



# PRESCHOOL NEWS

May  
2011

## Mrs. Houldsworth's Class

### IMPORTANT DATES

- May 12<sup>th</sup> - Kindergarten Orientation 6:30 - 7:30 (parents only)
- May 14<sup>th</sup> - Fun Fair
- May 30<sup>th</sup> - Memorial Day - NO SCHOOL



### Themes This Month

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!**

### Help Us Out

We are in need of sand toys for our sand box. If you are cleaning out and would be willing to donate some plastic trucks/cars, shovels, sifters, small rakes and pails we would be grateful.

### 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.

#### **Promote good health and physical well-being.**

Children obviously need nutritious food, enough sleep, and opportunities to exercise and develop physical coordination.

#### **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.

#### **Build your child's language and general knowledge.**

Communication is essential throughout life. Play allows children to explore, be creative, and develop social skills. It also paves the way for academic learning. Encourage play dates, read together frequently and have conversations using new vocabulary.

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.

### Vocabulary this Month

We will be working on the following new vocabulary words to go along with our "butterfly" theme. Please take some time to talk about and use the following words at home: cocoon, life cycle, nectar, chrysalis, proboscis, antenna, as well as names of butterflies such as Monarch, and Painted Lady.