



CHESTERBROOK

BULLETIN BOARD

279 Egg Harbor Road Sewell, New Jersey 08080

MAY 2016

Dear Chesterbrook Parents,

Spring is in full swing and the end of the year is approaching quickly! May is sure to go by us just as quickly as the other months, so to keep everyone updated on all the events, here are a few reminders...

- The week of May 2nd-May 6th is Teacher Appreciation Week. On **Wednesday 5/4 at 12:00 PM**, we will be having a luncheon. If you wish to contribute an appetizer, entree, dessert or beverage, please stop at the front desk/office to sign up your choice. We will also be collecting \$5 gift cards, if you wish to donate one or more. Gift card suggestions: Dunkin Donuts, Starbucks, Wawa, Target, etc. Gift cards can be dropped off in the office by the morning of **Weds. 5/4**. Please do not fill in a name, we will distribute them evenly among all the teachers. Thanks so much for showing your appreciation for our teachers.

- On Friday, May 6th at 3:30 we will be having our Mother's Day Tea Party. We are asking that all Mom's and other lovely gals bring in their mug to enjoy homemade iced tea and cupcakes with their kids! Monday, May 30th Chesterbrook Academy will be closed for Memorial Day.

- Don't forget to send in sunscreen and bug spray for your child. Please be sure to label them with your child's first and last name.

- If you have not already done so, please turn in all camp paperwork and registration by Friday, June 3rd.
- Don't forget to take advantage of our Parent Referral Program. Refer a family and receive a free week of tuition.

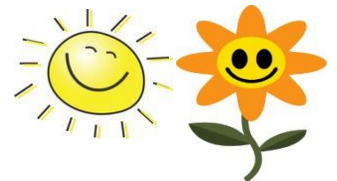
Looking ahead....

Friday, June 17th at 1:00 PM is our Pre-K & Kindergarten Graduation at Wedgwood Country Club

Monday, June 20th is our first day of Summer Camp 2016!

As always, thank you so much for all of your participation during our school activities.

Warm & Sunny Wishes,
Stacy & Thien



Inside this issue...

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Infants

Happy May, Infants! We'll be celebrating a happy first birthday to Aishani!! This month we will be taking advantage of the warm weather by going on plenty of walks in our Bye Bye Buggy. Please be sure to send in a sun hat and sunscreen for your baby. Hoping our Infant Room moms can join us for our Mother's Day "Mommy and Me Craft and picture" on Fri May 6th!

Toddler A

Hello May Flowers! Our color of the month will be pink and our shape of the month will be a diamond. While enjoying the beautiful weather, the children will be working on coordination and their gross Motor Skills. Looking forward to seeing our Moms at our Mother's Day Tea on Friday, May 6th at 3:30 PM. May is going to be a "buzzy" month! ☺
Miss Rhonda, Miss Lisa, and Miss Sammi

Toddler B

Happy Mother's Day The Todds will be very busy creating things for their special Moms. Welcome to our new friend Luis who joined our class last month. Domenick and Travis are doing great with open cups. Four of our Toddlers turn 2 this month. Birthday greetings to Sammi, Roman, Mila, and Macklin. Blue is our color of the month. Some of the Links to Learning skills we will be working on this month are playing musical instruments, using 2-4 word sentences and understanding the concepts of one/many.

Beginner A

Welcome to May Beginner A! We are excited for warm weather! Please check your child's cubby for weather appropriate clothing, sunscreen, and bug spray! We will be learning new Spanish vocabulary- Maracas, elephante (elephant), and violeta (purple). We will also practice recognizing our first name in print, using a glue stick, and matching shapes regardless of orientation. Our Mother's Day Tea will be on Friday, May 6 @3:30 pm. We hope to see you there! As always, thank you for allowing me to help your child grow each month!

Beginner B

Welcome to May in Beginner B! As our school year starts to come to an end we will begin to review all we learned this year! The children will learn their new Spanish words: "Maracas" (maracas), "elefante" (elephant), and "violeta" (violet/purple). Since the weather is starting to warm up we will do various wellness activities outside. (kick ball games, parachute play, obstacle course, etc) Please also remember to bring in updated sunscreen and bug spray. This month we will celebrate Nicholas and Mason's 3rd birthday! We will have our Mother's Day Tea on Friday, May 6th at 3:30 pm!

Intermediates

Intermediates is flying through this year! They are doing a great job and we are seeing lots of progress in everyone. For the month of May we will be focusing daily on writing our names without tracing, and identifying letters. We will continue on number recognition following one another on a calendar, patterns and completing puzzles. In Science we are going to explore metamorphosis process. (Caterpillar to Butterfly) We will be doing a lot of fun art projects that turn into masterpieces! ☺ Daily we will continue with self-help skills and social interaction skills. We have a fun-filled month ahead of us!

Pre-K

April was such a wonderful month in Pre-K! We learned about Earth Day. We also raised \$178 to donate to the "Lunch bag Blessing"! Thank you to all who helped us raise money for such a great cause. The warm weather is on its way, and we are one month close to Graduation, can you believe it?! In May, Pre-K will be learning about breaking numbers down, the value of a quarter and being able to recognize the quarter, and will be learning their home address. Pre-K will be very busy in May, but will still be enjoying lots of fun projects and activities. We will also celebrate Mother's Day, and Brooke and Miss Erica's birthday this month! ☺

Kindergarten

Welcome May! This month we are focusing on blending initial, medial, and final /u/, /v/, and /z/, /y/, and /kw/ letter sounds, reading text based comprehension such as draw conclusions and main idea, learning the Informational Fiction and Classic Fantasy genre, learning time and money in Mathematics, learning about solids, liquids, and gases, and heat in Science, and much more!

Calendar of Events

 5/4: Teacher Appreciation Day Luncheon 



5/6: Mother's Day Tea Party



5/30: Chesterbrook will be **CLOSED** for Memorial Day



6/3 : Summer Camp Paperwork is due



Congratulations to Marie Reeves Our Teacher of the Month For May 2016

Miss Marie started working here at Chesterbrook Academy in September 1998. Miss Marie also worked at a school as a BSI aide to help kindergarten children that were having difficulty with basic skills. She has many years in the Early Childhood field.

In her spare time she loves spending time with her two grandchildren, one of which comes to school here at Chesterbrook Academy. Miss Marie has been a part of the Chesterbrook family for quite some time. She is loved by all of our staff and by many parents and students here at our school. We are grateful to have Miss Marie, thank you for all you do for us!

**Don't forget to visit our website
for the lunch menu, special
event dates, reminders and so
much more...**

sewell.chesterbrookacademy.com



Building Your Child's Sense of Family Belonging

Relationships with family members play an important role as children begin to develop a sense of self. When they feel a sense of identity and belonging within their own families, children are better able to grow emotionally, make friends, and appreciate and accept the diversity of others.

With Mother's Day right around the corner, it's a great time to share activities that celebrate the importance of family.

Below are age appropriate activities that we implement in the classroom, as well as activities you can do with your child at home.



INFANTS/TODDLERS:

In the classroom: Teachers use baby sign language to help children identify and eventually verbalize names for their family members. When parents enter the classroom, teachers say, "Look! Here's Sophia's mommy," while also signing "mommy." They work with parents to learn specific names used at home, and then use those names in the classroom.

At home: Use baby sign language as you come across names of family members in books and songs. To sign "mommy," tap your thumb on your chin repeatedly. To sign "daddy," tap your thumb on your forehead repeatedly. Remember to say the word aloud as you sign.

Recommended reading: *Spot Loves His Mommy* by Eric Hill, *Are You my Mother?* by PD Eastman

BEGINNERS (ages 2-3):

In the classroom: By age two, children begin to learn the names of extended family members, such as grandmother, uncle and cousin. They practice using these words as they talk about their families. After sorting stuffed animals by type, teachers might say, "This is the horse's family. He has a big family. Who's in your family?"

At home: Give your child play dough and encourage him to create the members of his family. Afterward, ask him to count and name them. This activity helps him conceptualize that multiple people make up his entire family and gives you insight into what family means to your child at his particular point in development.

Recommended reading: *On Mother's Lap* by Ann Herbert Scott, *Oonga Boonga* by Frieda Wishinsky

INTERMEDIATES (ages 3-4):

In the classroom: As children read stories about diverse families, teachers encourage them to share unique details about their own families. For example, teachers might ask, "Who has a sister?" or "Who has a pet?" Afterward, students create charts with the information.

At home: Have each member of your family make a thumbprint using finger paint on a piece of paper side by side. Then, ask your child to compare the various sizes, and guess which thumbprint

belongs to each person. As they talk about their family members, they begin to appreciate what makes their family unique.

Recommended reading: *Clifford's Family* by Norman Bridwell, *What Mommies Do Best* and *What Daddies Do Best* by Laura Numeroff

PRE-K/PRE-K 2 (ages 4-5):

In the classroom: Our older preschoolers begin to understand that their parents have more than one role. Family members are invited to visit and talk to the class about their roles inside and outside of the home. Students are encouraged to write and draw their family members in the different roles they serve. For example, "Mommy is a doctor."

At home: Go on an uninterrupted family outing with your child. Try to avoid checking work emails or answering unimportant phone calls. Afterward, ask your child to write about his favorite parts of the day in his journal.

Recommended reading: *Does a Kangaroo Have a Mother Too?* by Eric Carle, *The Napping House* by Audrey Wood

All of our schools will be celebrating families in really fun ways this Mother's Day season, and we hope that you do too!

- Lauren Starnes, PhD – Director of Early Childhood Education