

# CHILDREN'S HOUSE CHATTER

Wednesday, May 5, 2010

**TUITION** for the month of May is now past due.

If you have not already done so, please pay your child's tuition and include the \$35.00 late charge in your payment. Thank you.

**SCHOOL CLOSINGS** The school will be closed **Friday, May 28** for a staff workday and **Monday, May 31** in observance of Memorial Day. There will be no classes and no child care on those days.

**SUMMER SCHOOL** begins Tuesday, June 1.

To reserve a place for your child in summer school, please complete and return the application form and fee.

**RECALL OF CHILDREN'S MEDICINES**

There has been a recall of certain infant and children's such as Tylenol, Zyrtec, Benadryl and Motrin. Some may contain more levels of active ingredient than the label describes; others may be contaminated with particles; and others may not meet standards for inactive ingredients. For details of this recall :

<http://www.fds.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm210441.htm>

**LIVELY SCIENCE** For her final visit for the school year, Ms. Susan brought an African millipede and a cockroach for the children to see. She also discussed invertebrates. We thank our PTO for sponsoring these Lively Science visits.

**UPSTAIRS CLASS** Lucian Manthey is a big brother – his baby sister Violet was born April 28. Congratulations to Tara & Toby! Thanks to Emmet Page and his family for the lovely fresh fruit we received for Teacher Appreciation Week. The children continue to rehearse for our Spring Play which will be presented on Tuesday & Wednesday, May 25 & 26 at 10:30am. Parents with last names A-J, please attend on Tuesday; remaining parents please attend on Wednesday.

**JUNIOR ELEMENTARY CLASS** The Juniors have been quite creative this week making Mothers' Day gifts and cards, and decorating for the Mothers' Day Luncheon – Friday at 12:00 noon. Along with studying butterflies and other insects, we have decorated our hall with

beautiful spring art butterflies and flowers. The Juniors are also working hard on their play which will be next Friday – May 14. The Upstairs and Outside Classes have been invited to watch our dress rehearsals. All Juniors need to have their basic costume supplies at school this week. Spelling test on Thursday, and book order forms are due that day also.

**DOWNSTAIRS CLASS** The children have been enjoying our study of Spanish. We have been the Spanish words for different colors and emotions to our vocabulary. We role play with puppets, and we also sing a few songs in Spanish. Summer school is fast approaching and several parents have asked how the summer curriculum differs from that of the school year. For this age group, the curriculum and schedule remain the same with the addition of outside water-play and other outside activities.

**SENSITIVE PERIODS** - Understanding a Child's Sense of Order:

This sensitive period is strongest from birth to about age 4 ½. Children create order out of chaos as they make their way out into the world. Language, movement, family relationships, and the ability to discern sensory information all connect in the child's mind to create an innate sense of order. During this time children learn by repetition and do the same activities over and over, such as reading the same book, singing the same songs, it is how they make order out of chaos. Around age six, with the loss of baby teeth, a more adult learning style develops, where learning requires repetition but with variety. Until that time, though, children thrive on stability in their environment. Children gain comfort, as well as expertise, in knowing the wooden blocks are in the same place, that the kitchen pans are in the lower left-hand cabinet and that lunch is at noon every day. If your child is being difficult and moody, step back and reflect on what recent changes may have occurred, remembering the importance or order in the young child. Many times, moodiness stems from a change in routine or environment it might be as simple as having washed his/her "blankie", changed a nap-time, changed who brings him/her to school etc.