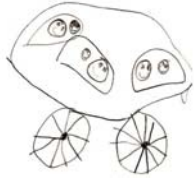


May 2008

Play is Powerful



BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE PPP COUNCIL

PPP May News



Our Silent Auction totals are in and our school raised an AMAZING **\$5,400** (after expenses) PLUS an additional **\$1,000** grant from Sam's Club!!!

I wanted to say **THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU** to all who helped make this event such a success. You gave your time, effort and money to help make our school a better place for our children. I couldn't have done it without all our amazing parents.

Zero Waste Lunches

As an environmentally conscious school, we try to provide our children with natural materials, expose them to earth friendly activities and teach them respect for our world and the creatures in it.

We would like to build on those concepts by asking our parents to pack zero waste lunches.

What is a Zero Waste Lunch you ask? Simply put, it is a lunch that makes no trash. Everything you pack will be eaten, reused or recycled.

Here are some tips to get you started:

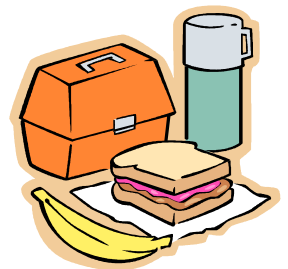
Use a reusable insulated bag or lunch box instead of brown paper bag. No lunchables!

Use reusable plastic containers that can be washed and used over and over, in stead of using disposable plastic sandwich bags for sandwiches and snacks.

Use a thermos or reusable jug instead of bottled soda or juice boxes.

Use metal silverware or wash plastic utensils and reuse them instead of disposable utensils that are used once and thrown away.

Use cloth napkins that can be laundered.



Dates to Remember

Council Meeting House	Wed, May 21st 8:00pm	Paula's
Lat Day of School	Fri, May 23rd	



Classroom News



We continue to see changes in our 2's class on a weekly basis. Many parents have commented on the social growth, since their last assisting time. Although we still work on hitting and fighting, we are also seeing more hugging and, yes, kissing in our group.

Some of our popular activities have been dirt in the sensory table and planting seeds, gluing beads, painting egg cartons and trains.

Dress up and dramatic play has increased and we have been pleasantly entertained. Recently two girls donning hats and purses were overheard saying, "Let's go to the farm", as one of them proceeded to climb into our toy cupboard. On realizing she was too big to fit, she climbed out and told her friend, "I guess I'll have to meet you there."

Thank you to all the parents for your wonderful Teacher Appreciation gifts. We felt very appreciated.



It's been a busy time in the 3s class. We've played in magic mud (1 cup cornstarch plus 1/2 cup water if you want to try a small batch at home...it took 4 boxes for the water table) and painted a mural.

The addition of trains in the block area has been a hug hit. Many blocks have stood in for train tracks making bridges and overpasses with tracks extending throughout the classroom.

We played outside in the rain one day and enjoyed the mud the next. The sand delivery was tons of fun. The kids have been discovering lots of bugs, lizards, and even a pair of frogs one day. Scared the warts right off of 'em. We caught the frogs and put them in a bucket so everyone could see, then released them in a safe place in the woods, far from the edge of the playground.

It's hard to believe that it is May already. Seems like it was just last month we were finishing ease-in and getting into the groove of things.

Thanks again for your kindness during the holidays, teacher appreciation day, and with the treats throughout the school year. They were much appreciated.



This year has been an experience of growth and change. We have a close knit little community where relationships have been going with some of these children for three years (most of their lives). We started out our year establishing boundaries and setting limits and testing limits. Right now with the pending finality (for most) of their preschool career and kindergarten looming in the not so distant future our group is feeling confident, testing their strengths both physically as well as emotionally. There is new confidence and the feeling of independence that could be interpreted as sassy or rude and disrespectful. Don't worry they are just testing their skills out on you (& their teachers) who will love them no matter what.

This has been such a fun group of children. We have laughed a lot together, played, hugged, cheered each other on, hurt feelings and had hurt feelings, forgiven, trusted, shared, and grown in so many ways. We have spent many a chilly morning on the the playground as well as warm afternoons picnicking or walking through the woods. We have painted and sewn, drawn and printed, sang and danced, read so many stories, learned new songs new ways to solve problems and enjoyed each other's company. I will miss everyone that is leaving, but know that wherever their next step takes them they will have skills to make their own decisions, express their own ideas, and continue to be creative and strong.

We have enjoyed watching everyone this month pushing their bodies with new challenges on the playground, climbing to the top of the monkey bars, learning to pump the swings as high as they can go, and coming up with new ways to use the swings. In the classroom imaginary play has been taking on more depth. There has been costumes added to their play with a great deal of use of the dress-ups and accessories. We even added a dressing room made from an umbrella and shower curtain suspended from the ceiling.

For art we have done roller ball painting, car painting, painted with different brushes and rollers on the easel creating endless new colors. We used liquid water colors and droppers to experience color mixing, as well as painting with small watercolor paint trays using small brushes. Continue creating during the summer! Have a wonderful time! We will miss you.

Thank you to all the parents for their support and time spent helping our school and teachers. We appreciate you all so very much!!!

PIEDMONT PROGRESSIVE



SUMMER DAY CAMPS

for the young mind, body and spirit

Camps will include free choice activities for children to explore and work at their own pace as well as group activities, discussions, storytelling, books and outdoor play.

CAMPS ARE FILLING UP!

REGISTER TODAY!

Magnificent Mudpies, Music and Motion

June 2-5 9:00-12:00 Preschoolers Only \$90

The following camps are for ages 5-9 and run Mon-Fri from 9:00-1:00 at a cost of \$110

Outdoor Explorers **June 16-20**

Weird Science **July 7-11**

Outerspace Nuts! **July 14-18**

Peace Out **July 21-25**

Days of Knights **August 11-15**

Under the Sea **August 18-22**

Please call or email Sharon as soon as possible if you are interested in registering for summer camps.

aking2@mindspring.com or (704) 510-1022

PPP Lending Library

As the last day of school approaches, we want to make sure all of the books in our lending library have returned.

Please check around your house, in your car or your favorite quiet spot for any books that may belong to the library.

There are several copies of How to Generate Values in Young Children that we would especially like to recover.



Special Thanks to

Chad Gammons for renting a truck and delivering two loads of sand!

Thanks to all the parents and kids who helped spread the sand.

The children have rediscovered the sandbox and dramatically increased the creative and imaginary play.

Fall Tuition Deposits Due in May

If you have a child returning next school year, tuition deposits are due by the end of May.

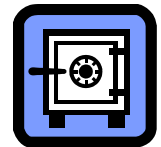
The tuition deposit is equal to one months' tuition and will held until May 2009. when it will then count as tuition.

We are pleased to announce tuition will remain the same and is as follows:

2's (2 day) \$155

3's (3 day) \$195

4's (4 day) \$235



Pass the Word

Most of our classes have filled for next year but we are still have a few spots in the 4's class.

Please pass the word to any friends or neighbors who have age appropriate children.

We especially need 4 year old girls to balance our class.

Brochures are available at the door and our web site is progressivepre-school.org



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Piedmont Progressive Preschool
9704 Mallard Creek Rd
Charlotte, NC 28262

Phone: 704-510-1022
www.progressivepreschool.org

Play is Powerful.

PPP Beach Towels

Beach towels with the PPP Logo are still available, numbers are limited.

\$20 each



Council Members

Paula Canavan	Co-Chair (Silent Auction Lead)	704-717-0195
Lousie Gammons 9094	Co-Chair	704-719-
Deb Davelka 4656	Advertising Lead	704-455-
Laurel Riesen	Secretary	704-912-2175
Krista Patterson	Newsletter	704-948-5583
Sian Kolozvary 6903	2's Parent Representative	704-302-
Karen Thomson 9229	3's Parent Representative	704-947-
Karen Sidak 4084	4's Parent Representative	704-701-
Suzie Gruber	Parent Volunteer Coordinator	704-688-6879
Beth Clawson 8029	Fundraising Lead	704-717-

New Sand

By Marjo Wilson

New sand for digging, rolling in, filling my shoes, my clothes, my hair,

Throwing in the air.

New sand for wiggling my toes deep down, after removing shoes and socks

Finding treasures of spoons and rocks.

New Sand for carrying to foreign lands in buckets, trucks and wagons. It slowly disappears.

Until next year.

New Sand!

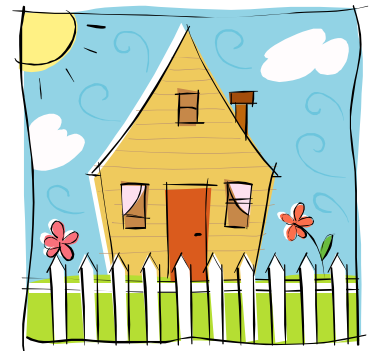


Council Members Needed

This past school year has been a very successful one thanks to the many parents who volunteer their time to the school.

Some of our parents will be moving on to new adventures. Therefore we need new volunteers to fill the void.

One way you can help is to volunteer on the PPP Council. As you know, our school is run by a board of parent volunteers.



Consider becoming a Council Member, it only requires a few hours a month and really helps to keep our school running at it's best.