

Windmill Creek Academy Gazette

Volume 11

Issue 10

Summer 2018

Letter from the Director

Dear Parents,

Here comes Summer! It's time for a more relaxed atmosphere and our "Summer Fun 2018" schedule! This summer we'll enjoy some fun and creative weekly themes including – Once Upon a Time, Western Round-Up, Around the World Week and our Annual Windmill Creek Carnival! Depending on the weekly theme, the teachers may request various household supplies (i.e., toilet paper rolls, water bottles, etc.) for art projects, or our "dress up" festivities, so please stay tuned to your child's "Daily Sheet," when picking up your student at the end of each day. As usual, Wednesdays are "Water Day," so please be sure to bring your child's bathing suit and a towel so that they can join in the water time fun (weather permitting, our first Water Day will be Wednesday, June 6th).

This past month we had a wonderful Graduation Ceremony for our VPK Students. It was a bittersweet moment to say "Congratulations," but also to say, "Good-bye" to many of our graduates. We are delighted that many of our graduates are spending the summer with us before heading off to Kindergarten. We wish all of them well as they embark on new educational journeys! Please know you have a standing invitation to come back and visit any time!

Following are some important dates, announcements and reminders:

Wipes and Ziplock Bags

Please be sure to bring one box of gallon-sized Ziplock Bags and two packages of Wipes *each month* for your child's classroom. Thank you!

Doughnuts with Dad - Friday June 15 (7:30 - 9:00 a.m.)

Calling all Dads! We will be honoring all of our Dads on Friday, June 15 with our annual "Doughnuts with Dad." Come in a little early and/or stay a little late and enjoy a doughnut hole and some juice with your student on Friday morning! :)

Closed Wednesday, July 4th

We will be closed on Wednesday, July 4th in observance of the Independence Day holiday.

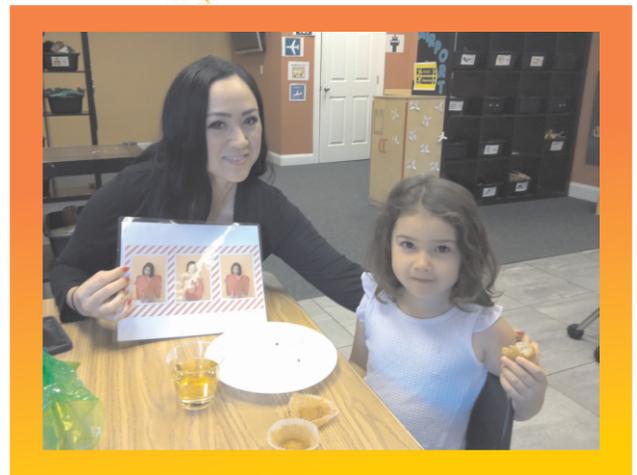
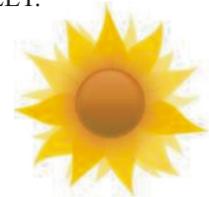
Bug Spray and Sunblock

During the summer months, we ask that you bring one bottle of Bug Spray and *spray* Sunblock for your child's classroom. We "pool" these resources and spray the children each day to help ward of mosquitoes and the sun's harmful rays. Bug Spray *should* contain a minimum of 25% DEET.

Here's to a wonderful summer!

Fondly,
Janine

Janine Connell
Founder & Director
Windmill Creek Academy



Daisy and her mom enjoy, "Muffins with Mom."



Character Training

This Summer's Character Training Values
Citizenship = Patriotism & Honor
Cooperation = Teamwork

Windmill Creek Academy Classroom Updates

Bunnies

In the month of May the Bunnies got to make a framed art project for their first Mother's Day. The Bunnies are now preparing for summer time fun! Caroline has started to walk on her own. She loves her food and is such a happy baby! She will be moving up to the Cubs soon – we will miss her! Lucas has started scooting and standing up against the furniture with assistance. Landon is almost sitting up on his own and enjoys his baby food. Fox is crawling away and pulls himself to stand up position – holding on to different objects in the room. Vivi is the biggest food lover ever and is learning to use the walker on her own. John loves to crawl around the room and enjoys bubble time with his friends. Noah is enjoying the last moments of being with his bunny friends. We will miss him dearly when he leaves for Ireland! Looking forward to a summer full of discovery and learning!

Ms. Ally, Ms. Iris & Ms. Kaira

Cubs

The month of May was such a whirlwind of a month. We started off the month celebrating our Mothers and giving our love to them and enjoyed our “Muffins with Mom” event. The Cubs love sitting together for Circle Time – we love working with flash cards, learning colors and discovering shapes. We look forward to the summer months as we soon will enjoy “Water Day” and time outside catching bubbles. It's great to be a Cub!

Ms. Kayla, Ms. Kelsey, Ms. Mariah & Ms. Sofie

Bears

The Bears class had a great time during the month of May! We welcomed our new friend Riley to our class. We made lots of pictures of flowers along with flower projects for our Moms! We love our Mom's so much – we made cool hand print plaques with our hands – it was a great project. During the month of May we discussed reptiles and dinosaurs. We observed lizards outside while we were playing. We also painted fun pictures of baby dinosaurs and took turns roaring like a dinosaur. Coming up in the summer months we look forward to Wednesday Water Days! We are looking forward to learning new songs, exploring water and waterfalls and learning to put on our clothes as we get in and out of our bathing suits. It's great to be a Bear!

Ms. Ana, Ms. Lesley, Ms. Rachel, & Ms. Sierra

Frogs

As the end of spring is fast approaching, we would like to reminisce all about the fun memories we shared in the month of May. For starters, the Frogs started the month by thanking all of our wonderful moms for loving us unconditionally. We stomped our way into dinosaur week by making our very own dinosaurs with a very special name. We also got to go exploring for different types of bugs and insects. The Frogs had their annual picnic outside as we said good bye to our Giraffe friends. The Frogs celebrated Memorial day by eating yummy cupcakes – thanks to Elijah's Mom! The school year isn't over yet – we look forward to summer time and we are quite excited to begin Wednesday Water Days! We bid

farewell to some of our friends for the summer but we look forward to new Frog students and discoveries as the summer weeks progress!

Ms. Ally, Ms. Gabby, Ms. Kayla, Ms. Lena & Ms. Raquel

Giraffes

The Giraffes had a busy month in Math! We finished the alphabet and reviewed our colors. We made candles for Mother's Day and a special card all about Mom! We made jelly fish out of paper plates which we proudly displayed in the school's lobby Gallery. We look forward to summer and continuing more hands-on activities and art projects. In Science we learned about reptiles, turtles, alligators and frogs. In math we reviewed numbers 1-10 and touched upon some one to one correspondence. We look forward to the summer months and Wednesday Water Days and Performance/Party Fridays – as we will dress up in fairy tale clothes, western round-up, and even Star Wars characters!

Ms. Ali, Ms. Daisy, Ms. Krystal and Ms. Sammy

Lions

May was a busy month! We started with Mother's Day gifts, writing our first love letters to Mom – in our own handwriting! We then focused on end-of-the-year activities, Graduation rehearsal and year-end assessments. It is always exciting to see the growth and development in each and everyone of our Lions. Graduation was a wonderful celebration (with just a few tears). It is bitter-sweet to see our students grown and ready to fluff their wings and ready to fly ... but so difficult to say good bye as the students launch on their next milestone – Kindergarten! It is a comforting feeling knowing just how ready the students are! We even had our teacher-moms tell us that their children are very advanced compared to students from other programs! Heart warming!

Ms. Ali, Ms. Kristen & Ms. Sammy

Summer VPK

We would like to welcome our Summer VPK Students for their intensive 8 week program – or as we fondly think of it as “Kindergarten Boot Camp!” The summer class learns in 8 weeks what we teach in an entire nine month school year. It is a rigorous experience for the students (and me!) but they leave here in August ready to conquer Kindergarten! No doubt the weeks will fly by as the students discover many learning adventures, new friendships, summer fun water activities, and join in some of WCA's summer traditions. Here's to a summer full of learning, exploring & discovery!

Ms. Kristen



Our 2017-18 VPK Graduates

Who Lives Under the Sea? A Marine Biology Primer by Amy Rees



It is no small part the giant wonders of the sea that it's just so, well, giant. Vast. Deep. Full to the point of teeming. And how on earth are we to make sense of any of this for our little ones, who may or may not have ever seen or splashed in an ocean or two but almost certainly don't have any sense of its size.

A [map of the world](#), of course, helps. And then once you've established some sense of where all those seas and oceans and lakes and rivers are, you've done some work towards giving your little one a sense of all the water. But the water itself is only part of the ocean's delight.

What's in there? Who lives in the sea? The best way to learn, marine experts tell us, is to get thyself and thy little one to a tidepool. Life at the edge is the best entry point. But if you're looking for a tour that you can conduct from the dry land of your own home, enjoy these wonderful primers on marine biology, from a preschooler's perspective:

[Who Lives under the Sea](#) gives you the lay of the land—uh, the sea, rather.

[A Swim through the Sea](#) uses the alphabet to show you around the deep waters. The juxtaposition of the alphabetical organization and the more extensive vocabulary of the written text makes it especially well-suited for families with different-aged siblings where the younger child is just learning the alphabet while the older is getting deeper into the science.

From the Let's Read and Find Out science series, [What Lives in a Shell?](#) gives you a tour in the style of a wonderful early education science book.

Douglas Florian's "divine! delish!" collection of poems about fish and other marine creatures, [In the Swim](#), will make you laugh every single time you read it.

[Between the Tides](#) tells you all about life in a tide pool, if you can't find one of your own near enough to splash in.

No creature is more adorable than [Sea Otters](#), and the darling pictures in this book will have your little one clamoring for a pet otter immediately!

The ocean does bring so many gifts, and [Out of the Ocean](#) catalogs the wonders that the tides bring to those who wait on the shore.

And, finally, Eric Carle's masterpiece, [A House for a Hermit Crab](#) is a book we turn to for life lessons about moving and growing and trading old for new and so many life events that our little ones struggle to make sense of every day. But of course it's also a highly individual tour of life in and near the ocean. It is a true gem. Enjoy!

Flashback Photos ...



The Frogs Class



Mary M
tries out a
fire fighter's hat



Ms. Rachel & Penny
enjoying a hug

Summer Birthdays!

June

Caroline R - June 3
Adrian & Julian G - June 4
Zachary S - June 5
Abigail S - June 5
Lucas N - June 10
Lucas & Sophia S - June 25
Kelsie W - June 27

July

Frances A - July 2
Dennis N - July 3
Theodore S - July 5
Camila G - July 8
Emmanuel S - July 11
Josiah M - July 12
Ms. Kayla - July 13
Ms. Gabby - July 17
Vivienne I - July 18
Ms. Jennifer - July 21
Triston M - July 26
Lily I - July 26
Victoria L - July 28

August

Ms. Noreen - August 5
Ethan C - August 10
Olivia T - August 15
Ms. Kristen - August 18
Ms. Lesley - August 27

