

Mountain Lakes Country Day School

JUNE 2017

What's
happening in
our school!

BIRTHDAYS:

Toddler 1:

June 2: Colin

June 3: Libby

June 11: Caelyn

Preschool:

June 12 : Riley

June 19: Nicholas

June 29: Emily

June 29: Anthony

The benefits of hitting the beach

Did you know that while your having fun at the beach you are also promoting your child's physical development?

Sand play promotes physical development. Large muscle skills develop as children dig, pour, sift, scoop. They are also developing eye-hand coordination and small muscle control improves as children learn to manipulate sand accessories. If that wasn't enough of a reason to hit the beach, there's even more good news. Sand play also promotes social skills. Learning to share and take turns, finding a resolution to their problems such as there is only one blue shovel and everyone wants it. These experiences help to foster social emotional development as well.



Think Beyond the Shovel & Pail

1. In addition to packing shovels and pails, save a few paper towel and toilet paper rolls. This reinforces the importance of reusing materials while using their imagination and fine motor skills.

2. Collect found treasures on the beach and create "beach art." This is a great way to help get their creative juices flowing. Switch the rolls and ask them to make Mommy and Daddy .

3. Pack a few dinosaurs or other favorite items and pretend you're a team of archeologists on a dig. Paint brushes make excellent dinosaur bone dusting tools.



Pre-K 1

Miss Jen is excited to announce that Pre-K 1 has completed all of their studies for the year and ended it with their road study. They created road patterns, a book about roads and even cooperatively worked as a class to make a road for the classroom. Mother's day was celebrated with Muffins with Mom and all of the children loved showing off their gifts to their Moms. Cinco De Mayo was a fiesta with a sombrero movement game, learning new Spanish words and a taste test and graphing the results.



Pre-K 2

Pre-K 2 brought their Pet study to a close during the month of May. They really had the opportunity with this study to get creative and even made their own pet sculptures. Another fun way they incorporated the study into the classroom was by turning their dramatic play area into a veterinarian's office. This allowed the class to practice caring for pets and also learn about a community worker. Miss Sarah is very proud to announce that Pre-K 2 is doing very well with their knowledge of sight words! Muffins with mom was a success and the class really enjoyed giving their moms the beautiful handmade craft stick photo frames. Looking towards June, Pre-K 2 is getting ready for Graduation and are working very hard to learn their graduation songs. They also have started working on their superhero themed Father's Day gifts for Doughnuts with Dad.



Preschool

Preschool has been exploring their pet study and learning about what pets need and how do pets make us feel. The class shared photos of their pets from home and they have been very excited to talk about them with the class and even other teachers and friends that pass through. The pet study was used to help develop math skills through patterning and creating pet's using different shapes. A favorite activity of the preschoolers this month was creating giant letters out of tape on the carpet. This helped to build their letter recognition and fine motor skills. In June they will be completing their pet study and preparing for Doughnuts with Dad.

Toddler One

Toddler 1 started off May by learning about flowers and gardens. They incorporated some calming garden yoga into their movement activities and also learned about the parts of the flower in the process. The class really enjoyed observing their science experiment; white flowers in colored water and observing the changes in the flowers. In addition to learning about the garden, Toddler 1 had their caterpillars they were nurturing. They read the Very Hungry Caterpillar and were ecstatic to relate the live caterpillars in the room to the one they read about in the book. The teachers are very proud to announce that Libby and Parker are both wearing big girl underwear now! Congratulations girls! Muffins with Mom was celebrated with beautiful fingerprint painted terra cotta flower pots with sunflowers planted in them. The toddlers are looking forward to watching them grow at home. June will bring a study about sports and pets.



Toddler Two

During the month of May, Toddler 2 learned a lot about insects, including the Praying Mantis, which is the insect the class was nurturing from egg to nymph. The class learned the song "I'm bringing home a baby bumble bee" and it quickly became a favorite. Recycled materials were used to create prints for individual process; these would later be used to create two classroom bumble bees. The class lovingly referred to them as the "Momma bee and the baby bee." To further connect our theme of insects, the class planted bee seed mix in terra cotta planters for their Mother's Day gifts and then used their fingers to create a bumble bee on the outside. In June, we will be learning about farm animals and



Infants



The infants worked very hard this month to create special handprint presents for Mother's Day. They also used their fine motor skills by using dot markers to create beautiful butterflies. The infant teachers would like to say congratulations to Teagan on taking her first steps! Getting ready for June, the infants are working a heartfelt Father's Day gift for Doughnuts with Dad.

Upcoming Events

August 11: Turtle Back Zoo Field Trip