

# Small Wonders Happenings

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Paul Chinn, Director



## Contents

Director's News	1
Reminders	1
Upcoming Events/Notices	1
Pre-K News	2
3 Year Olds News	2
Toddler Times	2
Infant I & II News	2
Pictures	3
Notices	4

## School Notices

- ◆ Nov 12th - Closed
- ◆ We are a SEFA charitable agency - please consider donating to us (65-926)

## Upcoming Events

- ◆ Raffle
- ◆ Cookie Dough fundraiser

## Director's News

This is something I shared with the staff recently and thought I'd pass it on.

The Sun and the North Wind were having an argument over who was stronger. The Sun claimed he could provide heat, make things grow, and provide a great many services. The North Wind boasted of his strength and ability to knock down trees and houses, and drive rain and snow storms. They saw a man walking down the road wearing a coat and decided that whoever could remove the coat from the man would be the strongest.

The North Wind declared that he would go first. He caused the clouds to darken the sky, and began with a cold bitter wind that increased in intensity. He tried with great gusts to blow the coat off the man's shoulders and arms. But instead of blowing the coat off the man, the man pulled his coat tighter around himself to protect and warm his body. Finally, the North Wind was blown out and gave up.

Next, it was the Sun's turn. He cleared the sky of clouds and stilled the breezes, and he began radiating his warmth down on the man. The warmth of the sun increased in intensity and slowly the men let his

grasp of his coat loosen. Soon, he was feeling quite warm and even began to sweat. He said to himself, "It's much too hot for a coat now", and removed his jacket and draped it over his arm.

It's amazing that there are so many stories in literature that we hear and forget about that could help us in our work with children. I've always enjoyed telling stories to children, letting them listen and imagine how the characters look and act, and often the children like acting out the story later. It provides opportunities for them to concretely experience that, in the case of the Sun and the North Wind, "Persuasion is better than Force." It also helps us to be mindful of those times when we are a little more demanding, stubborn, and "won't let go."

We as adults have a more resourceful mind than the children we care for; we are able to approach conflicts and disagreements from many more angles than from the child's self-centered approach. Sometimes persuasion takes longer than force, but in the long term, it will be a more meaningful experience and the results will be longer lasting. The goal is to help children be problem solvers.

## Reminders and Notes

- ❖ Please remember to sign in and out daily.
- ❖ Please replenish extra clothing for the season change.
- ❖ Although inconvenient, for the sake of the other children and staff, please keep sick children home.
- ❖ The Staff has been made aware of and are taking precautions to prevent against the MRSA infection.

## Four's Pre K News

We hope you enjoyed your summer and would like to welcome your family to Small Wonders Pre K. We are looking forward to this exciting year filled with wonderful learning experiences. During the first few weeks of school, the children and I will be learning about ourselves, others and our environment. We will also observe the season

change and continue with an Autumn unit. The themes for the month of September are: Apples, Becoming Familiar with One Another, Labeling the Classroom, Autumn and Families.

To promote creativity in the learning centers, please send in any of the following: empty milk / juice cartons, egg cartons, empty cake, cereal, pizza or brownie boxes and any type of basket.

## Three's Tales

We hope you enjoyed your summer! We are delighted to be a part of your child's life and look forward to their broad smiles and happy hellos!

During the first weeks of school, we will be learning all about others, our environment and ourselves. The themes for September are All About

Me, Feelings, My Family, Apples, and Fall.

Please send in an extra set of clothes, toothbrush, toothpaste and a disposable camera. Please remember to label them with your child's name.

## Toddler Times

The Toddlers Room would like to welcome Gavin, James and Kelly to Small Wonders.

Fall is here and we have been very busy exploring apples and pumpkins. We have experienced apple

printing and drawing pumpkins.

We had so much fun making oatmeal playdough. It was messy but we loved it!

## Infant II Milestones

Here in Infant II, we have some new additions to our room. Cassandra D. has grown from their friends in Infant I and Charlie, Nicholas, Ian, Jayleen, Juliana, Keira are so glad to have them. Everyone is having lots of fun with their new teacher, Miss. Sheila. We are excited about going from high chairs to having our meals at the table, using spoons, bowls, sippy cups and sharing our 'thoughts.' And, we love going

to the gym and outside to play.

The Infant II class will be doing a lot of sensory activities and the changing of the seasons is an excellent opportunity to learn.

Moms and Dads - we welcome any suggestions you have that will help us learn or make our room more comfortable. Please feel free to join us in our daily fun whenever you are free!

## Infant I Developments

A big warm welcome to new infants Lily and Alexa. Welcome to the Small Wonders family. She joins Selene and Dorien in Infant I.

We are enjoying our bouncy seats, swings, watching and interacting with each other as well as listening to music.

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## Board Bulletin

If you are interested in joining our Board of Directors or would like to volunteer on one of the many committees without the commitment of being a Board member, please contact Carol Procopio, Alex's mom, or Chris Hampson, Jessica's mom.

## New Students

A warm welcome to new friends:

Lily B.                      Alexa L.  
James S.                    Gavin R.  
Isabelle S.

## New Teachers

Miss. Sheila              Miss. Shaquana  
Miss. Nancy              Miss. Maureen

## Congratulations

The big day has arrived and we wish Miss. Pina and her new husband a lifetime of happiness.

## Happy Birthday...

Alex F.                      Miss. Maria  
Cassandra D.              Miles F.  
James S.                    Raymond K.  
Leyla G.                    Miss Shaquana

## Dates to Remember

Nov 12 - Veterans Day - Closed  
Nov 22 - Thanksgiving - Closed

## Newsletter

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

## Fundraisers

**Our 50/50 Raffle fundraiser was a success! Over \$550 was raised for the center.**

The **Big Winner** was Jayne H. from the Tax and Finance Compliance Department. She won \$559 cold hard **CASH!** The 3 year old room was the winning **Class Selling the Most Tickets!** They won a mega ice cream party\* (and gift) and their teachers each won \$25 gift certificates\* to Bobbique Restaurant in Patchogue.

### Thanks to:

Paul Chinn for his tireless efforts! Heather Racioppi, a volunteer who created all of the tickets and helped! Rachel R, Juliana's mom, the **Parent who Sold the Most Tickets!** She sold 295 tickets!! All received a \$10 gift card from Panera\*

"**Losing Ticket**" drawing for other prizes: Mine G., Leyla's mom; George (cafeteria), Marty R, and Anonymous.

\* = donated by Russo and Gajdos, LLP attorneys at law (G.G.'s dad)...**THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS**

**COMING SOON - Watch out for our cookie dough fundraiser and our new raffle with cash prizes AND prizes from AVON!**