

Creative Preschool Newsletter

September 2016

A Message from the Director

Welcome to the 2016-2017 Creative Preschool year! As I anticipate the beginning of the school year, I always contemplate the little ones that will be coming through our doors. I look forward to getting to know our new friends and reacquainting with our returning friends after the summer months of growth! As I write this we are just into the first week of school and I must say how much joy it brings to see the happy children's faces as they enter the school! I do understand the mix of anticipation and fear that I see on the parents' faces, as well...some are, perhaps, more nervous than their child! Each of our staff understand those very real fears, the hopes, the problems, and the joys of parents. We also understand that you send your child to school with the desire that they receive the very best education. James Truslow Adams once said, "There are two types of education, that which trains us in ways to be able to go out and *make a living* and the other which *teaches us how to live.*" We want for your children both types of education. Providing experiences which teach children *how to live* is of utmost importance, because we know that education is not just what a child learns from reading a book (although much can be learned from reading!) or from memorizing letters, numbers, shapes, and facts (although these are important for schooling). The most important education is that which teaches us *HOW* to think, how to get along, how to persevere, and how to succeed...these being the most important skills we need in order "*to live.*" Remember, too, that YOU are your child's best and most important teacher—so, as you are planning for your child's educational experiences, always remember what Confucius said, "Tell me and I'll forget. Show me (through example) and I'll remember. Involve me (through experiences) and I'll understand."



Welcome to Creative Preschool

A warm welcome to all for the 2016-17 school year! It's so great to be back and feel the excitement in the halls as the children head into another great year!

Our newsletter is an avenue for the school staff and parent - teacher board to communicate with parents. Please be sure to read the newsletter monthly and watch for upcoming volunteer opportunities and fun happenings at school. Please join us at our monthly meetings and /or contact me if you're interested in joining the Board. We want and need you to get involved! Contact me throughout the year, as well, if you have any ideas, questions, suggestions or concerns.

Kim Sellmeyer- Board President- ksellmeyerpta@gmail.com

News from Threes

September is primarily devoted to getting to know each other and settling in to our classroom routines. For some children going to school is a first experience away from home and parents, so this transition may be difficult. We will, therefore, move slowly until all are comfortable with their new friends and surroundings. Following directions, listening, and becoming aware of those around us will be an ongoing endeavor. We will introduce colors and shapes, so our classroom games and activities will be designed to enhance the children's development in these areas. Painting and gluing will also be introduced. Please do not expect a beautifully finished product. In our introduction to school the proper use of materials is our main concern! Wearing a smock and washing hands after messy work will become a daily ritual. "Please" and "Thank you" will become special "good manners" words. Although projects are designed to teach, we will also provide opportunities for your child's discovery of his or her ability to create! We are looking forward to our special time with your



child this year. We anticipate a good start to our school year, with much learning, sharing and fun!

News from Friday Friends

Welcome to Friday Friends! I am looking forward to a year of learning new things, making new friends and having fun! During the month of September we will be spending a lot of time learning about each other and our school routines. We will practice saying our first names and counting how many friends we have in our classroom. Your child will use paint, glue and have the opportunity to explore the many learning materials in our classroom. Hopefully we will be able to go outside and play on the playground, so please remember, for your child's safety, gym shoes are required. I am looking forward to having a fun and friendly year!

News from Fours

We welcome you, parents, to a new year here at Creative Preschool! We have been busy planning and are very excited to begin learning with your child! In the Fours program we strive to provide opportunities for your child to grow in independence, develop a positive self-esteem, and be ready for Kindergarten academically, physically, emotionally and socially.

During the month of September your child will gradually adapt to new routines, learn to listen in and then follow directions, and learn the proper use of materials. We will review the basic colors and shapes to discern what your child has mastered so far. Numbers and their value will be introduced sequentially, starting with zero. In addition to this Creative Preschool Newsletter, every few weeks a "Fours Weekly Newsletter" will be sent home. It is our hope and intention that you will read this letter for information about what, specifically, has been introduced to your child at school each week. You can then talk with your child about the day's activities and reinforce at home what your child has begun to learn at school. The more exposure your child has to the letters, numbers, vocabulary and concepts we introduce at school, the more he or she will absorb and retain. Practice and repetition are the keys to mastery!

This month each class will be working to make a class book, "Me and My Class." These books will be coming home to share with you, but must be returned the following class day.

Our farm field trip to Wendall Farm is scheduled for October 3rd for MWF AM and PreK classes and October 4th for the TTh, TTh/TThF and TThF classes. Look for permission slips to come home the first week of September. Please remember to return them by September 15 or 16.

Please do not remove any work from the drying racks. Some things stay at school for our books and/or ongoing projects. Those which do not stay will come home in your child's cubby.

Numbers: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4

Shapes: circle, square, triangle, rectangle

Vocabulary: measure, height, inch, ruler, graph, sight

News from Pre-K

As the hot days of August begin to turn into the cooler days of September, I look forward to Fall and the beautiful changes that occur in nature. At this time of year I am also filled with excitement as I anticipate meeting each of your children and we begin a year of learning and having fun together. The Pre-K class will provide your child with many opportunities to grow in self-esteem and independence, as well as prepare them to be successful in Kindergarten. During the first few weeks of school we will be learning the routines for each day and the proper use of all the materials we have here at school. Listening and following directions will be stressed throughout the year. In this first month of school we will

News from Pre-K cont.

discuss how each of us is special. We will note our similarities, as well as our differences. Families, friends, measurement and the farm are additional topics that will be explored. We will discuss shapes, colors and the numerals 0-4. The children will begin work on a book about the four seasons as well. Throughout the year simple Math concepts, such as graphing and estimating will be introduced and explored; and scientific experiments will aid us in learning about the world around us. Also, this month we will begin studying our five senses. In addition, we will complete activities that center on literature we will read together. WOW... there are so many fun things to do and learn!

Attached to this All-School Newsletter you will find a detailed PreK weekly newsletter. Each month a new PreK Newsletter will come home, so be on the lookout!

Specifically this month we will learn:

Vocabulary: unique, graph, author, illustrator, nocturnal

Numbers: 0, 1, 2, 3,4

Shapes: circle, square, triangle, rectangle

Letter: S

News from Motor Skills

Welcome to a new and exciting year in Motor Skills! We are very happy to welcome your child to not only our playground, but to activities upstairs in the Fellowship Hall, as well. With the use of Fellowship Hall we have plenty of room to spread out and use our muscles! Our motor skills program encompasses both large and small motor development, coordinating movements, and mastering basic movement skills, as well providing for practice sharing, cooperating, taking turns, playing safely and kindly, following directions and learning body awareness. We will provide materials and equipment which is designed to build the young child's self-esteem. As the school year begins, we will be working on our "body image" and spatial awareness. We will be learning the names of our body parts, especially the not-so-common parts such as spine, ankle, wrist and waist, often by participating in songs and games which involve recognizing these body parts. We will have fun learning new songs, games and dances. Be sure to ask your child about "Scrambled Eggs," one of our favorite games! Please note that it is important that your child be prepared each day for active play (whether indoors or out) by wearing play clothes and gym shoes.

News from Music

I am very happy to be able to include music instruction as part of the "Mrs. Fluegeman special" again this year. We will be covering fundamental music concepts – high and low, loud and soft, rhythm, and all the different instrumental families of the orchestra, along with a basic introduction to different styles of music (classical, jazz, rock, etc.) Confucius said "Music produces a kind of pleasure which human nature cannot do without." Looking forward to a *pleasurable* year!

News from Art

I am so happy to have the opportunity to introduce all of the 4-year-old classes and Pre-K to several artists and art forms over the upcoming year.

The children will be introduced to artists and to their specific technique, and then will create art using that or a complimentary technique. In creating art, however, our main focus should be on the expressive experience, not the finished product. It is important for young children to

"do" art for the experience, exploration and experimentation. It is in the "process" of art that they discover mystery, creativity, joy and yes, even frustration. Art allows children to explore and discover the world around them and, in the process, perhaps discover something about self, as well!

You and I can encourage discovery in the artistic process by talking with your child about his or her artwork. Some suggestions to get "art" conversation going are: "Tell me about

your art." "What do you see?" "What part do you like the best?" "You have used many colors." "Did you enjoy making

this?" "How does this art make you feel?" When finished, the children will be encouraged to look at their art and then to give it a title. This can be challenging to a young child, especially for those who want to express what they see literally.

Consult your calendar for the day your child is scheduled for art, beginning in October. Soon after, you can look for "Creative" art to grace the halls of our school "Art Gallery"!

Fall Family Night

SAVE THE DATE! On the evening of **Friday, October 14,**



we will be hosting a Fall Family Fun Night at Creative Preschool. This is an opportunity for Creative families to come together to enjoy a good time and make new friends! Fall Family Fun night will include pumpkin painting, fall crafts, games, and snacks. Look for more information in your child's cubbie soon!

Creative Preschool Spring Carnival

Our 2016 Carnival was a rousing success, and we THANK all of Creative's families for their hard work and generous donations in making it so. Even though the Carnival seems so far away, we're already collecting your gently used stuffed animals and small happy meal type toys for the 2017 Carnival to be held on Saturday, May 20, 2017. We are also always happy to accept any basket donations or leads for basket donations that you might have! You can leave any donations of toys or other items in Mrs. DePaoli's office. If you have any questions or leads, please contact Amy Huwel at amyhuwel@yahoo.com or Lori Tranter at lpetrungaro@hotmail.com. Thank you!

Board Meeting

The next Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 22nd at 7:00 p.m. in the conference/meeting room upstairs. All are welcome to attend!

Website

Are you in need of information? Check out our website at www.creativepreschoolcincinnati.com for Creative Preschool news and updates to the calendar!

Visit our facebook page for news and photos about what is happening in our classrooms! Go to

www.facebook.com/creativepreschoolcincinnati2

And be sure to "like us!"

Fundraiser

Our annual fundraiser will take place from September 14th through September 30th. We will be selling both Little Caesars Pizza Kits and Yankee Candles. The pizza kits were such a success last year that we hope you will, again, take advantage of this quick and easy meal. Also, the Yankee Candle brochure has many great Christmas gift ideas. The items ordered from Yankee Candle will be delivered prior to Thanksgiving. The pick-up date for the Little Caesars pizzas is scheduled for the evening of Wednesday, October 12th. As always, please do not have your children go door to door to sell fundraiser items. Please only sell to family and friends. If you have any questions please contact Karen Miller at karenrat@hotmail.com or Brigid Lipps at brigidlipps@gmail.com.

Playground

Families are always welcome to use Creative's playground. What a fun and exciting place the children of Creative and their families have to enjoy!

However, over the past weeks pebbles from the gravel garden have been thrown into the barn and play-structure and the sandbox toys have been left out and the cover has been left off overnight.



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Playground cont.

PLEASE BE SURE TO SUPERVISE PLAY, CLEAN UP AFTERWARD AND COVER THE SANDBOX BEFORE YOU LEAVE THE AREA!

Racoons are getting into the trash cans and strewing the trash across the shelter, as well.

PLEASE USE ONLY THE COVERED CAN AND REPLACE THE STRAPS HOLDING THE LID IN PLACE.

Thank you!

THANK YOU!

This past week the playground received a good clean-up and a fresh layer of mulch thanks to the time and labor of Lauren Gray, Ryan Milner, David Thomas, Kala & Chris Soaper and Mike Huwel and this four children, Edon, Jayne, Charlotte, and Violet. We even were able to give the Play structure a coat of stain. Thank you, Mike Huwel, for your extra time to power wash it in preparation for staining!



A big thank you to Craig Johnson, again, for donating the wonderful new wardrobe for the Fours dramatic play area!

Repairs were made and all of the floors were stripped, scrubbed, and waxed by Peace trustees, Dick Keller and Scott Sommers and their crew.



THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS!

PARENTS, thank you for your generosity on the I Can Help forms, for getting all of the paperwork turned in on time and for responding to the test email. Remember if you DO NOT want paper communication to let us know by filling out the email communication form and turn it in to Mrs. DePaoli or just send me an email!



ROOM PARENTS are just about confirmed. THANK YOU to all those who volunteered! The response was overwhelming! A revised class list will come home next week. Your class Room Parents will be noted on the list, so please be sure to make a note of who they are!

Tuition Reminder

The remaining 8 tuition installments are due on the 15th of each month, September - April. Payment should be made AT SCHOOL! You can either drop your payment in the Tuition Payment mailbox, located on the post outside the entry doors, or by mail. NO CASH, PLEASE!