

Dates to Remember

1st of each month - tuition due
 After the 5th, late fee is applied
 March 13th - PPP Council Meeting, 7:00, PUUC, parents welcome and encouraged
 March 22nd - Parent/Teacher Conferences, No School for W/Th 2's only
 Mar 27th - 30th - Spring Break

Reminder



Tuition checks are due by the 1st of each month. Please add a \$10 late fee if you pay after the 5th. Also, be sure to write the name of your child(ren) and what the check is for in the memo to help with bookkeeping.

Philosophy Q&A Teachers Who Don't Teach

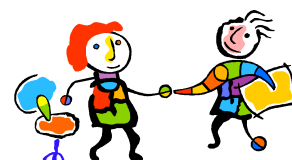


Just like there are different routes that lead to PPP, there are different routes that lead to learning. The most familiar of those routes is teaching, which occurs when a teacher specifically instructs a child on how to do something. On this passive road to knowledge, if

you show a child how to stack blocks you will probably get a very fine block tower. In contrast, the active road to learning is discovery. On this road, the teacher presents an interesting environment with age appropriate materials and allows the child to discover how they can be used. In this situation, it is very possible that the blocks may just be moved back and forth or not touched at all. But that won't last for long. One day you may see a child using a block as a telephone or as a hairbrush for her classmate. Long stretches of roads may be built and you might even see a tower. But what happens if they just don't figure out how to build that tower? Then the classroom remains towerless, nothing more, nothing less. Learning how to use your imagination is more important than learning how to build a tower anyway.

In addition, when teaching, or modeling a skill, you run the risk that the child isn't developmentally ready to learn that skill. There is nothing more frustrating than not being able to recreate that snowman made out of play dough. This kind of frustration often causes the child to ask the teacher to do it for him, or walk away from the activity altogether. If he walks away, he will miss out on the great sensory experience and fine motor practice that comes from poking, tearing and pounding the dough.

Finally, in general we learn more by doing than we do by watching and we retain knowledge longer and more easily if we gained it in an active way. I may forget exactly how electricity works, but I promise you that Ben Franklin never did. So, when you can, give your child the chance to make that next big, or small, discovery on his/her own.



Parent/Teacher Conferences

Wednesday, March 22 is set aside for parent-teacher conferences for our W/Th 2's only. There will be no class for the 2's that day. Sign-ups are on the classroom door. Conferences will be held on the half-hour for 20 minutes. Since it is early in the year and this is a new class this will be a combination conference. Meaning you get to tell the teacher anything you think she needs to know about your child, and perhaps ask questions about the school day and the philosophy. You are the expert where your child is concerned, and this is the time for you to tell us of your goals for your child in this school year. And the teachers will update you on your child's progression and any observations made thus far. These conferences are designed to give parents and teachers an

opportunity to speak freely about the children. In keeping with our school's dedication to having these types of discussions without little listening ears, it will be a good idea to have childcare arranged for your young ones. Buddying-up with another family for an hour on the playground can really help this process go smoothly for all.

Classroom Wish Lists



2 day 2's

- ◆ White chalk
- ◆ Styrofoam blocks or sheets
- ◆ Two bean bag chairs for the reading corner (the kids have discovered jumping on the cushions we have)
- ◆ Pots for the kitchen area
- ◆ Metal objects that can be picked up by magnets, but aren't small enough to be a choking hazard

Items can be given to Lisa, Marjo or Susan. Thanks for your help.

Assembly Required

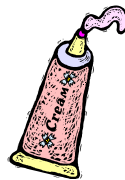
- ◆ We received a wagon with lots of small pieces and would love some help putting it together
- ◆ We have some steering wheels that can be attached to the climber and need some help attaching them

See Deb or Debbie for the assembly details.

Warmer Weather Reminders



Our children sometimes need to change clothes to be comfortable. As the weather begins to get warmer, please check your child's cubby for spare clothing. You are the expert on what your child feels comfortable wearing, but please ensure that the clothes are seasonally appropriate.



And another reminder about warm weather is to please be responsible for putting sunscreen and bug repellent onto your children before bringing them to school, if you so choose. The teachers are not able to do this for the children.



Fresh Paint for Classrooms

The church and preschool have partnered together to fund painting the classrooms over spring break. The kids will be pleased with the fresh new color when they return. Thanks to the church for working with us on this project.



Fertilizing the Money Tree

Here's what is coming up in fundraising.

As we start to look forward to spring and cleaning out the closets with the clothing that is too small, remember that the PUUC Consignment Sale is the first weekend of April. Items can be donated to the sale on behalf of the school to raise money for PPP. Donations must be received by March 23rd. Information was sent home last week for labeling your clothes. Large items and toys are also welcome. Tracy Hensley, 704-509-9261, can give your further details if you would like to participate.

The Silent Auction, our big money maker, is quickly approaching. Start chatting up your friends and family about a great opportunity to have an evening of wine, food, music and socializing while also helping a worthy cause and coming away with more than a good feeling for your efforts. Here is a brief peek at some of the wonderful items we will be auctioning:

- Boardwalk Billy's Raw Bar & Ribs - \$30 Gift Certificate;
- Carraba's Italian Grill - \$45 gift certificate;
- Charlotte Knights - (4) Field Box Seats;
- Charlotte Symphony Orchestra - (4) Tickets to a Lollipops Production;

Children's Theatre of Charlotte
- (4) Tickets to a Mainstage
Production;
Longaberger Basket;
Lowe's Motor Speedway - (2)
Tickets to the Coca-Cola 600;
Meg Art - \$20 Gift Certificate;
NC Zoo - Family Four Pack of
Tickets;
Red Lobster - Gift Certificate;
Smokey Bones - (6) Free
Appetizer Coupons;
Lowe's Motor Speedway Jacket;
Aquamarine Pendant /
Necklace

Tracy has sent out packages on
the Silent Auction and she
needs the help of each one of us
to make this event a wonderful
success. Please review the
information and decide how
you can pitch in to make this
evening one we will all
appreciate and enjoy. The
deadline for things to be
entered into the silent auction
is March 23rd.

Keep clipping those Campbell
soup labels and send them in
with your children or put them
in the envelope on the
preschool's bulletin board. We
can use them to help support
the school.

If you have a used up ink
cartridge for your printer or a
cell phone that is ready to go
into the toy box, consider
sending it to the school for
recycle. The school will receive
funds for cartridges and phones
turned in under our name.

Thanks for your help and
participation!

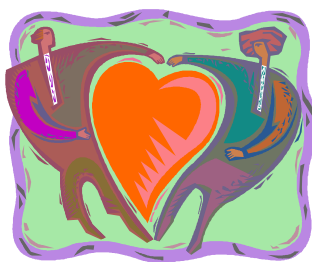
Recipe Corner



Please share creative ideas for
lunch box or snack time.
E-mail Sibyl Wessler at
swessler@carolina.rr.com with
suggestions. Get creative and
share!

Here is a fun tip! Frozen fruit!
It is super frozen and in a cup
for snack time at home or can
be put into containers when
you pack your child's lunch.
By lunch time they will be
defrosted enough to be a great
addition to a healthy lunch.
Some favorites are strawberries,
blueberries, mangoes, dark
cherries, peaches or raspberries.

Council News



Treasurer Needed

We are in need of a person to
do our bookkeeping and
money matters for the school.
This is a very important job that
needs to be filled pronto. If
you, or someone you know,
have accounting skills and
want to get involved offering
community service, please
contact Sharon King ASAP to
learn more.

Council Members

Sharon King, Co-Chair,
704-948-8293
Dana Emery, Co-Chair,
704-248-0599
George Gruber, Treasurer,
704-688-6879
Bryna Callison, Secretary,
704-606-8521
Tracy Hensley, Fund Raising,
704-509-9261
Susan Thompson, Advertising,
704-499-5566
Catherine Lutin, Parent Volunteer
Coordinator,
704-766-0660
Angi Calhoun, (4-day class) Parent
Representative,
704-948-0196
Susan Gruber, (2-day class, M/T)
Parent Representative,
704-688-6879
Sibyl Wessler, (2-day class, W/Th)
Parent Representative,
704-549-4895

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