

Country Day School
Pre-Primary Newsletter
August/September 2011



Artwork by Jamie

Welcome to our returning and new families! We are looking forward to an exciting new year. Our New Student Orientation and Phasing-In period has allowed our littlest students to transition into the program effortlessly. Our first week of school has been a wonderful introduction to what our little ones will experience through the school year.

August: Our goal during the month of August is to focus on what we regard as “Grace and Courtesy”. Learning the ground rules in the classroom is a key center of attention, focusing on teaching our student to use “walking feet”, “inside voices” and “waiting to have a turn”. We refer to our materials on our shelves in our classroom as a “piece of work”. We provide small group and individual lessons to the children when material is taken from the shelves. We are taking time to learn and familiarize ourselves with each other and learn our friend’s names. This month sets the tone for what our little ones will learn about independent learning, sharing and respecting one another.

September brings us to the topic of Apples! Although we live in a state that does not have apple orchards, we will imagine that we live in an area that there are huge trees with crisp mornings to go apple picking. Our practice in art will be apple related. Gluing apples in a basket, apples with collage material and apple stamping are among some of the creations your little ones will do. We will introduce the different varieties of apples that are at the market. We will discuss apples with different colors, shapes, sizes and tastes.

Our baking/cooking day this month will be "Applesauce". It is evident that each of our little ones enjoys their hands at cooking! They enjoy the process of measuring, pouring and mixing. We will peel, chop and cook our apples in a crock pot. We find that it is important for each of them to participate in the preparation process and enjoy the benefits of eating what they have made.

Communication: Our communication envelope will go home once a week on Wednesday. All your child's work will come home in the white envelope. Please return the folder the next day. Most information regarding the school is on the school website www.countrydaylargo.com/parents. Check the website for lunch menus, calendar updates and school news.

Snack: Snack is provided by the school daily. We welcome families who would like to provide a snack to our class with the provisions of **NO NUT PRODUCTS**. We will email those families interest in contributing snack to our classroom and it organized on a monthly calendar.

Volunteers: Ellis Clarkson (Amelia's mom) has volunteered to be the Room Parent for our classroom. Her leadership will help us organize class parties and room events. If you would like to bring snack or volunteer in the classroom, contact your room parent at ellisclarkson@me.com Stephanie Armstrong (Chloe's mom) is our Friends of Country Day parent group Room Representative. She will represent our classroom in FCD meetings and school events. If you would like to become involved when special events occur please contact Stephanie@thevideregroupp.com

Arrival and Dismissal:

Arrival Time: 8:45 – 9:00 am

Dismissal Time: (1/2 day) 11:45 – 12:00 pm

(Full Day) 3:00 – 3:15 pm

If for any reason you are unable to arrive at dismissal at the given time, please contact the front desk. We do not provide extended care for our half day Pre-Primary children.

Reminders:

Please write your child's name on all of their belongings.

Important Dates:

Monday, September 3 – Labor Day – **No School**

Wednesday, September 14 – Individual Student Picture Day

Tuesday, September 20 – Pre-Primary Open House 7 – 8 pm

Friday, September 23 – No School – Teacher in Service Day

We continue to work with your little ones to provide growth, development and independence. Thank you for the privilege of working and watching your children grow.

Sincerely,

Ms. Hammock and Mrs. Pier

ghammock@countrydaylargo.com