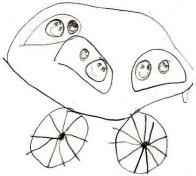


October 2006

Play is Powerful



BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE PPP COUNCIL

PPP October News

Join us for the PPP Potluck

Please join us for the 2nd Annual PPP Potluck Picnic on Saturday, October 14th from 11:00 to 2:00pm, located here at the preschool.

Bring your whole family as we visit with fellow PPP students and their families. Bring a dish to share, drinks will be provided. Please remember to label food containing peanuts, dairy or eggs.

If you would like to share your recipe, include a copy or copies of the recipe. Many great new recipes have been discovered at past PPP events.

Contact Bryna Callison at (704) 606-8521, if you have any questions.

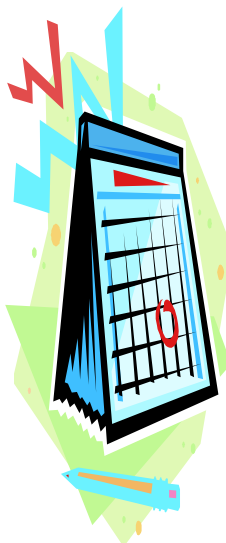
Volunteers are needed to assist in set up or clean up for this event, if you can help please contact Suzie Gruber at (704) 688-6879.



We currently have two openings in the 4's class.

If you know anyone who may be interested, especially if they have a girl, please pass the word!

Dates to Remember



October 1st	Tuition due
October 14th	PPP Potluck 11:00—2:00
October 16th	Founders Day
October 18th	Council Meeting 7:00
October 24th-26th	Book Fair 9-1:30
November 3rd	Parent Conferences 2's No School
November 6th	Parents Conferences 3's & 4's No School

The Effect of a Good Book

Why do we read to our children? We know that reading is important for children even at a very young age. Some people read to their unborn children. The sound of the parent or caregiver's voice is important for bonding and then language building. As our children become toddlers reading helps spark imagination, taking children to new places and introducing them to characters that they can relate their own feelings and experiences with. As our children get a little older good books can help them find answers, work through feelings, spark ideas, and open doors to imagination.

We are careful as parents to choose a safe car seat, nutritious foods for them to eat, comfortable clothing for them to wear and so on. Just as you are selective with these things, be selective with the books and shows you choose for your children. As Sue Riley says in Pathways, "Vapid, sentimental, Disney-type treatment of the old tales is not worth the time it takes to read them. There is trash in children's books as well as in adult fiction. It is not easy to discriminate between the trite and profound, but it is worth trying."

We live in a media driven world. We spend hours on computers and in front of television while advertisements flash constantly. This affects our children too. There are so many children's programs available to families. Many are basically big commercials. Each program is accompanied by endless products and toys. Obsessions can be created with children resulting in them wanting everything with their favorite characters on it.



As parents we should step back and look at who and what is influencing our children. This loyalty to one set of characters can lead a child to close out opportunities for using their own imagination and discourages exploration.

As a child I was read to from a thick, worn book of Grimm's Fairy Tales with small type and tissue thin paper. Pen and ink illustrations were few and far between but they were unnecessary because I imagined it all beautifully. My mind soared just listening to the tales and I painted the pictures in my head. As a mom and teacher I have always loved books with beautiful illustrations done by true artists, but as a child my favorite thing was to have my parents or older sister create stories of their own to tell me. Parents can make up stories to help children build on an interest or deal with something that they maybe experiencing but do not have a book about or even just for the fun of it.

We try to stay away from media driven books at Piedmont Progressive to encourage children to use their own imaginations. You will not find books on our shelves that contain characters from television shows, Disney movies or comic books. Enjoy the break from the same old characters and watch as your children find new inspiration and heroes. You may want to carry these ideas of simplicity into your own home. Turn off the TV and open your child's mind to new adventures!

Michelle Deese
4's Teacher

JUST A FEW REMINDERS

Please use the **front entrance** whenever entering the building, even for dropoff and pickup.

If you haven't linked your VIC card yet, please do so. Just tell your HT cashier to link you to school #4841. We've earned \$110 and have 32 families participating already and we can earn more with your help.

Our school relies on volunteers and positions are still available.

In the event of inclement weather, PPP is closed when CMS cancels or delays school.

Coffee and Book Discussion Hour Returns

This year, PPP will begin a series of parent education events with a Coffee and Discussion Hour using the book **“How to Generate Values in Young Children”** by Sue Riley, as the touchstone for our conversation.

Coffee Hour was a huge success last year as parents joined by Debbie Wolfe shared their thoughts on parenting issues and strategies.

We encourage anyone interested in getting a jump on the topic, to read **“How to Generate Values in Young Children”** which talks about *“how the child's ability to make up his or her own mind plays a major role in ethical and moral education”* and is a quick read at 64 pages!

Then in early November, we will join together to discuss our views on the book and indulge in an extra cup of coffee.

The book **“How to Generate Values in Young Children”** can be hard to find but PPP has several copies available to loan. Contact Krista Patterson at (704) 948-5583 for more information about borrowing a copy.



If you don't have time to read the book, please join us anyway. Coffee Hour is such a wonderful way to get to know the other parents.

Look for more information soon!

upcoming Fundraisers

Citipass Books—Now through Nov 3rd

PPP is asking parents to support our school by selling Citipass coupon books. The books are \$25 each. Ask your neighbors, friends or family if they are interested! Each sale generates \$10 for PPP and gives whoever purchases the book lots of money saving coupons. Get yours today!!!

T Shirts

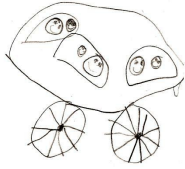
If you don't have a PPP T shirt—now is your chance to get one! Shirts come in adults and kids sizes too! Order forms will be coming home with the kids or look for them on the bulletin board.

Book Fair - Oct 24th—26th 9:00-1:30

We are pleased to announce that at this year's Book Fair we will be purchasing from Barefoot Books. Barefoot offers their own selection of books, all beautifully illustrated and with thoughtful writing. Look for the Barefoot poster on bulletin board or contact Suzie Gruber at 704-688-6879 for a catalog.

Questions regarding fundraising: contact Tracy Hensley 704-509-9261 or tracy62668@yahoo.com.

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COUNCIL

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Play is Powerful.

We're on the Web

www.progressivepreschool.org

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 Committee	704-717-0195
Susan Burns	At Large	
Sharon King	Director	704-948-8293

Recipe Corner: Homemade Play Dough

What you will need:

- 2 1/4 cups flour
- 1 cup salt
- 4 tbs cooking oil
- 1 cup water
- 10-15 drops food coloring (optional)

How to make it:

1. Mix flour and salt in small bowl.
2. Stir in liquid color, water and cooking oil.
3. Continue stirring until dough is the consistency of bread dough.
4. Remove dough from bowl and knead on floured surface 2-3 minutes. If dough is sticky add more flour.
5. Store in zip lock bag or airtight container.

