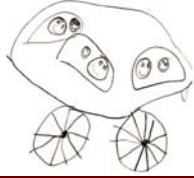


October 2007

Play is Powerful



BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE PPP COUNCIL

PPP October News



You're Invited to the PPP Fall Potluck Picnic

**Saturday, October 20th
4:00-7:00pm**

Food will be served at 4:30

Bring a dish to share

Drinks will be provided

Invite the whole family

Please remember to label your dish if it contains peanuts, eggs or dairy.

**Contact Bryna Callison at
(704)606-8521 with questions.**

Time for Open Houses

Parents of rising kindergarteners should be aware that October is time to start looking into the choices offered in our area for elementary schools.

Most area schools offer Open Houses starting in October and the best way for you to find a school to fit you and your child's needs, is to educate yourself about the choices available and apply early.

CMS will host a Magnet School Fair on Saturday, November 17th from 9-1:00pm at the Phillip O Berry Academy of Technology.

To find out more about other local schools of interest and their Open House schedule, check out these websites:

CCS

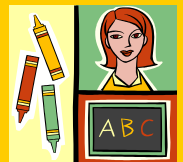
www.ccsch.org

CIS

www.carolinainternationalschool.org

Countryside Montessori

www.countrysidemontessorischools.org



The topic of PPP's upcoming parent education night in November will be Kindergarten Readiness, presented by Mary Coppola, cofounder of PPP and current kindergarten teacher. It will be a night full of useful information, so please plan on attending.

Dates to Remember

Mon., Oct 1st

Tuition Due

Tue., Oct. 16th

Founders Day Celebration

Council Meeting at 7:00pm

Sat., Oct. 20th

Fall Potluck from 4-7:00pm

Meet Our Teachers

The beginning of the school year has been such a great success, with the students all developing new friendships and adjusting to the routine of the school day.

While this space in our newsletter is normally devoted to "Classroom Notes" a section about what each classroom has been enjoying during the past month, we thought this month we would let the teachers introduce themselves and share some of their thoughts.

Marjo Wilson – 2's Teacher

I grew up and lived a long time in the Mallard Creek area, but now I live with my husband and 9 yr. old daughter in Ft. Mill, SC. I was an elementary art teacher for 12 years before having my daughter. I started teaching preschool when she was at Open Door. I have been at PPP for about 5 years. I also work for a breastfeeding support program and occasionally do freelance art. I like to garden, paint and sing. I really enjoy teaching 2 yr. olds, especially at PPP.



Tracy Hensley – 2's Teacher

I have two children, Carter 6, a graduate of PPP and currently attending Mallard Creek Elementary and Cate 4, who is currently in the 4 & 5's class. My husband's name is James and he is in the trucking industry. I have lived in Charlotte for 10 years. I was born in Idaho but grew up in Minnesota. I graduated from the University of Denver in Colorado with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. Upon graduation, I returned to Minnesota and decided to attend school once again. I received a Bachelor of Science in Mortuary Science from the University of Minnesota. I returned back to Colorado and worked as a Funeral Director for a few years, but found that this was not my 'true' calling. My husband was then transferred to Atlanta where I began a job at the Atlanta Botanical Garden as their Education Coordinator. We didn't reside in Atlanta long before my husband was transferred to Charlotte. I found a job with First Union, now Wachovia, however, when I became pregnant and my son was born 15 weeks prematurely, I quit my job to be with him. Carter was born weighing 11lb 14oz. He was in the NICU and PICU at CMC for a total of 11 months. When he did eventually come home, he had a tracheotomy and was on a ventilator and oxygen. He also had a feeding tube, several monitors and round the clock nursing care. His prognosis was that he would most likely not survive, however, he proved the doctors wrong and not only survived, but thrived as well. I was told that if my child did live, that he would never walk nor talk. Other than some slight developmental and social delays, Carter is a typical child, attending a typical Kindergarten with an IEP. His tracheotomy was closed in April of 2004 and in June of that same year, my husband and I traveled to China and adopted our daughter from the Jiangxi Province when she was 13 months. She has added another dimension of blessings to our family. Within 3 months of bringing Cate home, my son, who wouldn't dare put any food in his mouth, was eating everything by mouth because his baby sister ate that way. Carter had to live in a bubble for so long, and Cate came along and we were happily able to burst that bubble and once again join the world. Carter then had his feeding tube removed another three months later. Finding PPP for my children to attend was truly like grabbing the golden ring on the carousel. I found a family there for my children and me, and now that has grown into a teaching position with such wonderful and kind children. I truly treasure all of my students and am proud to be one of their teachers.

Susan Siebert – 3's Teacher

Hello, I wanted to take a few moments to share with you some things about myself. I am a mother of three boys, Nicholas age 12, Ryan age 5 and Justin age 3. I grew up in Miami Fla. until I was 18 and then spent a few years living in Manila, Philippines. Eventually, I moved to Atlanta where I met my husband Jeff. I have a true love for nature and animals. I've worked part time at an animal hospital for many years. Our family has two dogs, two cats, two frogs and a fish. I also love to watch sports. When it comes to teaching, I love working with children. Their unique personalities and curiosities amaze me. I truly enjoy each of your children thanks for sharing them with us.

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Susan Thompson – 3's Teacher

I'm a former PPP mom to Noah who is in kindergarten this year. I was also the former advertising lead, and Co-Chair of the Parent's Council. I'm so excited to be here as a teacher for the 3's class this year. When I'm not at PPP, I'm a freelance editor, writer, Tupperware salesperson, and I'm hoping to open an online store soon (if anyone knows anything about that or starting a business in Meck. Co, can I talk to you?)

Michele Deese – 4's Teacher

I started at the PPP during it's second year of operation. We had one multi-age classroom in the big room and after the winter break we added a two's class. I have been working with young children for about 16 years mostly in the preschool setting, including, CMS Smart Start, 3 years substituting in the CMS Montessori program, as well as 4 years at Open Door School. I was fortunate to have a friendship with Sue Riley and learned so much from her infinite wisdom in working with young children. When ever I question myself and how to handle a situation I think, what would Sue do? I have 4 children; Lauren 22, Rachel 19, Hannah 17 and Alec 16. I have enjoyed every stage of my children's lives, but the most precious time is the preschool years, I guess that's why this many years later I'm still playing with little ones!

Melissa Green – 4's Teacher

I am originally from upstate New York and have relocated to the Charlotte area to teach. I am a student at RCCC where I major in Early Childhood Education and hope to either teach first grade or direct my own center. I have been married 11 months and hope to move to Asheville after attaining my degree.



Harris Teeter VIC and Food Lion Cards

Please remember to link your grocery stores cards to our school. At Harris Teeter our school number is #4841 and a cashier can link you at checkout. Also, Beth Clawson can link your card, if you give her your card number. It is an effortless way for the school to earn fundraising dollars.

Sick Policy

PPP's sick policy has been developed to keep our children healthy and prevent (as much as possible) the spread of illnesses. Your child must stay home if he or she has any of the following conditions: temperature, vomiting or diarrhea, rash, persistent colored nasal discharge. Children can return when these symptoms have been gone for 24 hours.

Late Pick Up

It is important to your child and the PPP staff that you pick up your child promptly at the end of our school day. Your predictable punctuality will ease your child's anxiety and our teachers have after school responsibilities. However, in the event you are late our pick up policy is as follows:

1st Lateness – written warning

2nd Lateness – fines of \$15 for every 15 minutes

Fines must be paid within 24 hours.

Please have a back up plan, such as another parent who you can call, in the event of an emergency.

If you are late to pick up your child, please remember to arrive in as calm a manner as possible. Children can pick up on our feelings and become upset when their parent appears upset.

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Piedmont Progressive Preschool
9704 Mallard Creek Rd
Charlotte, NC 28262

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

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Council Members

Paula Canavan	Co-Chair (Silent Auction Lead)	704-717-0195
Lousie Gammons	Co-Chair	704-719-9094
Laurel Riesen	Secretary	704-912-2175
Krista Patterson	Newsletter	704-948-5583
Sian Kolozvary	2's Parent Representative	704-302-6903
Karen Thomson	3's Parent Representative	704-947-9229
Karen Sidak	4's Parent Representative	704-701-4084
Suzie Gruber	Parent Volunteer Coordinator	704-688-6879
Beth Clawson	Fundraising Lead	704-717-8029
Susan Burns	At Large & Church Liason	704-535-4990
Sharon King	Director	704-948-8293



Do It Yourselfers We Need Your Help

The preschool is in need of a volunteer who can strip and refinish a wooden play kitchen.

There are three pieces and each can be done individually if preferred.

Contact Sharon for more information.

Founders Day

Each year, PPP celebrates its' founding and the women who began it all., Mary Coppola and Susan Burns. This year our celebration will be held on Tuesday, October 16th. Each class will celebrate in their own unique way and parents are welcome to attend.



Pumpkin Crisp Recipe

Ingredients:

- 2 cups pumpkin or 1 large can pumpkin pie mix
- 1 14 oz can evaporated milk
- 1 cup sugar
- 3 eggs
- 1/2 tsp cinnamon
- 1 box yellow cake mix
- 1 cup chopped nuts
- 2 sticks butter - melted then cooled

Directions:

Mix first 5 ingredients.

Pour into greased 9x13 baking dish.

Sprinkle cake mix on top—don't stir.

Cover with nuts and pour melted butter on top.

Bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour.

Serve warm with cool whip or vanilla ice cream

Philosophy Feature

As a part of our philosophy we try never to talk about children in their presence. This is sometimes a difficult task to accomplish when you are trying to convey helpful information to a teacher while dropping off a child, but it is very important to try. Whether a child is actively looking at you or just standing by working on putting away their lunch and coat, they still hear things around them. Children need to be accepted by adults. They need to feel they are respected if they are to retain their faith in the grownup world. If you need to give a teacher or any other adult information about your child, please be mindful of the children around you. A note or phone call can help avoid this situation. Children learn from what they observe than what they are told.