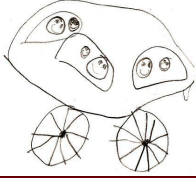


Play is Powerful



BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE PPP COUNCIL

PPP November News

Founders Day Celebration

Piedmont Progressive Preschool celebrated its first annual Founders Day on October 16th with a Tree Dedication, honoring Mary Coppola and Susan Burns for their incredible work in creating our preschool.

Mary and Susan opened PPP October 16, 2001 with one classroom for 3-5 year olds and the school has continued to grow each year. Their vision of a non-profit, non-sectarian school which promotes freedom of thought and action for young children has enriched the lives of many families. The Founders Day Celebration was our way of honoring their achievement.

As part of the celebration, an Eastern Redbud tree was dedicated to Mary and Susan. The children of the 3's and 4's class participated by dressing up, marching with instruments, singing the Candle Song and spreading mulch around the tree.

The tree was placed beside the garden off the back patio. A plaque will be placed to commemorate the dedication.



Mary C (l), Eric M (m), Susan B (r)



The Candle Song

(Sung to the tune "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star")

Little candle burning bright,
Won't you share with us your light?
May we always learn to share,
With other children everywhere.

Dates to Remember



November 1st	Tuition Due
November 3rd	Citipass Book Orders Due
November 3rd	No School - 2's Conferences postponed
November 6th	Parent/Teacher Conferences's & 4's
November 14th	PPP Council Meeting
November 22-24th	Thanksgiving Holiday

Classroom Happenings



The children of the 2's class have been busy getting acquainted with one another and the routine of the school day. The song "Wheels on the Bus" has been popular. The children have enjoyed numerous books,. They sit ever so quietly while being read to but they also enjoy interactive books. "From Head to Toe" by Eric Carle has been especially popular for acting out.



The children of the 3's class have been very busy settling into the routine of the classroom, re-acquainting with old friends and making new ones. The paint and water tables have remained popular, but we're seeing much more interest in the blocks this year. The children are learning to work together to build some very interesting structures.

The pumpkins were a big hit—they were carried and balanced and used in the kitchen area. When they hit the floor one too many times and broke open, we put them in the water table and the children dug out the seeds.

Thanks to all of the parents for sending healthy lunches. Most of the children are managing their lunches well. We really enjoy the conversations that occur at the table. Parents are welcome to join us for lunch—just let us know in advance if you're coming so we may set a place for you.



The 4's class has been busy getting to know one another through play. The children have "rediscovered" mixing colors of paint and have progressed to now using three primary colors. We have planted grass seed on the hill, gone on a nature walk in the woods, learned that rough and tumble can sometimes become too rough and have generally been busy building friendships.

In our efforts to encourage vs. praise we are sometimes taught by those we teach. For example, an overheard conversation between two children painting at the easel: "What is that?" one child asked. "Art" stated the other very matter -of- factly. "What?" replied the first child. "It is art." answered the second child. No judgments were given, only an appreciation for the process involved. Sometimes the easiest answers are there, if we give them the gift of time and listen.

Teacher Conferences

During November school will be closed for two days so that we may hold parent-teacher conferences. This is a time for the teachers to learn from you, the parent, how your child is adjusting to school. It is a wonderful time for parents and teachers to talk on a one on one basis. Since it is early in the year, teachers will not be reporting on your child's progress, rather, you get to tell the teacher anything you think she needs to know about your child, ask questions about the school day or the school's philosophy. It is a time for you to tell us of your goals for your child in this school year.



An important part of our philosophy is that we not discuss the children in their presence and so we ask that you arrange for childcare during your conference. You may want to contact another parent and alternate watching each other's child on the playground.

Things to note:

Classroom Wishlist

The school is in need of a few items. Please let us know if you can help with the following: large trucks for playground, old towels for clean up, empty metal spice boxes, digital camera, disposable cameras, old appliances (toaster, phone, turntable etc) for taking apart, small boxes for construction (smaller than cereal boxes).

If there are handy parents who can help mend torn dress up items, fix broken toys, repair torn books, we need your help. Parents who play a musical instrument—we would love for you to play for the children.

Teacher Planning Time

Please be mindful that morning planning time is essential for our teachers to prepare their classrooms, hold conferences with other staff, and take care of anything outside of the classroom needing their attention. Parents, please refrain from entering the classroom before 9 for the 3's and 4's and 9:15 for the 2's. Also, please be aware that the kitchen is our school office and the teachers use it for private conversations or preparing materials. We ask that parents and students remain in the foyer until the start of the school day.

4's Class Openings

We are in need of students for the 4-5's class, please pass the word along to anyone who may be interested.



PPP Potluck

The ppp potluck was a great success with about 54 people attending. Our families enjoyed a lot of delicious foods and the kids had a fantastic time with balloon animals.

Special thanks goes to bryna callison for organizing the event and to david gilbert for creating the whimsical balloon animals.

Thanks also goes to the volunteers who helped with set up and take down, including: Paula Canavan, george gruber, Sharon & drew king, yogita Pune-
kar, layla Martinez, geri jackson, ed C, onnelly, wade & sibyl Wessler, john & K rista patterson.

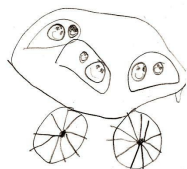
Book fair

The Book Fair was a great success, earning a total of \$336 for the school. In addition, the classrooms received \$344 worth of books.

Thanks to the volunteers who made the book fair possible.. A special thanks goes to Susie gruber for all of the hard work she put in organizing not only the barefoot books but also the used books. Thank you to all of the parents who donated used books!

Book fair Volunteers included: kim hoover, Angi Calhoun, tracy Hensley, liz sweet, karyn sidak, Adrienne emery, susan Thompson, Sharon king, susan siebert, lynne priestly, Jennifer haag, and sherry carlton,

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BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE PPP
COUNCIL

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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

THE WET PLAYGROUND By Marjo Wilson

Although the rain had stopped, the playground still glistened with wetness. It didn't take long for the puddles at the end of the slides to be discovered. Happy to put them to good use, the children with boots went first, jumping in two feet together. Those with tennis shoes followed, not to be outdone. Soon every child but one had made a big splash. She stood in indecision, looking back and forth from the puddle to her new shoes.

Before long the puddles began to spark new curiosities. They were filled with sand and mulch, trucks drove through them, hands were washed in them. The sandbox also began to draw new interest as the children discovered wet sand for packing and dribbling. Bowls of rainwater were used for mixing, washing and pretend cooking.

When the rain began to drizzle again, some children ran for cover under the playground equipment, giggling as they huddled together. Others, undaunted, continued to run in the mist. By the end of playground time, most of the children were wet, sandy and hungry, but they all had a look of accomplishment on their faces.

While it can mean more cleanups for parents and teachers, at our school we believe that children learn best about the weather and its changes to our environment through self-discovery. We look beyond the mess and allow children to simply experience a wet playground.

By the way, the child with the dilemma found a solution. She waited until the puddles were abandoned and walked ever so gingerly through them so as not to spoil her new shoes).

