

# Chesterbrook Academy Wayne

May 2023 Newsletter

## May is All About Teacher Appreciation!

**Teacher Appreciation Week is May 8-12.** This is a wonderful time to express our gratitude to our amazing teachers who work tirelessly to educate and care for our students each and every day. They are the heart and soul of our preschool, and we are so fortunate to have such a dedicated and talented team. To celebrate our amazing teachers, we have a special week planned that will be full of opportunities to show them some love for all of their hard work! **Check out more information below, under our "Reminders & Announcements" section.**

## Classroom Happenings



### Infants:

- Happy May! Can you believe it's almost summer? We are so excited to see what this month has to bring!
- Cinco de Mayo is May 5th and we will be making a fun footprint art project to celebrate!
- We love our mommies! May 14th is Mother's Day and "Mighty Moms" by Joan Holub is the perfect book for us to read as a class!
- Last but not least is Memorial Day! We will be making more fun crafts as a way to learn, explore, and celebrate. We can't wait to see what's in store for May!

### Young Tods:

- With some rain and some warmth, May 2023 is ready to shine upon us! Here's to a brighter, warmer, and happier month ahead! Cheers!!!

### Themes and Activities for the Month of May:

- Butterflies - Colours and flutters galore, it's the sprightly butterflies that our little tots are gonna explore. From creating the most colourful butterflies to watching them flit on flowers, lots of indoor and outdoor fun awaits around the corner   

- Mother's Day- It's time to get super creative and thoughtful as we design a gift made out of love, and gratitude, to express what she means to us! Here's to celebrating all the

Fabulous Mothers who make the world a better place to live each day! 🌸 🍷 🍷 🍷 🍷 🍷 🍷 But shhhhh🤫...don't tell this to her yet, for we want to surprise her! Love You, Mother, ❤️

- Dinosaurs- 🦖🦖🦖 Beware!!! Dino Warning ahead 🤖🤖🤖 🚫 ⚠️ In the coming days, you might be hearing a lot of roaring, stomping and screaming as you walk up and down the hallway! Keep your calm and don't be stunned... it is just our young tots exploring the mighty Dinosaurs in every possible way. From creating one to imitating the most ferocious dino, they will be having multifold fun!!!
- Memorial Day: It's not just an ordinary holiday, it's a day to honour those who sacrificed their lives for the country. Our little friends will pay their respect to all such extraordinary people who selflessly served the country through some thoughtfully designed and age-appropriate activities and lessons. 🚒🚒

### **Tods:**

"All things seem possible in May!"

– Edwin Way Teale

- 5/1 – We will begin the month of May with the theme "Garden." The students will be listening to the story, "The Tiny Seed" by Eric Carl and creating flowers using paint! We will be working on our fine motor skills by practicing holding a paint brush and dipping them into different colors of paint.
- 5/8 – This week we will be celebrating Mother's Day! We are looking forward to honoring all of the amazing mothers in our classroom and will be working hard on a special gift for them. Additionally, on Friday May 12th, we will be having "Donuts for Grown-ups." Don't forget to stop in during drop off and grab one! You all deserve one and so much more. Our theme this week will be "Insect." Our story will be "Bugs! Bugs! Bugs!" by Bob Barner. To continue with this theme, we will be creating a bumblebee out of different shapes and colors of construction paper.
- 5/15 – This week our theme will be "Butterflies." Our story will be the popular book, "A Very Hungry Caterpillar" by Eric Carl. We will be making a butterfly using paint and a paint brush. Students will choose their favorite colors to complete this project!
- 5/22 – Our theme this week will be "The Farm." The children will be listening to the story, "Noisy Farm" by Rod Campbell and creating a pig out of pink paint and construction paper. We will also be reviewing all of our favorite farm animals. The students love, love, love, learning new animals and their sounds!
- 5/29 – This week we are celebrating Memorial Day! We will be off 5/29 in observation and will return the following day 5/20. Our final theme for this month will be "Dinosaurs." The students love dinosaurs so they should especially enjoy this week and our story, "Dinosaurs Roar!" by Paul and Henrietta Stickland. For art, the students will be making a dinosaur footprint out of green paint.

### **B1:**

- We can't believe it is May already! We have some fun and exciting learning experiences planned for our class.
- Week 1: We will explore the world of bugs and learn about their colors, sounds, sizes and their habitat. We will read the book " Backyard Bugs" by Jill McDonald and bring out our magnifying glasses as we set out to observe some bugs in our school yard.
- Week 2: It's a very special week as we are thrilled to celebrate " Mother's Day". We will learn about mama animals and baby animals as we complete matching puzzles. We will

read "I've Loved You Since Forever" by Hoda Kotb and " Are You My Mother" by P.D. Eastman and talk about our beautiful bond we share with our moms.

- Week 3: This week we will learn about how Community Helpers are important to our community. We will explore the jobs and role of each community helper on how they create safe neighborhoods for us. We will read the book " Hello Hometown Heroes" by Toni Armier.
- Week 4: Our theme for this week is Ice cream. We will read the book " Should I Share My Ice Cream " by Mo Willems. Through this story we will reintroduce the concept of sharing.
- Week 5: With the Memorial Day holiday, our theme for this week is Beach. As we gear up for summer, we will read the book " Biscuit's First Beach Day" by Alyssa Satin Capucilli. We will also enhance our gross motor skills as we explore the Ocean and Sand sensory bin.
- We wish all the wonderful moms a Happy Mother's Day!!!

## **B2:**

April showers bring May flowers

-Our focus for this month will be on Memorial Day, dinosaurs, Mother's Day, and Bees.

- Week 1 - Our theme for the week will be dinosaurs. ROAR! Our classroom will be transformed into all things dinosaurs with a new center and sensory activities.
- Week 2- We're celebrating MOM (mother's day- May 14th) in full bloom. With all the rain our flowers have bloomed. Just in time to give to mom.
- Week 3- This week we are on bird watch. We will learn about different types of birds, their habitats, parts of a bird, and their characteristics and adaptations. While making our own bird feeders with your generous donations of paper towel/toilet paper rolls.
- Week 4-Memorial Day (May 29th) This week we will learn about Memorial Day while crafting flags for our class parade.
- Week 5- We are learning about Bees and the importance they have on our environment.

## **Intermediates:**

- Spring boarding upon our April themes of Weather and Insects, May flutters into the Intermediate classroom with a flurry of fun-filled learning activities!
- Our monthly theme centers around gardens and gardening. What does a seed need to grow? What are the parts of a plant? How do birds and insects help in our garden?
- We're planting flowers and vegetables. We're making bird feeders. We're scientifically monitoring and measuring our garden's growth progress. Hopefully, we'll have a vountiful harvest by summer's end!
- Of course, we continue our academic focus on language arts/literacy, writing skills and math/science as noted in your recent Child Service Report.
- But it's not all garden work and no play! We have a lot to celebrate this month! We're making our own colorful paper plate piñatas for Cinco de Mayo. There's a 'secret' flower bouquet in Mom's future! We're musically marching in our own Memorial Day Parade to John Philip Sousa's soundtrack!
- Parents, our Intermediate seedlings are blossoming into a rainbow of laugh filled learning and light filled life experiences!
- Family donations of: white coffee filters, colorful tissue paper and crepe paper streamers would be greatly appreciated this month.
- Thank you again for your continued support during Ms. Jen's absence

### **Pre-K:**

- Welcome May! We are kicking off this month with the Path 2 Math!!! We will be focusing on our number recognition, simple graphs, addition and subtraction, and even having a number Bingo day! Then we are taking in being citizens of the world! We will be examining different types of families, unique characteristics, exploring different languages of countries around the world, learning "hello!" in multiple languages, common community helpers, important people throughout history, what we consider important in life, and how important our families are! In the middle of the month, we are turning into literacy legends! We are reading a different book every day and pointing out the author, illustrator, narrator, and setting! We will practice our rhyming words, find out the difference between non-fiction and fiction, and make up our own stories and poems. Then we will become madddd scientistsssssssststs!!!! We are going over science safety, science tools, and different types of experiments. We are going to use our own rock tumbler (Thank you Ms. S!), make chemical reactions, change the color of flowers, and make an egg that actually bounces when it drops! Lastly, we will be going over the ways we grow! In April we went over the life stages of bugs, this month we are going over the life stages of us humans! We also are going to play a game of guess who! I will be asking parents to bring in a baby picture of each child, and then as a class we are going to see if we could guess who it is! Hears to another month with our Pre-K friends and families!

### **Pre-K 2:**

This school year is going by so fast! But I'm so excited about all the fun things I have planned for May!

- One of the first things we will be focusing on is life cycles! We will learn about all different kinds of bugs and animal's life cycles. We will be doing matching activities with them. Create our own life cycles for the animals and bugs. And looking at 3D diagrams for the life cycles!
- Then in preparation for Mother's Day be talking about the importance of family! We will discuss all the different kinds of families and why family is so important. We will also be using our journals to draw our families and write the names of everyone in our families! Then the best part of all...we will be making Mother's Day gifts for our moms!
- Next students will become math wizards! We are going to be going over all the fun math things like; sequencing, sorting, measuring, and making graphs!
- Then we are working on our reading and writing skills! We will go over opposite words and all the features that make a book a book. Listen to a story then draw and write our favorite part of the book. Then we will be trying our reading skills out with some early reader books!
- Lastly, students will be turning into scientists! We will be doing a new experiment every day of the week! We will make our own lava lamps, and test out the strength of different kinds of sunscreen. Then we will be doing a sink or float experiment, making coffee filter flowers using food dye and water, and lastly an experiment with a bag full of water and some pencils!

May here we come!

# Upcoming Events

## Donuts for Grown-Ups

### WHEN

Friday, May 12th, 7-9am

### WHERE

Our School

### MORE INFORMATION

In celebration of Mother's Day & to honor ALL of our wonderful parents, we will be holding Donuts for Grown-Ups on Friday, May 12th! We will have tasty treats for parents to enjoy during drop-off!

## Parent Teacher Conference Week

### WHEN

Monday, May 15th, 7:30am to Friday, May 19th, 5:30pm

### WHERE

Phone Call

### MORE INFORMATION

We will be offering our Spring Parent-Teacher Conferences **May 15th-19th**. Conferences will take place via phone call and last for approximately 15 minutes. Stay tuned for more information on how to sign up for a conference session with your child's teacher!

# School CLOSED for Memorial Day

## WHEN

Monday, May 29th, 7am-6pm

## WHERE

Our School

## MORE INFORMATION

We will be CLOSED in observance of Memorial Day on **Monday, May 29th**. Enjoy the holiday weekend!

## Reminders & Announcements

### Teacher Appreciation Week, May 8-12

We are SO excited to celebrate our amazing teaching staff this week, and we are asking for YOUR help! We have several opportunities for parents to participate in showering our teachers with some extra love:

#### Teacher Tote Bags

This week in our lobby, you will see tote bags hanging for each teacher in the building! If you have a special note or gift you would like to give to your teacher, drop it in their bag any time throughout the week!

#### Daily Classroom Treat of the Day:

For each of the 5 weekdays, we will be asking parents in each classroom to help out by signing up to participate Teacher Treat of the Day! Our themes this year are:

- **Muffin Monday** (Infants & Young Toddlers Parents)  
link for Infants & Young Tods parents to sign up for an item:  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F48AAAB2FA6FBC34-muffin1>
- **Salty Tuesday** (Toddlers Parents)  
link for Toddlers parents to sign up for an item:  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F48AAAB2FA6FBC34-salty1>
- **Pizza Party Wednesday** (Beginners 1 & Beginners 2 Parents)  
link for B1&B2 parents to sign up for an item:  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F48AAAB2FA6FBC34-pizza>
- **Lunch Bunch Thursday** (Intermediates Parents)  
link for Intermediates parents to sign up for an item:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F48AAAB2FA6FBC34-lunch>

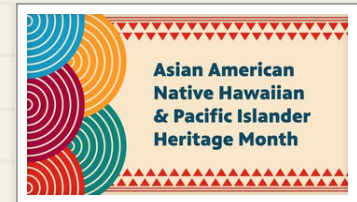
- **Frozen Treat Friday** (Pre-K & Pre-K 2 Parents)

link for Pre-K & Pre-K 2 parents to sign up for an item:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F48AAAB2FA6FBC34-frozen>

Thank you SO MUCH for helping us celebrate all of the love, hard work, and dedication our teachers give every day here at Chesterbrook Academy!

## Asian American Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander (AANHPI) Month



May is Asian American, Native Hawaiian, & Pacific Islander (AANHPI) Heritage Month. Many people use the month to recognize the contributions and influence of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders to the history, culture, and achievements of the United States while celebrating their heritages. Did you know that approximately 24 million people in the United States identify as Asian with 1.6 million identifying as Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, or a combination? That's a LOT of people!

**Here are some resources parents can use to celebrate & honor AANHPI Heritage Month with their young learners:**

- Boys & Girls Club of America:

[https://www.bgca.org/news-stories/2023/February/10-ways-to-celebrate-aapi-heritage-month-with-kids-and-](https://www.bgca.org/news-stories/2023/February/10-ways-to-celebrate-aapi-heritage-month-with-kids-and-teens#:~:text=May%20is%20Asian%20American%20Native,with%20kids%20across%20the%20nation.)

[teens#:~:text=May%20is%20Asian%20American%20Native,with%20kids%20across%20the%20nation.](https://www.bgca.org/news-stories/2023/February/10-ways-to-celebrate-aapi-heritage-month-with-kids-and-teens#:~:text=May%20is%20Asian%20American%20Native,with%20kids%20across%20the%20nation.)

*This site details the history & significance of AANHPI Heritage Month (including the name change back in 2021) and lists a variety of activities families can participate in together to celebrate!*

- Care.com:

<https://www.care.com/c/teach-kids-asian-american-pacific-islander-heritage-month/>

*This site gives creative ideas for activities to celebrate AANHPI Heritage Month!*

- AsianPacificHeritage.gov:

<https://asianpacificheritage.gov/about/>

*This site goes in-depth on the history and significance of AANHPI Heritage Month & provides a wealth of further resources to study!*



## A Special Announcement!

We are thrilled to announce that our very own **Ms. Brynne is expecting!** We are absolutely ecstatic to celebrate her pregnancy and cannot wait to meet the newest member of our Chesterbrook family, who will be arriving in **July 2023!** Congratulations, Ms. Brynne!

## Links 2 Home Message Response Time

We are pleased to hear that many of you have been enjoying the ability to communicate directly with your child's teacher through the direct message function of our Links 2 Home app. While our teachers strive to respond to messages as quickly as possible, please keep in mind that they are primarily focused on caring for and educating their students during school hours. Teachers will make every effort to respond as soon as they are able. **As always, for urgent or time-sensitive matters, please call us at 610-296-7200 option 2.** *Please avoid utilizing the number listed on Google, as this will direct you to our admissions office.*

## Vacation Credit & Hiatus Reminders

Summer will be here before you know it! Let us know if you are planning on using your **vacation credit**. Please remember:

- Vacation credits require **two weeks' written notice** in order to be utilized
- Credits reset on July 1st.

If you are taking a **hiatus** for the summer, please note:

- We require a 30-day (4 week) notice for a hiatus date
- We will require a specified **return date** before we can place your child on hiatus in order to maintain their spot on our roster.

## Shoe Policy

With the weather warming up, we wanted to give a reminder to all families that **open-toed shoes are not permitted to be worn during the school day**. This is a licensing regulation that we must follow strictly. We recommend the following closed-toed shoe options for warm weather:

- Sneakers
- Crocs (with the strap down to secure the shoe to the ankle)
- Native Shoes (Jefferson Slip-On Sneaker) or Keen Shoes



- Any other close-toed shoe

Please let us know if you have any questions!

## Cubby Clothes Reminders

As the weather is warming up, remember to change out your child's spare cubby clothes accordingly! As a reminder, we recommend all children have extras of the following clothing items in their cubbies:

- Shirts
- Pants
- Undies
- Socks
- Shoes

## Sunscreen & Water Bottles!

With the weather warming up, we want to be totally prepared! Here are some quick reminders about sunscreen and water bottles during the warm weather months:

### Sunscreen:

- Please provide at least one bottle of unopened, unexpired, liquid or stick sunscreen to be kept at school for your child to utilize during the spring/summer.
- Sunscreen sprays are not permitted.
- Sunscreen must be applied **at home** before school in the mornings. Teachers will re-apply sunscreen to students in the afternoon.
- All sunscreen must be labeled & signed with our sunscreen stickers (available in the lobby). **We cannot apply sunscreen that has not been properly labeled.**

### Water Bottles:

- You may provide a reusable water bottle for your child to bring outside during trips to the playground.
- Plastic, single-use water bottles are not permitted.
- All water bottles must be **labeled clearly** with your child's name.
- Please remember to **bring the reusable bottle already filled with water.**

Please feel free to let us know if you have any questions!

## Toys from Home

As a friendly reminder, we typically ask that all families **refrain from sending toys from home to school**. Students are permitted to have **one soft toy** to utilized at **naptime only**, and

otherwise be kept in their cubby. Toys or other objects from home such as action figures, cars, trains, books etc. are not permitted, as they can be lost/broken/cause classroom disagreement.

Thank you for your flexibility!

## Parking Lot Announcements

As many of you know, our parking lot is going to be seal-coated in the coming weeks! We are very excited to be partnering with Pickett Post to give our lot a mini-makeover. We have been informed that **Friday, May 12th** will be a prep day for the seal-coating, which will involve the lots being cleaned & power washed. The coating and line-striping will start on Saturday, **May 13th** and will take approximately 4 days. **With this in mind, we feel that it is a good time to provide a reminder of our parking lot etiquette guidelines!**

We understand that our parking lot is small and can become very busy. With this being said, engaging in a community culture of respect is of the utmost importance here at our school. Please remember the following when entering and exiting the parking lots:

- Please watch your speed & take turns **slowly**
- You should enter the parking lot and follow the right side of the traffic circle to find your spot & follow the same path to exit
- Remember to **double check all blind spots and rear-view mirror** for little ones as they are tiny but quick!
- Please remember to **hold your child(ren)'s hands and help them practice safe choices** as well (stop, look both ways, etc.)
- Please **avoid parking in front of the dumpsters** and/or in designated Pickett Post parking spaces.
- Please remember to be **courteous of doors** when taking time to buckle your little ones in
- **Always turn your car off** while you are in the building with your child
- And most importantly, please **be respectful** and communicate with others in a productive manner

We understand that everyone is busy and that it can be tough during crowded moments, but please take your time, be respectful, be helpful, and reach out as always with any questions or suggestions.

## Local Activities: Devon Horse Show

The Devon Horse Show runs from May 25th to June 4th!

We are lucky to have the horse show in our "backyard" - Ms. Sarah goes every year with her kids! The lemon sticks and rides



are a favorite of her daughters, Charlotte and Juliette, but she loves getting herself an ice cream and watching the horses.

If you go to the horse show this year, take a picture of yourself there & share it with us via Tadpoles. We would love to see you supporting our local community and having fun!

For more information, check out this link: <https://www.devonhorseshow.net/>

## 2023-2024 School Year Calendar

Our calendar for the 23-24 school year is officially available! You can find printed copies in the lobby, as well as a PDF version available on our website. Please note that calendar dates are subject to change, and we will keep you informed of any updates accordingly.

You can find the calendar online at this link:

<https://www.chesterbrookacademy.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2023/04/2023-2024-calendar-wayne.pdf>






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