



PRESCHOOL NEWS

May
2010

Mrs. Houldsworth's Class

IMPORTANT DATES

- May 6th - Kindergarten Orientation 6:30 - 7:30 (parents only)
- May 7th - PTA Meeting
- May 15th - Fun Fair
- May 20th - Orientation for new preschool parents (6:30-7:30) parents only.
- May 24th - Memorial Day - NO SCHOOL
- Look for the parent seminar on summer fun with children during May.



Themes This Month

During the first week of May we will finish up our study of flower. Our flower shop will transform back to the dramatic play kitchen. We have learned many new names for flowers, parts of flowers and created flowers with paint.

Our focus during May will be caterpillars to butterflies. We will read the story The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle. Using paint, and watercolors we will create caterpillars and butterflies. In our classroom we will watch our own caterpillars as they grow into butterflies. This month we will review our shapes, and our color will be purple. The month of May also brings Mother's Day. Shh... We will be making a special gift for moms too!

Happy Mother's Day

Ready or Not...Preparing for Kindergarten

Parents can: Take advantage of learning opportunities in everyday activities. These will make a big difference in preparing young children for the classroom.

1. **Promote good health and physical well-being.** Children obviously need nutritious food, enough sleep, and opportunities to exercise and develop physical coordination. Throwing balls, running, jumping, climbing; dancing to music-- will enhance coordination and help children learn important concepts such as up, down, inside, outside, over, and under.
2. **Support your child's social and emotional development.** Children who are kind, helpful, patient, and loving generally do better in school, and feeling good about oneself is an important aspect of developing desirable social skills. Give children chances to learn about sharing and caring.
3. **Build your child's language and general knowledge.** There are many things you can do to help your child learn to communicate, and develop an understanding of the world. Play allows children to explore, be creative, and develop social skills. It also paves the way for academic learning. Finally, read together frequently. Fostering your child's love of books is a gift that will last a lifetime!

Do not assume a child with a late birth date should be held out of school. Research shows that children receive little, if any, advantage when held out of school because of late birth dates. And, the practice may have a negative impact on other children by encouraging school expectations better suited to older children.