

August 5, 2011

Hello LE 4 Parents,

We're so glad to have your child in LE 4 this year.

### **THANK YOU!!!**

We want to thank the parents who signed up to volunteer in our class: Kate Griffith, Tanya Faulkner, Lori Moore, Michelle Price, Molly Blanchard, Cindy Sotomayor, Suresh Pothireddy, Mr. Stanford, Dana Glover, Andrea Bascom, Sharon Schwinger, and Bridget Krouse. I apologize if your name was left off. Please email me so it can be in print next month.

Thank you for your generosity. Many of you purchased gift cards using our scrip program. We win twice!!!

### **VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED FOR RECESS AND CARPOOL**

Ms. Sotomayor is coming on Mondays and Fridays. Mrs. Griffith is coming on Tuesdays. We have Wednesdays and Thursdays open. Please help us out by filling in these two times. At the present, our recess is at 9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. When the weather gets a little cooler, our regular recess time is at 11:30 - 12 noon.

We have two parents to help with carpool in the afternoon. Please consider helping either in the morning or afternoon. This helps the teachers be in the rooms to greet the children and try to do planning in the afternoon. Thank you.

### **SCHOOL PROCEDURES**

School starts at 8:25 a.m. Your child is late if she/he is not in the classroom by 8:30 a.m. When you come to the school to volunteer, please go by the office to sign-in and get a visitor's sticker. This helps us identify friendly people in our school. A faculty member will approach you and ask you to go the office if you don't have a sticker. Thank you for helping keep our school safe.

### **BOOKS FROM THE PUBLIC LIBRARIES**

For the month of August, Lori Moore, signed up to get books from the library. Please help us with these topics: volcanoes, earthquakes, mountain building, the planets, galaxies, stars, seasons, day and night, and constellations. If you'll bring them in reusable plastic bags, we'll find a container in the room in which to keep. Thank you.

### **HOMEWORK**

Your child brings a yellow homework folder home every night except Friday. Please help your child establish a routine of getting the homework complete each night. You will see a Singapore Math workbook. On Mondays, a spelling list is included. You will find a table for recording Reading At Home in the folder. Please have your child read to you for about 10 minutes for 1<sup>st</sup> years and 20 minutes for 2<sup>nd</sup> years each night. Record the title, date, and number of pages read on the lines provided. It is very important that this homework folder return to school the next day with your child with the reading log and Singapore workbook. Thank you for helping build good study habits with your child.

### **YOUR CHILD'S BIRTHDAY**

When your child has a birthday during the school year, we recognize him/her by lighting a candle. If the child wants us to sing a birthday song, we do at the beginning of lunch. Please DO NOT send in a snack of any kind that day. If you want to donate a book to the class in honor of your child you may. Thank you.

## **SNACK**

The students have about 5 minutes to eat snack each day. Please send in small portions that can be eaten in about 5 minutes. Small reusable plastic containers or zip bags work best. If you have a permanent marker at home, print your child's name on the snack container. Remember, whatever your child brings to school, it will come home. That includes the packaging. Thank you.

## **RECESS**

Please have your child bring a water bottle to school each day. With the temperatures so high, it's important that your child be hydrated while playing outside. Thank you.

## **HISTORY**

This month we begin our learning in History with the *First Great Lesson: The Creation of the Universe*. This lesson "opens the doors" to many topics that we will explore this year. It is an impressionistic lesson that lays the foundation for physics, chemistry, astronomy, geography, geology, weather, and a host of other science topics.

The key word is **IMPRESSIONISTIC**. The lesson excites the mind and leads the child to ask important questions. These questions then lead him/her to explore our universe, galaxy, planetary system, and the planet we live on.

## **GEOGRAPHY**

Geography is the earth's history. Our studies lead us to explore topics such as, rocks and minerals, volcanoes, and land and water forms. We begin map skills this month.

## **PHYSICAL SCIENCE**

In physical science, our focus is solids, liquids, and gases.

## **MATH**

We use the Singapore Math program at Casa Esperanza. A lesson is given and the student does practice at home and returns the work to school the next day. Assessments are given at the end of each unit. If the student does not make an 85% on the test, a review is provided and a retake of another form of the test is given. We want your child to be successful in math. Some concepts this month are: review of grouping objects, place value up to hundreds, making number stories, comparing numbers, addition stories, addition with number bonds, and other methods of addition.

## **LANGUAGE**

We begin with a review of the components of a sentence and writing good sentences. Some students will explore the components of a paragraph, topic sentence, the body, and a closing statement. We shine a spotlight on the noun and article in grammar.

## **YOUR CHILD'S MONTESSORI DAY MEETING**

Please come to LE 4 on Thursday, August 25 from 6:30 - 8 p.m. to find out what a typical day looks like for your Montessori child. We respectfully ask that this be an adult meeting only.

## **FALL PICTURES**

Please have your child looking her/his best in Casa uniforms on August 17<sup>th</sup>. It's picture day! Thank you.

We look forward to a great year.

Sincerely,

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