

THE CREATIVE TATTLER

CREATIVE PRESCHOOL MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Welcome to a new school year!

September is always full of new beginnings and hope for the future: We said goodbye to old friends who have moved on to exciting new beginnings at their new big schools. We celebrate the beginning of our 20-21 VPK class. Every year, we shake our heads and wonder how it's possible that these children are old enough to be VPK kids. Weren't they just transitioning from the Baby House to the Big School?

Next time someone tries to tell you that children grow up at the speed of light, **believe them.** And of course, we have the big kids on campus - our 2020-21 Kindergarten. These children are like our version of high school seniors. Our "senior" class will be crowned the morning of Tuesday, September 8th. We will welcome Brycen Smith, Cate Broxterman, Ellie Eckles, June Earp, Lilah Livingston, Marlowe Parker-Flynn, Wesley Howell, and Weston Kingry as our school leaders. With so much to celebrate - how can this year be anything but fantastic?!

DATES TO REMEMBER

- SEPTEMBER 7: Labor Day, CPS closed
- SEPTEMBER 8: First day of Creative's VPK
- SEPTEMBER 8: Kindergarten crowning, 8:30 am
- NOVEMBER 11: Veteran's Day, CPS closed
- NOVEMBER 23 thru 27: Thanksgiving holiday, CPS closed
- DECEMBER 21 thru JANUARY 4: Winter holiday, CPS closed
- JANUARY 5: Children return to CPS

IF YOU HAVEN'T LEFT YOUR MATERIALS FEE CHECK
PLEASE DO SO BY THE 15TH OF SEPTEMBER. WE ARE
ORDERING NEW PLAY MATERIALS AND ARRANGING FOR A
NUMBER OF REPAIRS. ANNUAL SUPPLY FEES ARE \$200.

September Happenings

September's focus is "Myself and My Family: growing bigger, caring for siblings and friends, and emphasizing differences." We hope you have dinner table conversations about families and how we all are different in some ways, but basically the same. You may hear about what makes up a family and how families come in a variety of combinations.

Following that lead, our colors are shades of brown (skin tones and our shapes are the sphere and the circle.

The letter we are spotlighting is "M" and the corresponding animal is the monkey" We are bringing back our sound table as we return to focusing on consonant sounds/letters. Remember, the object is that you and your child go on an "M" hunt together searching for SMALL items that can be brought to school and taped to the table. Putting things in a zip-lock bag is the ticket since items can be safely attached to the table and observed. We will label the bag with your child's name and list the items in the bag. At the end of the month we will return the things brought for the table to the owners. This originally was a VPK and Kindergarten activity. Once we opened it up to the younger children, we were amazed at the interest it created in our younger children. **This is a great way to reinforce the letter/sound as well as participate in a school activity with your child.**

Our author for the month of September is Anna Dewdney who wrote the Llama, Llama series. The eco-tip is "adopt an area on your road and help keep it free of litter."

New Meal Families - New Shirts

Our first in a series of program changes happens on August 31st. Baby House friends Austin, Autumn, Braxton, Kennedy, Mateo and Matilda join us full time at the Big School. During that week, a few families will have different meal family teachers as we gradually glide into the remaining changes happening the week of Labor Day.

Most of you have already received information about your child's new play/meal group and the corresponding color of the new group. As you know, Dr. Pam purchased two shirts for every child (free of charge to you). Some of you chose to order extra shirts to cut down on the need to wash clothes every two days. If you did not order extra, inexpensive solid color t-shirts may be found at Michael's, Wal-Mart, or Hobby Lobby. **If you prefer not to buy extra shirts, we ask that you limit clothing to the color of the group.** Most of you have been very compliant and made our lives so much easier. The color of the shirts helps us all stay in our groups and quickly be able to identify a wondering child and return him to his group, subsequently limiting his contact with others. **Please make every effort to dress your child in the color of their family.**

We are begging that you check and see if your pediatrician is giving flu shots.

Please don't put this off or let time slip away! This flu season has the potential of being quite a disaster, what with the combination of flu and ongoing issues with the coronavirus. Help us all stay healthy and safe by getting your flu shots for the family.

Dropping-Off at Creative

We need to nag a bit and ask that all children be at school before 8:30. As you have seen, we have had someone sitting at the door to welcome and do masks and temps. We were very fortunate to have Ms. Tot in that space even after breakfast had started. Ms. Tot has now returned to her position at Gretchen Everhart, and by 8:30 all of us are involved with the children and breakfast. We know that each child deserves a personal greeting and would love for that to happen, BUT after 8:30 no one will be stationed at the door. Please make every effort to get to school before 8:30.

From the Desk of Dr. Pam



Dear Parents,

We have safely made it through the summer, but with the universities, community colleges, and K-12 schools opening, we are anxious and concerned that our safe bubble will burst. Your honesty and personal wisdom have kept us safe. A number of families have quarantined themselves out of caution when they have become exposed. So far, no one has become ill. We are more appreciative than you can know. We will continue to wear our masks and disinfect everything constantly. The Smith family will continue to spray our buildings each Friday to further help with decontamination.

Ms. Kari Etters decided to leave us and work with foster care children and DCF; we will be fine because we aren't taking in new children and have cancelled the waiting list tours until things are safer. We have Ms. Meghan Howell with us at the Big School; she is a public school teacher with a background in child development in addition to being a Creative mother to Wesley and Cosby. She will help at the Big School until things at the public schools settle and become safe again. We are thrilled to add her wisdom and experience to our staff.

We will have two groups of VPK children and, of course, the Kindergarten. We must have these children here on or before 8:30 because their daily orientation circles will start shortly after 8:30 each day.

Our new video camera system will be put in this month, and the Baby House road will be paved thanks to your materials fee money. THE NEW SECURITY SYSTEM IS BEING PAID FOR BY THE "GO FUND ME" MONEY THAT ALUMNI AND THEIR FAMILIES PROVIDED DURING THE TIME WE WERE CLOSED. This new system will allow us to stay locked down throughout each day and will provide us with video information concerning people who might come to our doors. We already have felt much safer with our new Big School fencing and doors. - the new system will really make a great difference in our safety.

The new t-shirts are here and we will give them out next week to families. If you don't want to keep the old ones, we will gladly take them back to use when friends don't come in their color. You are, as always, the most wonderful families any program has ever had. THANK YOU for all you do for us.

Dr. Pam