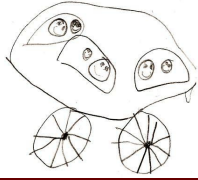


Play is Powerful



BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE PPP COUNCIL

PPP December News

Parent Education Event

Book Discussion:

How to Generate Values in Young Children

By Sue Riley

Wednesday, December 6th at 9:30am in the Sanctuary

Please join your fellow PPP parents for our first Parent Education Event of the year, a discussion of the book *How to Generate Values in Young Children* by Sue Riley. This book focuses on how important it is to the development of a child to be allowed to make choices.

Marjo will be present to review the basic principles of the book and guide parents in a thought provoking discussion .

Please attend regardless of whether you have read the book or not.. Your input is welcomed.



Some thoughts about the Season...

This is a very busy, harried time of the year for a lot of families. The "energy" makes its way into the classroom. Our space is the calm during the rough seas. We keep all the frenzy of the season out of the classroom intentionally. Children are bombarded with commercialism, especially now. This is the opportunity to teach them about giving vs. getting, about others vs. self, wants vs. needs, less vs. more, living simply so that others may simply live.

This is also an opportunity to teach nonviolence through the type of toys

Dates to Remember



- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| December 1 | Tuition Due |
| December 6 | Book Discussion & Parent Education Event |
| December 14 | Council Meeting |
| December 18– January 1 | Winter Break |

Classroom Happenings



The 2's class has really enjoyed the reading and listening to the book Grandpa's House with the read along CD that accompanies it. Outdoor play has been popular, especially playing in the rain just before the break. The children slid down the slide, feet first right into the huge puddles. Everyone used their extra clothes that day!



We (Marjo and Nichelle) really enjoyed meeting with all the parents during conferences. Please feel free to contact us if you have a question or concern. In our classroom we continue to work on our "people" skills and are seeing many friendships develop. In our centers we have been mixing red and blue to create purple paint and doing collage. Sand and rubber creepy crawlies have been in our sensory table and farm animals have been added to the block area. We were sad to lose Elena when her family moved, but we're happy to welcome a new student Kayla in our class.



What we've been doing.....

We have been fortunate to have had some amazing winter weather so outside time has been wonderful. We are seeing lots of cooperative play, and great conversations. A big challenge is rolling the logs to the top of the hill for the exciting reward of rolling them back down...will they crash into something or make it to the other side? The children who can't quite do it by them selves ask others to help. They are learning what a nice feeling it is to help someone else. Everyone waits at the top of the hill while the children take turns rolling their log down. It is fun for everyone, even the spectators!

Leaves, leaves everywhere! With a lot of teamwork the leaves were raked and scooped into a nice fluffy pile for jumping. I think some of them have been doing that at home, they were quite proficient in piling them up quickly for jumping in all over again! Fall is a wonderful time to be outside!

Inside we've introduced watercolor paints for some amazing colorful paintings (some are displayed in the classroom). We have gone through all the primary colors and mixed secondary colors and are creating vivid teals and magentas, browns and mustard yellows; the new array of colors are stimulating creativity with their artwork. We are seeing more details and more representational paintings. Playdough is always a soothing sensory activity and we have recently introduced earth clay which we will continue with through the year.

More and more items circulate in our writing table and we have seen much interest in cutting. A fun activity that we did in the classroom was cutting from magazines. This would be a great thing to do at home to help them with their cutting skills.

Thanks to all who have been sending in boxes for box construction we first used them for a grocery store complete with a shopping basket, cash register, paper bags, money and of course credit cards!, and as to be expected.... long lines at the checkout! Next week we will be turning our groceries into box structures that we can later paint.

RAFFLE TICKET SALES

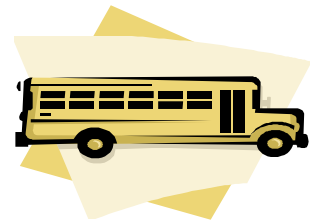


Don't forget to keep selling those raffle tickets! Our goal is to sell 1,000 tickets at \$5 a piece. The school will keep 50% of all proceeds and there will be 3 prizes of 25%, 15% and 10% of proceeds. You can sell them to friends, family, neighbors, people you or your spouse work with, etc.

The drawing will take place at our January 27th potluck. If each family could sell approximately 25 tickets we'll be in good shape. You should have already received your first package of 10 tickets. When you are done with your first pack of tickets please return the stubs along with the money to either Paula Canavan or place them in the tuition box. For more raffle tickets to sell please contact Paula Canavan at 704-717-0195 or email her at pjcanavan223@yahoo.com.

Kindergarten Information

For those of you who will be sending your child to kindergarten next year, be aware that the CMS enrollment process has begun. Parents who have rising kindergarteners will need to complete a New Student Enrollment form by December 15, 2006 in order to receive a student assignment application for the Magnet Lottery.



In addition, many private and charter schools have application deadlines approaching. Here are just a few that we know of:

Carolina International School Feb 5, 2006

Children's Community School Jan 31, 2006

We do not endorse any school in particular but would like parents to be aware of their options. Our best advice for prospective kindergarten parents is to consider several options. Visit schools that you are interested in, talk to other parents to see what they have learned. Ask questions about expectations, discipline and educational focus. Spend some time in a kindergarten classroom to see what your child will be doing.

Odds and Ends

Playdates

PPP friends can meet for a playdate every Friday from 1 pm- 3:0pm at the Mallard Creek Park playground. Bring your snack and drink to the playground and enjoy some social time with fellow parents while the children play.

For more information, contact Susan Thompson at (704) 499-5361.

Cold Weather Clothes

Please check your child's stash of extra clothing and ensure it's appropriate for the coming cold weather. In addition, you may need to send hats and gloves as the weather continues to get colder. Layering clothing is a good way to make sure your child will be comfortable.

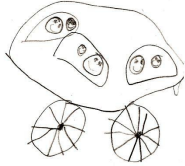
Holidays

As you probably know by now, PPP does not celebrate holidays. Our students come from a variety of backgrounds, so we do not emphasize any holidays. This allows families to honor their individual beliefs. Let this be a place for both you and your children to relax, away from the holiday stress.

Sometimes we are unavoidably late

Please remember to call the school's number to inform the teachers if your child will be absent or if you will be late picking your child up. The office number is (704) 510-1022 and if no one is able to answer the phone, please leave a message.

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Piedmont Progressive Preschool
9704 Mallard Creek Rd
Charlotte, NC 28262
Phone: 704-510-1022
E-mail: www.progressivepreschool.org

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Inclement Weather

Please remember:

If CMS closes or
delays school, PPP is
closed as well.

Council Members

Tracy Hensley	Co-Chair (Fundraising Lead)	704-509-9261
Susan Thompson	Co-Chair (Advertising Lead)	704-499-5566
Bryna Callison	Secretary	704-606-8521
Krista Patterson	Newsletter	704-948-5583
Sibyl Wessler	Parent Representative	704-549-4895
Suzie Gruber	Parent Volunteer Coordinator	704-688-6879
Paula Canavan	Silent Auction Lead	704-717-0195
Susan Burns	At Large	704-535-4990
Sharon King	Director	704-948-8293

Bright Idea

The holidays can be very stressful and chaotic. Here's an idea to give mom some time to complete all her tasks:



Instead of popping in a video, create a special box just for certain times when things have to get done or phone calls have to be made. In this box put... a box of crayons, colored pencils, scissors, magazines for cutting up, fun paper and envelopes, old stationary, a glue stick, scotch tape (that they can use all of because it's theirs). You can add other interesting things that they don't normally have.....such as buttons, pompoms, stickers, colored paper-clips. This box has to be "special"!

The possibilities are endless and you can change things from time to time to make it even more special but remember—when you're done this box is put away. That way it stays "special".