

Chesterbrook Academy Gaithersburg (824)

March Newsletter (2022)

A Note from Our Principal

February was a great month at our school! We celebrate Chinese New Year and Black History Month. In anticipation of spring, our teachers are busy planning meaningful learning activities that will help students gain an appreciation for the changing seasons.

Sincerely,

Narema Deonarine

National Reading Month

March is National Reading Month. This month, our teachers have fun activities planned to include reading and reenacting favorite books, introducing students to new titles, and much more. We'll send additional information via Links 2 Home soon.

Parent Survey

Our enrolled parent survey launches March 16th. The survey provides the opportunity for you to give us feedback anonymously on our strengths and areas we can work on. Please keep an eye out!



Priority Re-Enrollment

As a reminder, priority re-enrollment for next school year is ending soon. Please let us know if you have any questions.

- 50% off registration fee if registered and paid by 3/4/22
- 25% off registration fee if registered and paid by 3/18/22

Love Our School? Review Us!

In today's connected world, many families turn to online reviews to learn more about the reputation of schools. Just a reminder that you can find our school on Facebook, Google, Yelp, and other online directories. We'd love more families like yours, so please consider spreading the word about our school.

Important Date

March 2nd – Read Across America Day

March 13th – Daylight Savings Time begins

March 31st – End of Month Folders go home



Dive Into the Exciting World of Books During National Reading Month

Reading at a young age develops fundamental literacy skills, improves vocabulary and word recognition, enhances cognitive development, and cultivates a lifelong love of books. March is National Reading Month and we have exciting events planned in all of our classrooms. We'll be reading and reenacting favorite stories, introducing students to new titles, and so much more.

Continue the fun at home by trying some of our favorite literacy based activities below.

Host a Book Swap

Invite a few of your child's friends over for a playdate book swap. Ask each family to bring a book they are finished reading, so the children can trade and experience new stories. Designate a theme for the event to encourage families to bring books of a specific topic, such as superheroes, animals, or springtime.

Participate in a Reading Challenge

Set a goal with your child to read a certain number of books this month or pledge to read every night at bedtime. You could even make a list of places you want to read together (i.e., in bed, outside, in the car, at the library). At the end of the month, celebrate your accomplishments.

Dress Up as Your Favorite Character

Dressing up as characters is a fun, hands-on way to connect with a book and bring the story to life. Some costumes you can create with materials found around your home include Alice in Wonderland, Clifford the Big Red Dog, Madeline, and Peter Rabbit.

Surprise Your Child with a New Book

Get your little one excited about Reading Month by adding a new book to their collection. Buy a book based off your child's current interests or take them to the store and let them pick out their own.



Celebrate
International
SPRING
Friendship
Month!



Culture Month

Dear Parents,

We have been learning about families and celebrations from The United States of America, as well as other countries and cultures. In the next couple of weeks, students will be exploring their own cultures as a special class project. As a culminating activity, students will have Culture Day on Friday, April 15th. The cultural projects from students' research will go on display in the classroom and you will be able to take a tour of our exhibits.

Now here comes the fun part! Food of course! On Culture Day, students are requested to bring in one food dish representative of their own culture. Please make sure that the dish does not need refrigeration and that it comes in a disposable tin/tray. Come prepared to enjoy food from different cultures and to learn about others in an engaging and exciting way. Here is a timeline of our projects so you and your child can be fully prepared:

1st Week of April- Students will do research in class about their culture and bring notes home to include in their assignments. Please send artifacts, costumes, instruments, ethnic artwork, and crafts that you may have around your home. Do not buy anything special!

2nd Week of April- Students will begin to work on their culture poster or brochure in the classroom.

3rd Week of April – a notice will be going home to find out what food item you can contribute to the Culture Feast.

April 15th – Culture Day! Please come join us in the classroom from 11am- to 2 pm.

If you have any questions, please email me at

Thank You



Let's Celebrate Holi on April 17th, 2022

**The Hosts: Sonia Jaigonin & Joshua Ramcharan
(Harry's Parents)**

Holi is a popular ancient Hindu festival, also known as the "Festival of Love", the "Festival of Colors" and the "Festival of Spring".^[1]The festival celebrates the eternal and divine love of Radha Krishna. Holi celebrates the arrival of spring, the end of winter, the blossoming of love and for many, it is a festive day to meet others, play and laugh, forget and forgive, and repair broken relationships.^[1]The festival also celebrates the beginning of a good spring harvest season. Like many festivals, Holi is celebrated differently by people of different faiths and backgrounds. What remains the same is the warmth and the spirit of this day.

Preparing for Holi
Choose your outfit.

On the day of the Holi celebration, people celebrate the end of winter and the coming of spring by showering each other with brightly colored powder and water. We will buy gulal (colored powder), which is a natural red-orange color made from the flowers of palash. The flowers are dried and ground to create a powdered color. We will also buy abeer, which is small crystal chips of mica that create a sparkly silver color. People frequently combine the two to create a fun red-orange sparkly colored powder.

- Red, pink, yellow, green and violet are the most used colors.
- Try a test patch on your wrist to check you aren't allergic to the chemicals in the colored powder, especially if you are celebrating it



for the first time. If you have sensitive skin or skin issues, we will buy organic colors that don't cause redness or itchiness.

- There are colors available that are made from rice flour and natural colorings. Look online to buy Holi colors for the festival.
- Spray colored water with pichkaris. A pichkari is a water gun to squirt colored water from as a fun way to celebrate Holi. Mix some of the colored powder with water and then add it to the pichkari. Use the pichkari to cover people with colored water and enjoy playing in the bright colors.



1. Please provide a dozen plastic eggs filled with individually wrapped soft and nut-free candies or chocolates.
2. Please give these eggs to the teachers on or before April 12th.
3. Please provide an Easter basket for your child to put the eggs.



**THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR ALL
YOUR SUPPORT!
SEE YOU ON THAT DAY!**

