

CHILDREN'S HOUSE CHATTER

Wednesday, April 28, 2010.

THANKS TO OUR PTO for the lovely picnic on Saturday. The food was great, and even the weather finally cooperated. Everyone had a wonderful time!

TUITION for the month of May should be paid no later than May 3 in order to avoid paying the \$35.00 late charge.

SCHOOL CLOSINGS: We will be closed **Friday, May 28** for a staff workday. We will also be closed **Monday, May 31** in observance of Memorial Day. There will be no classes and no child care on either of these days.

SUMMER SCHOOL begins Tuesday, June 1. If you plan to bring your child to school at any time during summer school (June, July & August) you should complete the application form and return it to school along with the registration fee. We plan our classes and staffing according to the number of children registered, so it is vital that you reserve a space if you plan to bring your child to school. Thank you.

SCHOOL PICTURES You can view proofs on the classroom bulletin boards; the proof of the entire school picture is on the bulletin board in the front hallway. Order envelopes are in the children's files, and should be handed in no later than Friday, April 30.

ST. JUDE'S TRIKE-A-THON If your child brought his/her bike to school to participate in the Trike-a-Thon last week, you should now hand in your pledge donations so that we can finalize paperwork etc. Thank you.

DOWNSTAIRS TODDLER CLASS We have been working hard on verbal skills for the past several weeks. The children are at different levels of speech. We encourage them to "use your words", rather than pointing, screaming etc. If a child encroaches on another's "territory" (work

space) we ask the other child to say "my work". We also encourage "please" and "thank you". At group time we ask open-

ended questions to encourage their opinion and verbal skills, using words other than "yes" and "no". Parents, you can help by not simplifying language for your child. He/she can understand you. Developing a large vocabulary at an early age is helpful for brain development and with reading skills in the years ahead.

DOWNSTAIRS CLASS This week the children have had fun with new dance moves at group time. Their favorite moves are : raising the roof" and "churning the butter". The children all take turns free-style dancing in the center of the circle while we sing about what they wore to school. Even the shyest of our children have become comfortable dancing for the others. Some of them have developed quite interesting moves! Parents, please hand in your summer school registration forms. We will be preparing our class lists for summer school and will need to know if we should reserve a place for your child! Thanks.

UPSTAIRS CLASS The children are enthusiastically rehearsing for our Spring Play, to be presented Tuesday and Wednesday, May 25 & 26 at 10:30am. (If your last name begins A-J, please attend on Tuesday; all others attend on Wednesday). Each child has a part, so please be sure your child attends school on both of these days (even if he doesn't normally attend). The children are looking forward to this!

OUTSIDE CLASS Don't forget our **Mothers Day** celebration on **Wednesday 5 10:00-11:00am**. We will serve lemonade & cookies, made by the children. If you will be able to attend, please put your name on the sign-up sheet on our classroom door.