" is a mistake, but we can choose not to repeat it another time. We hope to encourage your child to follow his own course of action in a thoughtful manner, not just an impetuous one.

Drills

In the days, months and years since September 11, 2001 our world has become a different place. One of the most important things we try to do every day at school is to keep your children safe. It has been and will continue to be our top priority.

We have always had fire drills with the children. We now have added terrorist drills and weather drills. If we feel there is a threat close by, we announce over the PA system, "Teachers, please take your children to the lower level," and each class proceeds out of the building and down to

the basement of the church. When everyone is there and accounted for, we close and lock the doors. In this area we have water, food, flashlights, lanterns, a first aid kit, the blue forms and hopefully a family picture of each child. This is why we ask for that picture at the beginning of the school year.

This drill is explained to children, who want to know, that if there is something wrong with our school building, we could go to another building. We do not alarm them in any way. We continue to practice all drills with the children.

Thanks to the help and calmness of our teachers, we can move children out of the building in less than 2 minutes and into the other building in the same amount of time.

We do not expect that we will ever need to use this procedure for a real event but we also understand that we need to have a system in place.

We want to keep everyone safe including the teachers. Each teacher brings her cell phone and with the help of the blue forms we would start calling your provided phone numbers when we were sure the children were secure.
