

SEPTEMBER 2009 NEWSLETTER

WELCOME

To all our new children and those who took the summer off, we want to welcome you to our school.

I and all my staff intend to make this a really good year filled with the excitement of discovery, learning and growing.

I promise the children to help them meet their needs, respect their individuality and build good relationships with them.

I promise the parents to help them build a bridge between school and home, keep them informed of their children's progress and help to solve problems when and as they arrive. Should anyone want to talk to me on the days that I am absent my home phone # is (707) 765-6180. My answering machine will pick up and I promise to call you back as soon as I can. You may always contact me by e-mail at caringkarla@comcast.net

PRE-K NIGHT

Pre-K children are those who in September of 2009 will graduate to Kindergarten.

We have a parent meeting for those parents at 6pm on Tuesday September 8th. Children are not invited to this orientation.

All the pre-K teachers (myself, Genevieve, Monique, Melissa and Miki) will do a brief presentation on what all of us plan to accomplish in this next year.

We will have sign-up sheets for the coming year's fieldtrips to Youth in Arts and you will have to contribute \$40.00 for Pre-K materials fees.

Some old rules... revisited...

As STATED in your enrollment packet your re-registration fee of \$100.00 is due with your mid-september tuition fee. This is for ALL children enrolled before June 2009.

ALL TUITION must be paid BY the fifteenth of the preceding month. When the fifteenth falls on a Sunday, we MUST have your check here on Friday and we will

process it on the fifteenth. The contract clearly states that tuition is due ON OR BEFORE the 15th.

ALL PARENTS must sign their child in and out. We notice that a few parents forget about this. In case of an earthquake and or a fire, the sign-in sheet is the only way to be sure ALL children are out of the building. Apart from this reason, it's a California Child Care Provider Law and we are in violation if we do not comply.

ALL CLOTHING must be marked with your child's name or initials, even shoes or socks. It will save both you and us from incredible frustrations and swift insanity.

WE CANNOT grant schedule changes in mid-month or mid-week, unless this is a specific arrangement between the parents and me. We cannot grant make-up days missed due to illness or school closure. We aim to have a full house every day and schedule staff accordingly but we cannot exceed the amount of children we are licensed for. (You can always check on our drop-in availability, and if a regularly scheduled child is absent we'll do our best to accommodate.)

PLEASE HAVE a change of clothing available at all times in your child's cubby. With rainy weather just around the corner it is important to have some "rain gear" available as well. If your child is in diapers, make sure there are sufficient diapers and wipes available for at least a week.

WE HAVE many toys available at school. It is a real headache for the staff to be assigned the role of guardian and baby-sitter of your child's home toys. So... If your child decides to bring a toy to school be sure s/he understands that it may get lost or broken and that this may make her very sad.

WE ENCOURAGE all parents to participate in this new school year. It is so much fun for your child to have Mom or Dad here as a teacher for a few hours. Come and share a special talent you have or bring a tool box, or come and do a cooking project, or bring your video camera, or come and dance with us, but DO COME....please.

LUNCHES need to be ready to go; meaning that we do not have the capacity to warm your child's lunch, leaving all the other children at our table to sit by themselves and wait for the teacher's return. Candy is not allowed except for one(!) piece the day after Halloween and will be exchanged for fruit. We try not to let children throw their lunches away so that you as parents have a better overview of what food is a "hit" and what is not.

Please remember that children's appetite varies from day to day and that your child may have had a really big helping of our healthy snack at 10:00am.

Here is some useful information from Ellie Cohen, Asi's Mom

Info on why you should only use non-chemical sunscreens.

<http://www.skinbiology.com/toxicsunscreens.html>-- good summary of what I've read over the years.

Some are now saying zinc oxide better than titanium oxide in physical sunblocks but I don't know much about this:

<http://organicpassion.info/zinc-oxide-sunscreen-vs-titanium-oxide-sunscreen...>

We use California Baby -- except I use EltaMD spf 41 for my face

<http://www.skin-etc.com/eluvphspf41.html>

Here is a website listing all sorts of chemical free sunscreens- don't know about some of them--- but FYI--

<http://www.wikio.com/product/sunscreens-tanning-products-142643-Environmentally%2520Friendly%3DChemical%2520Free-reviews-11321-page1-sort0.html>

Please fill out the form Genevieve prepared for you to get all your current information correct.

Let's make this year our best year yet and celebrate our children for who they are TODAY.

Karla