# Chesterbrook Academy Wayne

March 2024 Newsletter

#### **A Spring Poem**

MARCH 19th 2024! It's Spring officially!!!

Trees bursting with buds so bright Birds searching for nesting and perching sites The days are getting better and longer Awakening little creatures from their winter slumber As one Could mildly feel the warmth of sunlight It's time to exult and rejoice The celebration of life has just begun 'T's official, Spring has sprung!

~Kokil Yogesh~

# **Upcoming Events**

#### **Event Information**

"Rock Your Socks" for World Down Syndrome Day

**World Down Syndrome Day is Thursday, March 21st.** This day is a global awareness day which has been officially observed by the United Nations since 2012. The date for WDSD being the 21st day of the 3rd month, was selected to signify the uniqueness of the triplication (trisomy) of the 21st chromosome which causes Down syndrome. In commemoration of this day, we challenge our CBA family to "rock their socks" by wearing fun, wacky, mismatched, or otherwise crazy-cool socks to school!

For more resources & ways to spread awareness on WDSD, check out this link: <u>https://www.dsdiagnosisnetwork.org/wdsd-resources</u>

# **Reminders & Announcements**

## **March Teacher Appreciation**

This month, Teacher Appreciation will be on **Wednesday, March 20th**. To sign up for an item, check out the link below:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F48AAAB2FA6FBC34-47992774-march



# Women's History Month

March is **Women's History Month** – a month dedicated to honoring and celebrating the contributions women have made to American history and society. Each year the National Women's History Alliance chooses a theme for Women's History Month. Previous

themes have included "Women Taking the Lead to <u>Save Our Planet</u>"(2009) and "Celebrating Women in <u>STEM</u>" (2013). The theme for 2020 and 2021 is "Valiant Women of the Vote." (<u>Learn about the</u> <u>fight for the right to vote</u>.) And the theme for 2024 is "Women Who Advocate for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion." The theme recognizes women who speak up and are leading change in their fields.

For more resources on Women's History Month, check out these links below:

- National Geographic Kids: <u>https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/history/article/womens-history-month</u>
- KidsConnect:
  <u>https://kidskonnect.com/articles/womens-history-month-for-kids/</u>
- PBS Kids (for book recommendations):
  <u>https://www.pbs.org/parents/thrive/childrens-books-to-celebrate-womens-history-month</u>

# **Read Across America Week**

Read Across America Week is March 2nd-6th! Read Across America is an annual reading motivation and awareness program that calls for every child, everywhere to celebrate reading on March 2nd, the birthday of the spectacular children's author Dr. Seuss! Join us in celebrating with fun reading and activities throughout this



week. In the words of Dr. Seuss himself, "The more that you **read**, the more things you will **know**. The more that you learn, the **more places you'll go**!"

# 24-25 Re-Enrollment Deadline

The deadline to re-enroll your student(s) for the 24-25 School Year is **March 14th.** If we do not have your re-enrollment letter of intent by this time, **your child will automatically be withdrawn from our school program on August 30th, 2024 and your spot will go to the next family on our waitlist.** 

Please be sure to confirm your re-enrollment ASAP!

# 2024 Summer Camp Program

**Our 2024 Summer Camp program will run from June 17th to August 23rd**! We're committed to making summer extra special for our youngest students because we understand that these summer memories are cherished for a lifetime. As an extension of our Links 2 Learning program, we introduce on-campus events and additional fun activities designed for **children ages 1 to 5**.

### Campus Events may include:

- Reptile Show
- Magic Show
- Fire Truck Visit
- Carnival
- Splash Days
- Interactive Music Show

#### One-Time Activity Fees:

- Toddlers: \$50
- Beginner \$65
- Intermediate: \$85
- Pre-K: \$85

# **Important: New Summer Hiatus Policies**

If you are planning on taking a **hiatus** (an absence of three weeks or more) from our program for any portion of the summer either to explore other camp programs, take an extended vacation, please take note of the following:

- We require a 30-day (4 week) written 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.
- Families are required to pay the annual \$80 registration fee when returning from a hiatus.
- For this summer, students on hiatus may return <u>no sooner than September 3rd</u>, with the start of our school year. Children returning from hiatus will be permitted to stop by on Friday,
  August 30th for an optional cubby set-up. Cubby set-up will last no more than 10 minutes.

# **Illness Policy Reminder**

Families assist us in maintaining a safe and healthy environment for all our Children by keeping sick Children at home. The purpose of our sick child policy is to:

- Reduce the spread of illness from a sick Child to other Children.
- Promote complete recuperation of the sick Child.
- Prevent the constant spread of cold, flu and diarrhea and other communicable diseases such as COVID-19 that are common among small children.

**We reserve the right to refuse admittance to any student who shows a sign of illness.** Children who become ill at school will be made comfortable and Families will be notified to pick them up within one hour. Families must keep sick Children at home until they have been symptom-free for at least 24 hours (excluding Covid diagnosis) if they display any of the following:

- Fever of 100.4 degrees or more. Children must be free of fever for at least 24 hours, unassisted by fever-reducing medication before returning to school.
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Heavy nasal discharge requiring frequent wiping every 3-5 minutes
- Persistent, non-productive or "barking" cough
- Sore throat
- Fussy, cranky behavior unlike the Child's normal demeanor
- Skin rashes or lesions, including diaper rash
- Head lice
- Symptoms of a communicable disease such as pink eye, measles, chicken pox, mumps, or strep throat

In addition to our illness policy, we request that families inform the school <u>promptly</u> in the event that your child has received a specific diagnosis of a <u>contagious illness</u> from a pediatrician so that the school may follow the appropriate protocols & procedures based on such a diagnosis.

Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our school community safe!

# Parking Lot Safety Reminder

It has been brought to our attention that we may need some friendly reminders regarding parking lot safety. 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 upmost 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.)
- Never leave a child unattended in a car
- 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.

Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our community safe!

# Vacation Credit, Hiatus, & Withdraw Reminders

If you are traveling, 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.
- Credits can only be utilized for a Monday-Friday absence. If a child is present for any portion of the week, regular tuition will apply.
- New students must be enrolled for 6 months to be eligible for a vacation credit.
- Students who have taken **a recent hiatus** will need to wait **6 months** to be eligible for a vacation credit.

If you are taking a hiatus, please note:

- We require a 30-day (4 week) written 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.

If you are planning to withdraw your child from our program:

• Withdraws require a **30-day (4 week) written notice** in order for your enrollment deposit to be credited towards your final week's tuition.

## Winter Cubby Refresh

The winter season is here. Please be sure to dress you child accordingly, including hats & mittens. Also, be sure that your child has extra clothes available in their cubby that is suitable for winter weather. This is a great time to check sizes, too!

## 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-calendarwayne.pdf

# Classroom Happenings

#### Infants:

Happy March!! This month is going to bring lots of fun and lots of luck! We will celebrate St. Patrick's Day, the first day of Spring, Easter, and more! For St. Patty's, the infants will create a four leaf clover using their cute little handprints, green paint, and construction paper! To welcome in Spring, we will create some beautiful fork flowers using paint, forks of course, and paper! For Easter, we will get into the spirit by making our very own footprint Peeps candies!! We can't wait for this month and all of the fun it will bring!

#### Young Tods:

Yayyy!! Its time to celebrate LIFE again as we will be officially marching into March 2024

Let's welcome Spring together, little friends and us! From colourful activities to loads of outdoor fun, ready or not, here we come

#### RAINBOWS!!

Colourful, sprightly and vibrant, a rainbow is just like our little friends exuding galore cheerfulness! Young tods are going to celebrate the onset of March with all things colours. They will be creating the most beautiful rainbows to adorn the CBA skies *for form* 

#### HOLI HAI!!!!

Continuing the colourful merriment, our little friends will splash into a learning puddle to explore all about HOLI, a festival of colours, all the way from India! It's the most vivacious festival and has gained popularity around the world in bringing people of different cultures together!

"A person is a person, no matter how big or small"

~ Dr Suess

Young tods will commemorate Dr Suess who made reading so much fun for all little ones across the globe! His immense contribution to the literary world will be celebrated year after year.

#### Tods:

We are saying goodbye to the month of February and we are saying Hello to March!!!!!! We are going to be discussing the following topics this month:

3/4-8: Lions

3/11-15: Lambs

3/18-22: Shamrocks 3/25-29: Bunnies and Chicks

We will be reading books about March coming in like a lion and going out like a lamb, Shamrocks, and bunnies and chicks. We will be doing sensory activities with painting, gluing different objects to paper to create a lion, lamb, and so much more. We will also be talking about the different seasonal changes (how windy it is) during the month of March!!!

#### **B1**:

With the days getting longer, Spring is just around the corner!!! We leap into March with a renewed sense of excitement as we learn new topics and themes.

Week 1: We begin the month remembering the birthday of the iconic "Dr Seuss". We will read his classic "The Cat In The Hat" and engage in reading activities of his wonderful books throughout the week.

Week 2: Happy St Patrick's Day!!! We will learn all about the Irish holiday, clovers, shamrocks, pot of gold and catch those sneaky little Leprechauns. We will read the book "Ten Lucky Leprechauns" by Kathryn Heling and Deborah Hembrook.

We will be hosting a green theme food party on March 15th, please look out for the sign up sheet in the classroom.

Week 3: It's the "First Day of Spring" on March 19th. We will learn about the change of seasons, all things Spring, flowers, rain and rainbows. We will read the book "Little Cloud" by Eric Carle.

Week 4: As winter recedes and Spring sets forth, Bunnies will appear everywhere this time of year. This week we will learn about Bunnies and read the book "It's Not Easy Being a Bunny" by Marilyn Sadler. We will also include music and movement into our routine as we learn the bunny hop dance.

#### **B2**:

Welcome to March! We are so excited to see Spring is here! We will be talking about Spring and looking for signs of Spring. We will talk about sports as we welcome back baseball and we will even touch base on March Madness as we try to be hoop stars outside on the playground. Then we will look for the Blarney Stone as we try to catch that pesty little leprechaun. Look into our room to find a rainbow and pots of gold! We might even catch

have a few 4 leaf clovers for Good Luck!

Our books this month will include:

Week #1 ~ 'Gilberto and the Wind' by Marie Hall Ets - we will surely be outside trying to feel the wind on our faces as we enjoy the sunshine!

Week #2~ 'Little Cloud' By Eric Carle- This week your child will learn about clouds, look at clouds and create their very own clouds!

Week #3~ 'Kite Flying' by Gracee Lin - will have the children decorating kites and watching videos of people flying kites!

Week #4~ 'Rabbits and Raindrops' by Jim Arnosky - Thus week we will be counting raindrops and

Please look for Our St. Patrick's day Party sign up sheet ~ we are hoping to make this a very green party!

Some reminders.

\*Check your child's extra clothing are they weather appropriate, and the correct size! \*please label all items brought to school

\* we have limited cubby space, please only bring items needed and one bag for nap items

\*If you would like to contribute to our Spring sensory bin we are looking for all things Spring- Fake flowers, rainbows and fun friendly items to place where the children can play with them!

#### Intermediates:

In the month of March we will be talking about alot of fun things. First we will talk about dr. Seuss and celebrate his birthday and share our favorite dr. Seuss books. Since spring is here, we will talk about what happens during the spring time, we will go back outside and enjoy the spring weather, we will also make different sensory bottles with different things based around spring. like flowers, grass, water etc. then we will get into animals we will talk about the animals that are under sea and the ones that are at the zoo!

#### Pre-K:

March Madness! Feels like this year is flying by! This month we are going to take some time to reflect on some time of the past! First we will be examining Inventors through time! We are going to find out who invented things we use almost every day like cars, stop light, and telephones! Next, Lets Go Girls! It's woman's history month! We are going to learn all about some really influential women throughout history! Malala Yousafzai was the youngest person to earn a Nobel Peace.

Then it's our lucky day! St Patrick's Day! We will learn all about this Holiday and maybe even have some tricks played on us Clastly, we will be going over the change of the seasons! We will review all four seasons, and take an extra good look into spring! This is when we learn all about bumble bees and how important they are! 🕸

#### Pre-K 2:

During the month of March we will learn a bunch of new and exciting things!

Throughout the month we will be talking about how March is Women's History Month and learn about all the important women that helped shape the world and our country to be better and do better.

We will also be talking about St Patrick's day! We will learn all about the holiday, like how it became a holiday and how we can celebrate it. We will also be doing a shamrock letter scavenger hunt!

We will learn about our new letters of the month "S" and "Y"! We will learn the sounds they make, what words start with them, and if they are vowels or consonants.

We will then talk about rainbows and clouds! We will learn how rainbows are formed, the order the

clouds and when we see those clouds in the sky what they mean.

Lastly we will be focusing on our math skills! We will do some simple math problems using objects around the class and even take home some math and number worksheets so that everyone's math skills stay strong!

March here we come!

# **Chesterbrook Academy, Wayne**

Sarah Guest, Principal sarah.guest@chesterbrookacademy.com

Website: https://www.chesterbrookacademy.com/preschools/philadelphia/w ayne/ Location: 1560 Bradford Road, Wayne, PA, USA Phone: (610)-926-7200



Valerie Vecchione

Valerie is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters