

CHILDREN'S HOUSE CHATTER

Wednesday, March 31, 2010.

SCHOOL CLOSING We will be closed on **Friday, April 2**. There will be no classes and no child care on that day.

CLASS PICTURES Group pictures will be taken on Wednesday, April 21 at 9:00am.

PTO SPRING PICNIC Make plans to join us for a picnic at the school on **Saturday, April 24 at 11:00am**. The PTO will cater the food so there's nothing for you to do – just show up and have a great time!! We look forward to seeing everyone there.

SUMMER SCHOOL Information and registration forms were placed in the children's' folders last week. If you plan to send your child to school at any time during the summer, you should complete and return the registration form, along with the registration fee.

IMMUNIZATIONS Some children's immunization records are not current, and notices have been placed in their files.

If you need to up-date your child's records please do so by the end of next week.

TRIKE-A-THON The 3-5 year olds are invited to take part in our Trike-a-Thon. Please read the information on the Trike-a-Thon which was put in the folders. If your child will participate, please return sponsor forms etc by April 16. The event will take place on Thursday April 22 – and on the 23rd if needed.

OUTSIDE CLASS We hope everyone enjoyed Spring Break. The children will be dying and decorating eggs on Thursday morning. Please send two hard-boiled eggs to school with your child. Please encourage your child to send *educational* or *creative* items for Show & Tell. We have enjoyed all of the lovely books the children have been bringing. Now that the weather is milder, please check your child's spare-clothing bag for an appropriate change of clothes. Thank you.

JUNIOR ELEMENTARY CLASS The Juniors have enjoyed making spring crafts. They made crayon & water color resist egg paintings to decorate our halls for April. They also made re-cycled art Bunny Banks from chubby quart milk cartons, and Egg Tree recipe holders. We have peek-a-boo eggs to make today, and on Thursday we will graph jelly-beans. Mr. Steven has been making rain gauges with the Juniors,

and we started a science experiments – presto pennies.

DOWNSTAIRS TODDLER CLASS in the mornings our playground is pretty sunny since the trees are still pretty bare. You might want to sent sunscreen for your child – please make sure it is labeled with his/her name. Also, as the season progresses your child will need bug-spray.

Some children still have winter clothing in their spare-clothes bag. Please make sure your child's bag contains weather-appropriate clothing. Make sure everything is clearly labeled. Many items are similar and we sometimes have problems identifying what belongs to whom, and the children tend to claim everything as their own!

UPSTAIRS CLASS Now that the weather has warmed up, children are beginning to wear lighter shoes. PLEASE remember no loose fitting flip-flops, Crocs or sandals are permitted. Shoes must have straps across the instep and behind the heel. In addition, ballet shoes and cowboy boots are not acceptable. Many children have had accidents on the playground and in the classroom, sometimes stumbling onto other children in these loose-fitting or cumbersome shoes. Upstairs, everyone is enjoying working together in all areas. Older children flew their tiger kites this week.

DOWNSTAIRS CLASS This week the children have been learning new Spanish phrases at group time. They are learning “tea mo”, hola, adios, and many other conversational terms. They are also learning the bird calls for blue-jays and Carolina wrens. Today we talked about different emotions. The children then looked at pictures of children and tried to name their emotional states.

Parents, please be sure to check your child's spare clothing bag for seasonably appropriate items. If your child is potty-training, make sure he/she has plenty extra clothes and an extra pair of shoes. Thanks!

SENSITIVE PERIODS contd.

There are five basic sensitive periods of development from birth to age six: Social Relationships & Skills; Order; Movement; Refinement of the Senses; and Language.

Social Relationships & Social Skills

Between ages 2 ½ to 4 ½ children are learning social skills and manners that form the foundation for life-long social interactions. Between ages 3-6, children

are learning social cues, such as when to say please & thank you and to whom, how to meet people, shake hands etc. Children learn how to care for themselves: dressing, tying shoes, eating, washing, bathing, brushing hair and teeth are among the many self-care skills children learn at this age.