



MudPies Matters

May 2006



Working Together for a Great Start

...From the Director's Chair

HOT FUN in the SUMMER TIME! That is exactly what we have here at MudPies. The warm weather is great. What better time to get outside and enjoy the wonder of nature all around. There is nothing better than sitting outside with a cool Mountain Dew, a good book and some hot rays beaming down on you. What a fun way to relax and enjoy the season. Whew, I'm sweating just thinking about it!

Summers are also fun, exciting and very, very busy here at MudPies. Don't be surprised to come in and find an empty front desk because Cheryl, Tiffany and myself all agree it is more fun playing outside with the children than answering phones or doing paperwork! Please be on the lookout for your **SUMMER FUN CLUB** packet. This will detail all the fun your Circus Tyke, Dino-Myte, Ocean Diver, Jungle Explorer and Space Traveler will have during the months of June, July and August.

Please take time to read all the information in your packet and sign all permission slips and get all fees in on time! We do not want your child to miss out on any of the fun events and activities taking place.

Well it is time to say goodbye for a while. During June, July and August we take a break with our monthly newsletters. So this means it will be **VERY, VERY** important to keep your eyes and ears open for any and all notes, memos or verbal reminders from your child's class. A **BIG, BIG** thank you to Micki Bryan and Trina Chery. Both of these moms unselfishly gave of their time organizing and typing our newsletters. Your time and dedication is greatly, greatly appreciated. As fall arrives we will kick off the new school year with our first 2006-2007 newsletter-so until then **HAPPY SUMMER!**

WISHING YOU ALL A SAFE, BLESSED AND EXCITING SUMMER, FULL OF WONDERFUL FAMILY MEMORIES! ☺

Sandy



Quote of the Month:

...Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap, but by the seeds you plant.
ROBERT LOUIS STEPHENSON (1850-1894) Scottish Writer

Upcoming Events - Mark Your Calendars Now!

May 11	CLASS and GRADUATION Portraits
May 20	SPRING FLING
June 6	JUNGLE and SPACE GRADUATION
June 5-9	TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

It's here! It's finally here!

SPRING FLING 2006 has been scheduled for **Saturday, May 20, 2006**. The fun and festivities will be held at Poplar Springs Church of Christ in King, NC. The time is from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. The fun includes a DJ with dancing and music, a hotdog lunch, pony rides, face painting, Tumble w/ Care and many more games and activities! Bring your blankets and lawn chairs and be prepared for your family to have a great time and make some lifelong memories.

All you need to do to be a part of this once-a-year fun event is to sign your family up at the front desk and pay your \$8.00 fee. That's it, only \$8.00 for your entire family to enjoy all this fun and **THIS INCLUDES LUNCH!!!**. Make sure you sign up now so you won't miss out! **EVERYONE MUST BE REGISTERED AND PAID BY WEDNESDAY MAY 15.**

MudPies 2006 Graduation

Jungle Explorers / Space Travelers

You are cordially invited to attend the **MudPies Jungle and Space Graduation Ceremony**. The date is **Tuesday, June 6**. The program begins at 7:00pm at Pinedale Christian Church (on Peters Creek Parkway). Directions will be provided at the front desk. The ceremony will include a program presented by the Jungle and Space children, as well as the diploma presentation. Come wish our graduates "GOOD LUCK" as they get ready to move into the next stage of their young lives!

THEME / PROP BOXES:

Hey parents – we are still in need of items for our THEME / PROP BOXES! Please see the list of the themes and suggested items needed for each theme. The teachers have enjoyed utilizing the completed ones so far and we would love to have all of them completed by the end of this year. If you have any questions about these boxes please see one of us in the office! Your contributions and donations are greatly appreciated in advance!

CURRICULUM KITS / THEME BOXES

Help
Wanted

- 🌀 **WHO:** MudPies' families who are willing to donate items that will enhance the growth and development of our children.
- 🌀 **WHY:** The items are needed for our CURRICULUM KITS/THEME BOXES. The kits are collections of different items that teachers and children can use to enhance their weekly lessons and activities. Each box/kit will contain items that relate to the theme for the week. Having real objects helps to enrich and bring to life the theme or focus for the children. There are a total of 34 themes/boxes we want to have available for the teachers to use.
- 🌀 **WHAT:** Used (in good condition) or newly purchased toys, items, and books. You may drop off the items at the front desk.

**THIS IS AN IMPORTANT TOOL FOR THE TEACHERS AND THE CHILDREN
SO WHATEVER YOU DONATE WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED!**

Most of the kits will consist of universal items such as books, puzzles, puppets, posters, games, movies/educational videos, stamps, sponges, soft plastic objects and music CDs. However all items need to relate to a specific theme or topic. Below is a list of specific items that relate directly to a theme.

Again, please note that any and all items are greatly appreciated and will benefit the children and their teachers.



FARM/PETS: plastic/soft animals, vet jacket, food bowl, pet collars, toy farm equipment, bib overalls, play barn and fence



TRANSPORTATION/DINOSAURS: plastic cars, boats, trains, street signs, road/rug mat, train set, dino eggs, habitat carpet, masks, picture/fact sheet



ZOO/SPACE: same as farm/pets, fact cards, toy spaceship, astronaut figures and suit, moon rocks plastic stars, globe and or planets



SESAME STREET/SPORTS: character puppets, different balls, certificate/awards, water bottles, stopwatch, rackets, jump ropes, bats, helmets, foam paddles



NURSERY RHYMES/FAIRY TALES: puppets, puppet stage, flannel board cut outs



SCHOOL & FRIENDS/FAMILIES: multi cultural people, playhouse, chalk, ruler, book bag, dolls, picture cards



FALL/4 SEASONS: Halloween items, cats, pumpkins, fall clothing, leaves, pine cones, pictures, apples, acorns, rain stick, all weather clothing



NUTRITION/5 SENSES: toothbrush, giant tooth model, plastic/soft toy food, posters, picture cards, kaleidoscope, magnifier tripod, magnifying glasses, magnets, sound shakers, different pieces of textured material, binoculars, scratch-n-stiff stickers, flashlight



THANKSGIVING/FEELINGS: Indian corn, Indian head-dress, rain stick, tee-pee, pilgrim hats / clothing and figures, model ship (similar to Mayflower), mirrors, pictures of different facial expressions (sad, happy, crying, angry etc.)



CHRISTMAS & other CULTURAL HOLIDAYS/WINTER: menorah, dreidel, Kwanzaa candle holder, candles, bells, Santa outfit, African instruments, gloves, mittens, scarves, toboggans/hats, plastic or cloth, snowflakes, rubber boots, packing peanuts (pretend snow), ice trays



COMMUNITY HELPERS: fire hat, stethoscope, tooth-brushes, doctors/lab coat, gloves, first aid kit, construction hat, safety glasses, small toy - fire truck ambulance, police car, police hat and badge, ruler, small bell



CIRCUS: popcorn box, stuffed circus animals, hula hoops, top hat, mega phone tutus, cotton (cotton candy)

STAFF STUFF

Congratulations!!

The MudPies staff continues to excel in many ways one of which is achieving PERFECT ATTENDANCE! This helps teach the children about consistency and stability. Keep up the good work guys! A BIG pat on the back to you all!

The following staff had Perfect Attendance during the month of April:

Lillian Moody	Sally Bender
Tiffani Hannah	Brandi Inzar
Cynthia Joyner	Kat Johnson
Arkisha Bennett	Carla Reid
Gina Brooks	Donese Gaskins
Ashley Pinkston	Pat Toney
Chrissy Choplin	Michelle Stewart
Linda Bertman	Carlatta Miller
Millicent Hawkins	Adrienne Williams
Stacy Marts	Peggy Conrad
Tiffany Fuller	Sandy Weaver
Cheryl Smith	Wilson Carrillo

Happy Anniversary

Peggy Conrad	General Floater	May 7	8 years
Traci Edmond	Baby Bears	May 14	5 years

Thanks Peggy and Traci for your years of service, commitment, and dedication to MudPies!



***Your efforts,
Your time,
Your devotion,
YOU
make such a difference!***

Happy Birthday to . . .



Traci Edmond – Baby Bears – May 31

Teacher of the Quarter



Congratulations to Ms. Adrienne and Ms. Peggy. They're our first *2006 Teacher of the Quarter* (January -March) recipients. Ms. Adrienne is our Jungle teacher and Ms. Peggy, our floater, has been teaming with her until a new teacher is hired. Below is an excerpt from the winning nomination:

“ Ms. Adrienne has done a wonderful job with the children only having been with us since February. She has been a strong and stable teacher during all the transitions. Ms. Peggy stepped right up to the plate during yet another transition and has also been a strong force in keeping stability in the Jungle room. It is obvious to see they both really enjoy interacting with the children.”

Way to go Ms. Adrienne and Ms. Peggy!

Hats off also to the other first quarter nominees:

- Ms. Pat and Ms. Chrissy – Dino-Mytes
- Ms. Millicent – Circus Tykes

Remember our 2nd quarter began on April 1st. Please be on the lookout for that special teacher/employee that goes above and beyond their normal expectations. You can submit your nominations to Sarah McCollum, the front office, or via e-mail!



MudPAC

PAC Particulars

Welcome Leigh Anne Miller- The 2006-2007 MudPac Chairman

Thank you to the MudPAC committee members for a fun and rewarding year. I've enjoyed serving as the MudPAC chairman and look forward to supporting Leigh Anne next year. The parents at MudPies are terrific and your support of the center and the children are amazing.

Welcome back Micki Bryan as the newsletter chairman. Trina Chery did a fantastic job this year preparing our newsletter.

Interested in computers? The webmaster position is open for the 2006-2007 school year. Please contact Leigh Anne Miller or Sandy with questions.

Sarah McCollum
Chairman

May MudPAC Meeting

MudPAC's ninth meeting for the 2005-2006 year is Tuesday May 9th at 12:00. The meeting will be held in the 6th floor board room. Check in with the security guard who will issue you a guest pass. Don't forget you can stop by the cafeteria and bring your lunch to the meeting. You can park at MudPies and walk to the GMAC building.

MudPAC meetings are open to all the parents of MudPies. Please plan to join us for the monthly PAC meeting.

1st Quarter Teachers of the Quarters

Congratulations to Ms Adrienne and Ms Peggy

- ❖ I would like to vote for Ms. Adrienne of the Jungle classroom. I think she has done a wonderful job with the children since she has been there. I also believe that she is a strong person to have in Jungle right now with all the transitions which have happened. I see she really enjoys interacting with the children. I would like to see Ms. Adrienne receive the Teacher of the Quarter.
- ❖ I would like to second the nomination for Ms. Adrienne. Recently my daughter made some bad choices for herself in the classroom. Ms. Adrienne discussed these issues with me in private and out of the children's presence and in a way that would not embarrass my child in front of her classmates. I think Ms. Adrienne's actions show a tremendous amount of respect for my daughter and her feelings. She's a real class act!!
- ❖ Ms Peggy has done a fantastic job filling in the Jungle Classroom during the last few months. She has helped Ms Adrienne with the children and remains a constant for our children.

Ms. Pat, Ms. Chrissy and Ms. Millicent received nominations for Teacher of the Quarter. Thanks for all that you do.

March 2006 Unsung Hero

Congratulations to **Frances Beasley** - Our March Unsung Hero. Frances was nominated for her efforts in chairing the *Art to Remember* fundraiser. The project was fun for the children and created memories for a lifetime. Thank you, Frances.

Sharique & Jamall Scott and Lara & Scott Carpenter-thank you for your support of our classroom- you are always there when needed.

Ms Carla, Ms Angel, and Ms Gina

Submit your nomination for the April Unsung Hero by Monday May 12th by visiting www.mudpieschilddevelopment.org :MudPAC:Unsung Hero or sending an email to mpadmin@nwcde.org



We Want You To Receive MudPies Email

Join the MudPies email distribution list

1. Send an email to mudpiesparents-subscribe@yahogroups.com
2. You will receive a confirmation message – Reply to this email by clicking “ Reply” and then “ Send”
3. You are added to the email list and will begin receiving important information from MudPAC and the MudPies Staff

The email distribution list will be used to send volunteer opportunities and other MUDPAC information to the MudPies family.

Need to contact all the parents on the MudPAC distribution list? Send an email to mudpiesparents@yahogroups.com

MudPAC (continued)

Pac Mission

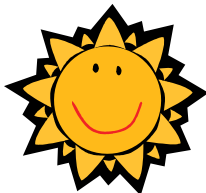
To involve parents and ensure that MudPies remains a distinctive, premier, and safe preschool facility for our children and their teachers.

MudPAC Committees

Meet our committee chairman and join one of the teams. MudPAC has four committees that plan and coordinate events and activities for the 2005-2006 year. All parents are encouraged to join one of the committees and support MudPAC.

Events	Sharon DeMaria - Chairman
FundRaiser	Leigh Ann Miller -Chairman
Facilities	Matt Warman -Chairman
Parent Involvement	Susan Boyles - Chairman

Name	Class Rep
Elizabeth Cobb	Bears
Cynthia Davis	Bears
Sharon Demaria	Y Ducks
Stephanie Hamby	Y Ducks
Leigh Anne Miller	O Ducks
Teresa Armstrong	Pandas
Susan Boyles	Penguins
Heather Bumgarner	Penguins
Deb Halvorsen	Circus
Kelly Creasy	Circus
	Dinos
Claressa Davis	Dinos
Lori Elder	Ocean
Melody Meyers	Ocean
Katie Parvin	Space
Matt Warman	Space
Melissa Lloyd	Jungle
Trina Chery	Jungle



Events Committee

Teacher's Snack Day schedule:

May 23 Ocean Divers June 27 Circus Tykes

The time has gone by fast and we only have a month left before we take a summer break. The Events Committee still has a couple of things left to close out this school year. First there is the Spring Fling. It will be held on Saturday, May 20th from 10-2. We are very excited about this event and hope everyone will be able to come. There will also be an opportunity for parents to help. We will post a signup sheet in the coming weeks asking for volunteers for various items as well as help. So mark your calendars and look for more details about the Spring Fling in your child's folder in the coming weeks.

The other event that we will be sponsoring is *Teacher Appreciation Week*. This event will be held **June 5-9**. Again, look for more information about the event in the coming weeks.



The Events Committee wants to thank everyone for their participation in all the events this past 'school' year and looks forward to starting back in the Fall.

Remember - May 20th MudPies Annual Spring Fling

Sharon

Parent Involvement Committee



CONGRATULATIONS TO DINOMYTES!!! The Dino parents logged the most volunteer hours this quarter. They had 5.875 hours per child. Wow – that's a new record!!! The class will get \$25 to buy new books. (In case you're wondering how they did it, they had LOTS of parents go with them on field trips.) Penguins came in second with 4.324 hours per child. Older Ducks was a close third with 3.9 volunteer hours per child.

A new quarter started on April 1. All classes have a lot of opportunities for you to volunteer -- whether it's going on a field trip (many classes will be going on field trips this summer), helping with PAC activities, hosting a birthday party, or cutting out items at home for a bulletin board. Talk to your child's teacher about ways you can help – or offer your own suggestions for activities. Don't forget to write down your hours in the Parent Volunteer Log located in each classroom. The hours can't be counted unless they're recorded.

On a personal note, I'd like to thank the parents who served on the Parent Involvement Committee this year. They are: Frances Beasley, Trina Chery, Claressa Davis, Lori Elder, Deb Halvorsen, and Fleurette Gregory Phillips. These creative, hard-working, enthusiastic moms did so much to benefit MudPies this year. I appreciate your hard work.

Susan

MudPAC (continued)

Facilities Committee

Facilities Committee

Can we build it? Yes we can!

Thank you to the fundraising committee for raising the money for the long awaited storage building.



Bunce Buildings did a site visit and gave us estimates for the outdoor storage building. For the 6' x 12' the estimate was \$2,600. We are re-evaluating whether or not we could fit the standard 8' x 12' which would be a more comfortable and useful size. We would also have to confirm that the 8' x 12' doesn't put us over 5% of the total square footage of the lot for permit purposes. The estimate for the 8' x 12' was \$2,749. Bill Bates from Bunce purchased our first 2 raffle tickets, so, that was in essence a \$4 discount! Next steps are to find the site plan, get building plans from Bunce, apply for permit, pick out colors and give Bunce the deposit to order. Turnaround time is a couple weeks from order time. We can get dark green vinyl lattice work for the underpinning from Lowe's. That would cost us about \$150 max.

Cindy and Matt

Fund Raising Committee

The Art to Remember orders have all been distributed. Thank you to all the parents who participated. We raised over \$300.00 for Mud Pies. We have collected 485 labels for the Campbell Labels for Education program. The Fundraising Committee will continue to collect labels over the summer so please continue to bring them in. During the next school year, the Mud Pac and Mud Pies staff will redeem our labels for school related items.

Thank you to everyone who has participated in a fundraiser this school year. You raised over \$7,000.00 for the benefit of Mud Pies. This money will help ensure that Mud Pies remains a great place for our children. Since this is the last newsletter, I want to tell all of you how committed and hardworking all of the members of the Fundraising Committee have been this year. Thank you so much to Ashley Robbins, Flo Phillips and Frances Beasley for all the hours you spent organizing, planning and implementing the fundraisers. It has been my pleasure to work with all of you.



Leigh Anne



Campbell Labels for Education Program

Mud Pies is collecting labels from the products listed below to exchange for FREE merchandise, such as art supplies or classroom accessories, to benefit our classrooms.

- Campbell's® soups
- Campbell's Supper Bakes® meal kits
- Campbell's® or Franco-American® SpaghettiOs® pasta
- Campbell's® beans, gravies, and canned pasta
- Prego® pasta sauces
- Swanson® broths and canned poultry
- Pace® salsa and picante sauces
- V8® vegetable juices and V8 Splash® juice drinks
- Campbell's® tomato juice
- Pepperidge Farm® breads, cookies, crackers, and frozen products
- Pepperidge Farm® Goldfish® crackers
- Campbell's® Food service products

Please bring in your labels and drop them off in the Campbell Labels for Education collection box located at the front desk.

Baby's Words

by Frank Greg

Although I am small and cannot say a word
these thoughts of my family I wish could be heard...
I feel all your love and the kind things you do.
I get so excited that I smile and coo.
A soapy warm bath or the comb through my hair
all your soft whispers that tell me you care.
Then wrapped in your arms it is safe and secure
protected with tenderness that is perfect and pure.
And if ever I'm messy, hungry, or cold
with just a small whimper I'm quickly consoled.
You kiss and caress to stop me from weeping
then patiently wait 'til I'm comfortably sleeping.
You make my life joyous, full of colors and fun
when I see you each morning your face is my sun.
So, if you aren't certain your gestures are felt
look deep in my eyes and I'm sure you will melt.
They say I'll grow fast like the blink of an eye
but do not be sad at the time that goes by.
Because I'll remember all you've given and shared
to get me through life completely prepared.
I'll be the great one who stands out in the crowd
your hearts will be happy I'll make you so proud.
I thank you so much for all that you do
and never forget that I love you, too.

Policy Review

Please keep in mind that there are certain operational policies that are in place to help make MudPies run smoother. These policies must be adhered to by all families. Here is a short review of some of them.

- TUITION PAYMENTS:

Tuition payments are due by Thursday morning, 9:00am. If payments are not received by this time, a \$10.00 late fee will be assessed to your account.

If you choose to pay monthly or bi-weekly, tuition payments are to be made at the beginning of the month and at least 2 weeks in advance. No account can be in arrears more than 1 week.

If your child receives subsidized payments (Smart Start or DSS) you have a weekly fee instead of a monthly fee. If you are not sure what your weekly fee is, please see one of the office staff. These families are still required to have their account balance paid up front and not run in arrears or late fees will also be assessed.

- HOURS OF OPERATION:

MudPies hours of operation are from 7:00am – 6:00pm. Do NOT drop off children before 7:00am. An after-hours late fee will be assessed if you pick up your child after 6:00pm!

- SIGN IN – SIGN OUT:

Remember to sign your child in upon arrival and out when you pick them up in the afternoons.

- MEDICINE:

Medicines are given one time a day, between 11:00am – 12:00 noon. Over the counter medicines cannot be given without a note from your child's doctor! Prescription medicines must be in the original container with the prescription label on. Parents must provide their own dispenser to administer the medicine.

- CLOTHING CHANGES:

Children are required to have at least one complete change of clothes in their cubbies at all times. Many classrooms prefer at least 2 sets.

- ILLNESS POLICY:

MudPies will contact you and ask that you pick up your child if he or she becomes ill during the day. **IF YOUR CHILD IS SENT HOME DUE TO ILLNESS, THE CHILD MUST STAY AT HOME THE FOLLOWING DAY BEFORE RETURNING TO MUDPIES!**

- FOOD POLICY:

Food is not to be brought into the center except for the following reasons: an allergy that would prevent your child from eating the food served at the center or classroom activities or parties.

- BOTTLES, SIPPY CUPS, and FOOD must be LABELED and DATED!

If there are ever any questions about any operational policies, please feel free to write them down and drop them in the check box. We will try to address all questions/concerns in the next month's newsletter.

All Aboard!

The Parent Express *“Connecting home and school”*

This year, our **Parent Express** will focus on PLAY. As you know, our philosophy is centered around the value of play for the young child and how important it is to a child's development. We feel it is as equally important that our families understand our philosophy and why your children so enthusiastically answer “I played today” when you inquire about their day.

So sit back, grab a cup of your favorite drink, and jump on board the Parent Express for some informative information about your child's development!

What Does My Child Learn on the Playground?

Why Is My Child Playing? For the young child, play and work involve the same actions: interacting with people, manipulating objects, and making discoveries that help make sense of the world. Learning happens naturally through play. Play is the work of children. For school success, children must develop physically, mentally, emotionally, socially, and creatively. Play is a crucial part of this development of the whole child.

What Happens on the Playground? The playground is much more than just a place outdoors where children go for recess. Young children use tricycles, wheel toys, play structures, active play accessories such as balls, and other outdoor activity equipment to engage in active play on the playground. When there is a good balance between vigorous play and quieter activities, children are generally more relaxed and ready to profit from their entire school experience.

What Is My Child Learning? Young children need opportunities to develop their bodies and coordination by running, jumping, climbing, lifting, pushing, and pulling. Physiological readiness precedes other learning. The playground is a natural place for physical development as well as for social and emotional development. Young children need challenging playground experiences to develop early self-confidence along with large-muscle skills and coordination.

Moreover, the playground is about much more than just physical and social activity! The playground provides a curriculum activity center just as important as any other learning center in the classroom. Curriculum activities both robust and quiet can benefit from going outside. Music, dramatic play, art, and science just naturally gravitate to the great outdoors. In addition, perceptions of the natural world are enhanced as children are given an opportunity to experience it first hand.

Taken from A Publication of the Environments Professional Group.

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Classroom Clips



Baby Bears

First of all, we would like to apologize for excluding Symone Ramsey-Phillips in welcoming her to our class. Symone is a very important part of our class and we are very sorry for overlooking her name. We would like to give a new and warm welcome to Louisa Joyce, Thomas Boone, and Sean Coates, the newest members of our Bear family. We are looking forward to summer weather and summer activities. We wish to remind you to bring sunscreen for the children. Please remember to label caps, bottles, and jars with names or initials and the current date. Also, please remember to put appropriate seasonal and size clothing in cubbies for children. The Baby Bears hope the warmer weather brings an improved spirit and better health to everyone!

Lillian, Sally, Traci, Cha, Linda, and Tiffani



Young Dandy Ducks

Hello Duck Parents! As you can see the warm weather is approaching and the children will be spending more time outside. We are asking that you bring in sunscreen, a juice cup, and make sure your child has weather-appropriate clothing. We would also like to say farewell to Jameson Bush who moved to the Older Duck side and hello to Noah Mathis who joined us from the Baby Bear Room. Please help us welcome him and his family to our classroom. Thanks to the parents who volunteered for the Easter Egg Hunt. The children had a good time. We are also encouraging parents to volunteer whether it be inside or outside of the classroom. All your help is appreciated. Also as a few other reminders, don't forget to wash your child's hands upon entering the classroom in the morning and to check your child's folders each day. You never know, there may be something very important in there. If you have questions, suggestions, or concerns, feel free to ask us.

Constance, Brandi, Jennifer and Arkisha



Perky Penguins

Hello Everyone! Summer is just around the corner, and boy are we ready! We have been moving right along with all the spring activities, taking pictures, the big egg hunt, and enjoying the warm spring weather. The weather has been perfect. We are looking forward to summer vacations, picnic lunch day, and popsicles day. We appreciate all the parents and volunteers we had for our Egg Hunt, those who brought eggs for the hunt, or those who came to help out, whether our class or another class. We will inform you about our Lunch Day later on, so please come join us. Signing off for now!

Donese, Sha, and Ashley



Older Dandy Ducks

Parents, this is our last newsletter until August so we want to bid farewell until then. We had to say goodbye to Griffin. He moved to the Pandas class. It was a happy moment when Jameson joined the Bid Duck class. While taking time off from the newsletter, we are having a few birthdays: Jon G. 5/31, Logan B. 6/5, Gracie B. 6/23, Phillip C. 6/24, Bella O. 7/6, Chris 7/18, and Jacob T. 7/25. We wish you all Happy Birthday! The hot days are here and we need for you to bring sunscreen for your child so they won't burn when we are outside. Please change the clothes in their cubbies also. We have a few reminders:

- ✓ **Label and date** your child's cups
- ✓ Provide two changes of weather-appropriate clothing
- ✓ Allow them to use a spoon
- ✓ Sign them in and out everyday
- ✓ Wash you child's hands every morning

Cynthia, Kat, Jennifer and Arkisha



Playful Pandas

We had a wonderful month of April. We talked about plants and flowers. We painted and colored flowers of our own. We also talked about bunnies. Our Easter egg hunt was lots of fun. We enjoyed our Easter party. Thank you to all parents who participated. We were very sad to say goodbye to Ms. Angel who will no longer be with us at MudPies. Please keep her in your thoughts and prayers. Cameron Lane has been promoted to the Penguin class. Griffin Evans joined the Panda room. We hope you have a lovely Spring and Summer!

Gina, and Carla

Classroom Clips (continued)



Circus Tykes

Spring has finally arrived and summer is just around the corner. Hooray for warmer weather. We are very excited about the upcoming events for the month of May. First, we will be celebrating four birthdays in May: Margaret Marpoe on May 1st, Zyan Rhynehardt on May 2nd, Aiden Halvorsen on May 13th, and Jair Flores on May 29th. Party, Party, Party! We will also be taking our first field trip to Patterson Farm. We are anticipating having a great time. Also as a special reminder, mark your calendar for our annual Spring Fling on May 20th. We are looking forward to seeing you there. We extend a continuous thank you to all of our parents for your contributions and support. As a team, we can continue to work together to provide a safe and nurturing environment for your child. Please remember to check your child's cubby to make sure that appropriate clothing is available. Thanks again.

Carlatta and Millicent



Dino-Mytes

We would like to welcome Lizbeth Reyes to the Dinos! As you can see, the weather has gotten warmer now. Due to this, we need you to check your child's cubby to switch out their winter/fall clothes to spring/summer clothing. We still have a few friends that are bringing in toys throughout the week. We are asking that you allow your child to bring toys only for 'Show-N-Tell' on Fridays. If you want your Dino to have sunscreen, please bring some in and also fill out a permission form so that we can apply it to them. We are looking forward to a great Summer!

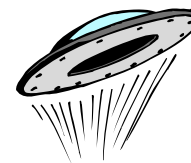
Pat and Chrissy



Ocean Divers

We would like to thank all the parents who have attended and helped on field trips. We thank you for your help with your own children, as well as the other children. A list of our summer field trips will be available soon. Please look this over and see if you can attend at least one or two trips this summer. We need at least five chaperones on each trip. Thank you for consideration on this matter. We also remind parents about Movie Day. All movies brought to school must be 'G' rated and not too scary. There are many Disney movies which are scary to children. Please do not bring these in. Examples of good, quality videos are 'Dora', 'Blues Clues', and 'Bear in the Big Blue House.' There are many others. Popcorn is always welcomed on Wednesdays. Thank you for all you do!

Linda and Michelle



Space Travelers

I can't believe that summer is right around the corner! As most of you know, Mrs. Sharon is out on Maternity leave. We miss her terribly, but she will be back before we know it. During the next few weeks, I have many excited things planned. We will be learning about bugs, changes in seasons, farm fun, and strawberries! We also are practicing our graduation songs. Mark your calendars for June 6, 2006 at 7 PM. At the end of the month, we'll have our field trip to Patterson Farm for strawberries! Yum! Yum! I would love to have more parents volunteer to come with us. The sign-up sheet is on the door. Thanks for all the support!

Stacy



Jungle Explorers

On May 23rd, Jungle Friends will be going on our second field trip to the Strawberry Patch in China Grove. We will have a berry good time gathering juicy red berries. Our lessons for May will center around strawberries as we prepare for our field trip. Jungle Friends are making special gifts for Mother's Day. So don't ask any questions and spoil the surprise! Jungle's graduation is fast approaching! We are still practicing for the big event on June 6th. Thank you parents for working with us in volunteering your time this April, making our Easter Egg Hunt a great success. Ms. Peggy and I were very honored and surprised in being voted by the parents as 'Teacher of the Quarter.' Thank you again for all the teamwork.

Adrienne and Peggy