



News from Friday Friends

This month we will work on Spring and Easter-themed projects. We will discuss weather and St. Patrick's Day as well. We will also be reviewing shapes and colors as well as working on number/letter recognition and patterns. We will continue to work on recognizing our names in print. The children seem to enjoy playing with and building structures for the dinosaurs in the block area! We will also be hoping for some warm weather so we can play outside again! Looking ahead, our Easter Party is April 7. Please look for a sign-up sheet to appear hanging near your child's cubby or coat hooks for items needed for our Easter Party day! Also, please send in 2 white hard boiled eggs with your child on the day of the party. You can find more details about the party in the April FF weekly newsletter.

Message from the Director

What better activity is there for children and adults during these slow, gloomy winter months than to read a book?

Now is the time to begin to encourage love of reading and lay the foundation for reading success. BUT, anything and everything connected to the young child's learning should be FUN!

I recently received information from our State of Ohio Licensing that our families have free access to early literacy resources through INFOhio, Ohio's PreK-12 online library.

What Resources Do They Have?

FOR KIDS:

You can access INFOhio at www.infohio.org. To find early literacy resources, click on the box for PreK-5. Beginning reader resources are found in the upper right-hand corner. Some of these resources are:

- World Book Kids is an encyclopedia with bright, colorful visuals, as well as activities, games, and printable activities..
- Scholastic's BookFlix has 125 paired fiction and nonfiction eBook titles, 34 of which are also available in Spanish.
- World Book's Early World of Learning provides eBooks an encyclopedia for young learners, and classic songs and nursery rhymes for young learners.

FOR PARENTS:

On the INFOhio Parent page, there are short videos on Reading for a Purpose, Reading on the Go and Reading on the Screen. These videos are accompanied by flyers that support early literacy learning.

How Do I Access the Resources?

Each of these resources will request a username and password. Our personalized username is [redacted] and our password is: [redacted]. Both should be all lower case. You are welcome to access the website, but we have been asked to NOT POST THEM ON SOCIAL MEDIA OR ON ANY OPEN WEBSITE.

Check it out and Happy Reading!



News from Threes

Dinosaurs have entered the classroom! We have been learning about these interesting creatures and some of their habits. These dinosaurs will be in the block area where the children will have lots of opportunity to construct homes for them. We also have been working really hard at learning to recognize our names in print. This will be an ongoing endeavor until the end of our school year.



We are participating in activities and playing games which practice counting and recognizing numerals 0-5. We continue to work on identifying and naming shapes. For some children these concepts are still difficult, so practice at home would be beneficial.

LOOKING AHEAD:

Easter Parties will be April 5 for the MW classes and April 6 for the TTh class. Please bring two hard boiled white eggs so we can color them the day of the party. Please look for sign-up sheets in the hallway for items needed to fill our Easter baskets.

No School on April 10-17. School resumes on Tuesday April 18.

Field trip To Delhi Pet Center: Note that the date on the calendar for TTH classes says that the field date is May 2. That date has been changed to April 25. Monday, April 24 for MW and Tuesday April 25 for TTH classes. Look for permission slips with more details in your child's cubby.in early April.

News from Fours

The month of March makes all of us hopeful for warmer, Spring days. This month we will begin discussing the wind, rain and rainbows that come in

Remember, NO SCHOOL, April 10-17 for Spring Break

the Spring season. You will begin to see signs of Spring and Easter around school -- rainbows, kites, umbrellas, ducks and eggs. Bicycle and skating, car, and Fire Safety will be a focus as we learn about Health and Safety. Please remember to discuss your home Fire Evacuation and Meeting place plan with your preschool child and your entire family!

Our last field trip of the year will be to the Green Township Fire Department on Harrison Ave. We will be going on Monday, March 13 for M/W/F classes and on Tuesday, March 14 for T/TH and T/TH/F classes. Please return the permission form by the due date of March 3.

Vocabulary and Concepts: graph, sequence, evacuation

Letters: A, Q, U, Z

Numbers: teens

News from Pre-K

This month we complete our unit on health and safety by discussing fire safety and taking a trip to the firehouse. With spring just around the bend (YEAH!) we will do spring related activities, discuss March weather (wind, rain and rainbows), do experiments and create spring Art. We will also do Easter related activities. Throughout the month we will continue to create alphabet art, as well as alphabet writing, and we will continue our travels around the world. We will visit Russia where we will learn about the Russian art form called pysanky. Be sure to ask your child about it!

Our field trip to the Green Township Fire House will be on Monday, March 13th.

Our Easter party will be Friday, April 7th.

Sign-up sheets will be posted in the hallway asking for different items to be brought in to be placed in each child's Easter basket.

Please take time to sign up! We will be coloring eggs on Wednesday, April 5th.

Each child should bring two hard boiled eggs to school with them on Monday, April 3rd

Vocabulary and Concepts: pysanky, estimation, life cycle

Letters: Q, U, R, and Z

Numbers: teens

News from Motor Skills and Music

We have certainly had lot of fun and a great workout with our "wintertime" activities over the past weeks. We even went ice skating, then "allowed" the ice to melt and jumped in the puddles! I think we can safely say that we are ready for SPRING! We'll be learning some authentic Irish dancing this month and maybe discover why leprechauns are so grouchy! We'll be working on

throwing and catching and will be making good use of our big space upstairs with an obstacle course. The obstacle course (besides being lots of fun!) helps with listening skills, sequencing tasks and learning to follow directions. In Music, we've learned about the string family of the orchestra and will move on to the brass family, while continuing to cover the concepts of rhythm and tempo. With all that brass, it will surely be time for a parade!

News from Art

You may have noticed the colorful Cardinals gracing our front hall. In February your child's art lesson was on Charley Harper. It certainly was fun and educational to create *Cardinal Collages in a Birch Wood*, mimicking Harper's minimalistic style. The PreK class created a collaborative work, *Winter Birds of Ohio*, also in a birch wood. In March, as winter leaves and spring arrived, your artists and I will meet again to learn a bit about Vincent Van Gogh and Georgia O'Keefe. Both painted florals, so the children will be painting florals, as well, using a special technique. PreK will work individually to create flowers reminiscent of Georgia O'Keefe's style and then will, once again, work collaboratively to create a flower garden mural.



Please Help Us to Play Safely!

Please do **NOT** send your child to school in **any foot attire except for sturdy gym shoes**. Rubber boots, fancy shoes, cowboy boots, Ugg-type boots, slip-ons, etc. are not safe for jumping, hopping, dancing, climbing, and tumbling, all activities which we participate in here at Creative, both indoors and out. Young children need sturdy, well-fitting foot attire for the safety of themselves and others.



VIP Day

VIP Day was a big success! All of the children and their special guests had a very enjoyable time! Thanks to all of the volunteers for making the day run smoothly. Mostly, a huge thank you to Amanda Prickett and Kerri Sobolewski for all of the time and hard work you put in to making this day fun for all!

Registration News

Pre-registration has ended! All families who turned in their paperwork on time were able to get their first or second choice for classes next year. A few openings are available in TTh morning 4s, and TTh PM 3s, so pass the word on to friends and family who are looking for a preschool for next year.

Tuition Reminder

The last tuition payment for the 2016-2017 school year is due on April 15. The first tuition installment for the 2017-2018 school year is due by May 1. Thank you for keeping tuition payments up to date!

Spring Playground Clean-up

With the weather getting warmer it is time to get the playground ready to use. Our spring playground cleanup will be held on March 18 at 9 AM; rain date March 25. With enough help, the cleanup should go quickly. Please contact Mike Huwel at 482-0055 if you will be able to help.



Welcome Future Creative Preschooler!

Congratulations to the Schenke family on the arrival of their little pink bundle of love! Quinn arrived to Julie and Tim on February 6. Big sisters Lucy, in Mrs. G's, and Madison, in Mrs. Brother's classes, sure are excited to have another sister!



The Muckley family welcomed baby Mitchell into their home and arms on February 13, as well! Congratulations to very happy Ricky in Mrs. Banta's class, and to Mommy Danielle and Daddy Rick on the birth of your newest little boy!

Parent-Teacher Board Officers Needed

Many thanks to all of the Creative Preschool families who have volunteered during school events this year; our school is the wonderful place that it is due to your dedicated help! We will need to fill several Board positions for the 2017-2018 school year. If you are interested in working with the Parent-Teacher Board please contact Kim Sellmeyer at Ksellmeyerpta@gmail.com or join us at the next Board Meeting on Tuesday, March 21st at 7:00 p.m. for more information. At the March Board Meeting we will finish plans for the Carnival, so please come to see what you can do to help!

Easter Bunny Volunteers Needed

The school is hoping to celebrate Easter with a visit from the Easter Bunny! We're looking for volunteers who are 5'6" tall or less and are willing to commit an hour or so to *dress up in our bunny costume* for one or more of the class parties. We need a bunny for both morning and afternoon classes on April 5, 6 and 7. Don't worry — there is no speaking required, just the ability to nod and hop a bit! If you or someone you know can be our bunny and make our little ones smile, please contact Amanda aerprickett@gmail.com or Kerri kerrisobo@gmail.com.



Fundraiser News

Creative Preschool is partnering with Mike's Car Wash for a fundraiser! Each car wash certificate is \$9 and can be used at any Mike's location. Plus, they never expire! Our school will earn 50% of the proceeds from the sale. It's that easy!

The deadline to order is March 31st. Please return the bottom of the form you received earlier this month in an envelope marked "Mike's Car Wash" to Mrs. Depaoli if you are interested.

If you have any questions, please contact Karen Miller (karenrat@hotmail.com) or Brigid Lipps (brigidlipps@gmail.com).

Carnival News

The Creative Preschool Carnival is Saturday, May 20 from 11am-3pm, and it is a great family-friendly event. Come enjoy a day complete with lunch, baked goods, games, bouncy house, sno-cones, face painting, basket raffles, and more!

Please continue to donate any gently used or new stuffed animals and Happy Meal-type toys for Carnival prizes. Thank you for your generosity!

By the beginning of March you will receive a notice in your child's cubby regarding your classroom's basket for the basket raffle. If you have any questions about the donation or the basket raffle please do not hesitate to contact your Room Mom or one of the Carnival VP's, Lori Tranter (520-1626) or Amy Huwel (373-0904). We will also gladly accept any donations you can make in addition to the donation for your classroom's basket.

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO MAKE THE CARNIVAL A SUCCESS!

Look for class sign-ups for game booths to be sent through SignUp Genius by the end of March. Please take the time to sign up for an hour slot! Of course, your child may enjoy being your 'helper' with the game. There are many ways to help. Who can help and how?

- Grandparents, aunts and uncles are welcomed as volunteers!
- Junior high and high schoolers in need of service hours!
- Skilled and unskilled volunteers to face paint, help set up, handle parking, bake sale, etc.
- If you or anyone you know owns a business or has contacts that would be willing to donate food items (ie, buns, hot dogs, burgers, drinks, chips, ice, etc) please contact Lori or Amy ASAP. The more we receive via donation, the less the school has to purchase for the Carnival!
- Please help us spread the word...invite to your family and friends.