

Small Wonders Happenings

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Nancy Picart, Director



Director's News

Dear Parents,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to share in your lives this past year. This past year has presented many challenges for us and I am sure we will have more in the coming years.

The end of the year is a nice time to reflect on past events and prepare for the future. We all learn by trial and error. We learn from our mistakes and adjust, trying to avoid making them again. Hopefully, we've made a safe haven for your children, so they can make mistakes and adjustments in a supportive and caring environment. We want them to explore, test out ideas, and test relationships. The successes they have now will prepare them for the successes of the future. And that is where the reflection comes in.

What do you want the definition of success to be for our children? Do we want them to be concerned about the health of the planet? Do we want them to be respectful of other ideas and cultures? Do we want them to take care of us when we are old and gray (or bald)? Do we want them to define success by how much money they make and where they live? Do we want them to "just be happy?" Our culture supports all of the above, but each of us in our own way is guiding our children in patterns that shape their futures. Often we do it without too much thought.

As we enter a new era at Small Wonders, this may be a time to reflect on where we have been and where we want to go.

Thanks, Paul.

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School Notices

- ◆ Jan 1st - Closed
- ◆ Jan 21st - Closed
- ◆ Weather Emergencies - Closings & Delayed Openings on **Walk Radio- 97.5 FM** and **News 12**

Reminders and Notes

- ❖ Please remember to sign in and out daily.
- ❖ Please make sure the gates are locked. Locked gates are a safety measure as well as prevent the geese from coming on the playground.
- ❖ Please send in mittens, gloves and hats as we may go outside to play.

Upcoming Events

- ◆ January Raffle

Four's Pre K News

During the month of November, the children loved creating their costumes for our Autumn Parade. We celebrated with a festival full of fruits and vegetables. The children were intrigued as Mr. Paul opened a coconut for us! Some children called the coconut milk "coconut juice!"

Upon their interest, we discovered many types of trees. For an outside art activity, I taped a piece of paper to the tree trunk. The children used crayons to color the bark of the tree. We spoke about the bark's texture and color.

We also traveled through space. The children's favorite song was "The Planets Revolve Around the Sun" sung to the tune of Ants Go Marching). They

discovered the 9 planets and space related items.

The children learned many different ways that farm animals help us. We became aware of the difference between pets and farm animals. The children also discovered that farm animals need homes and food. They loved milking a cow using a glove and water. We also enjoyed hay in our sensory table.

During these experiences, we also have been reviewing our first and last names, reciting our address, phone number and practicing writing our names. We are diligently working toward our own individual goals.

A great big thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Zukovsky for reading to our class. The children love listening to your stories.

Three's Tales

Happy Holidays from the 3 Year Old Class.

We all want to wish Marissa and Amiya a happy birthday.

Our class has been busy working on the colors of the rainbow. We are cutting, gluing and cooking our way through the beautiful colors of the rainbow.

Toddler Times

The toddlers would like to say Happy Birthday to Kelly M. and Samantha L.

We are so busy exploring different activities. Salt play, water play and sand play. We are also getting ready for the holidays. Happy Holidays!

Infant II Milestones

Morning separations are going smoothly. We are understanding that it's okay for Mom/Dad to go away for just a little while.

The children are showing a great interest in books. They are sitting for longer periods of time "reading", turning the pages, and studying the pictures. They are also trying very hard to group sounds to make

words.

Their love of music is leading to lots of movement. It is wonderful to see them create new movements to go with a sound or song. Our best rest time music is the lullaby song "All the Pretty Horses" by Kenny Loggins.

And, as the weather turns cold, we will be observing the changes and experimenting with materials to help us learn about our environment.

Infant I Developments

The little people are so very happy and so adorable. I'm so pleased to be with them. They are my boss; it's only five of us, sometimes six with another teacher.

The real fun in this room is to let the babies interact. We have Lily who is trying to stand up all day long and she's having a real good time playing with her body. Selene who's following Lily step by step, she's learning a few words like Mamma and

Dadda. We also have Dorien, he's working so hard to move around the room. He's adorable. How can we forget Alexa with her smiling face, she only cries for her meal and her nap. She really is a happy baby. If it's okay with the babies, we read, sing, play and listen to baby music or let them play individually. It's so much fun to be with the babies.

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Board Bulletin

The Board would like to thank Paul for all his hard work and dedication over the past year. We wish him well in his move to California and much happiness with his expanding family and his new role as a grandfather!

New Students

A warm welcome to new friends
(and sisters!):

Liadan B. Rory B.

New Director / Teachers

Miss. Nancy Miss. Ann Marie
Miss. Linda

Happy Birthday...

Amiya A. Marissa M.
Dylan L. Raymond B.
Jack G. Robert B.
Kelly M. Samantha L.
Liadan Zachary Z.
Miss. Lisa

Dates to Remember

Jan 1 - New Year's Day - Closed
Jan 21st - Martin Luther King Day -
Closed

Newsletter

If you would like to contribute to the newsletter or have an announcement you would like printed, please contact Jennifer Bailey.

Fundraisers

Cookie Dough and Pretzels still available!!!

January Raffle coming soon! The last raffle was a great success.