

# UNITY SCHOOL



580 N. Garden Way ♦ Eugene, OR 97401

PH: 541-484-0107 ♦ Fax: 541-484-6944

## PROGRAM DIRECTORS

Unity Families,

April showers are sure to bring some stunning May flowers! It's this time of year when we start looking forward to parent teacher conferences. The teachers have been working hard all year at compiling information to present to you about your wonderful children. Each class will be posting sign up sheets, as their conference dates get closer.

Hope you all have enjoyed the first days of spring! We would love for you to mark your calendars for our annual Earth Day celebration on Tuesday, April 22nd (more info to come). There will be nature-based activities in classrooms and lots of activity in the garden (weather permitting) and we encourage you to take some time to celebrate the earth with us.

Our "WOW WALL" has been up and running for a couple years now. This space was created to offer a platform for parents, children and staff to openly express the quality experiences you have had at Unity and to write down a few words of appreciation for the amazing and passionate staff we have here at Unity School. We love to read the feedback posted each month.

Kindergarten Open House was a major success and we are starting to gain lots of interest in our full day kindergarten program for the fall. If you were unable to attend the Open House but would like some info, please stop by the office and talk with Susanne or Chris. And remember, Unity offers both full day and wrap around kindergarten care. If you are thinking about your child attending Unity kindergarten, we would love to hear from you.

Otter families, summer will be upon us before you know it. We want to remind you that Unity School will be offering our annual camp-out again this year. Please mark your calendars for Wed. Aug. 6<sup>th</sup> through Friday Aug. 8<sup>th</sup> if your otter child would like to join the fun! The camp is a 2-night, 3-day adventure at Clark Creek Campground with 4 Unity staff members. There will be lots more information and a sign up sheet, as we get closer to the summer.

Thanks for being a part of our growing Unity community!

*Susanne & Chris*

## JUST A REMINDER:

UNITY SCHOOLS hours of operation are from 7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

There is a late fee of \$5.00 plus \$1.00 per minute or \$2.00 per minute (for repeated late pick up of child). PLEASE remember that staff members' have families and obligations that they need to attend to after they leave work at 6 p.m. When they have to stay to watch a child they cannot attend to their needs until they can leave.

Thank you, Unity Staff

## PANDA CLASS



Hello Panda Families,

The month of March has been full of changes. First we said goodbye to our friend Caleb who moved to Colorado - He will be greatly missed. We also had the time change, which messed with a few of our sleep schedules, and it is officially SPRING now! We have had some very sunny days, but they have still been very chilly. Thank you for always having your kiddos layered up.

We talked about transportation and water this last month. During the transportation weeks there was a big interest in boats, so we moved to water and things you can do with it and animals that live in it. Check out our webs to see what the kids come up with. We also took a field trip to Bounce Gymnastics. It was a lot of fun!

Towards the end of this month we will be having spring conferences, so please sign up on the sign up sheet soon to choose the day and time you want.

Thank you,  
Cherri & Celia

## CATERPILLAR CLASS

Hello Caterpillar Families,

My goodness! Winter has come and gone already, and we are seeing lovely sunny days! We have been able to spend more

time in the garden with Teacher Dawn planting, watering, and weeding. Our Caterpillars have taken a big interest in shadows with all this sun, so we will be exploring this through our web and activities this month. Please remember that even though it is sunny and warm in the afternoon, we still go



outside at 8:30 in the morning and coats, hats, and gloves are often still needed.

During March we did so many fun activities! We explored the things that scare us, such as, the dark, fire and fire alarms, and monsters. We listened to a story in the dark with glow sticks, talked about what to do to prepare for fire alarms when they go off and why they need to be loud. At the end of the week our school had a fire drill and all of the Caterpillars knew exactly what to do and didn't get scared!

We found that we could do lots of monster activities. We painted, drew, and created monsters with scissors, glue and sticker eyes. We made our scares disappear by drawing pictures of things that scare us then ripped or cut them up into tiny pieces and blew them away.

We have lots of fun things coming our way with springtime. If you have not had a turn on the "All About Me" board, please sign up on the next sign-up. We would love to learn more about your family and see pictures of your darling child's face.

#### REMINDERS:

- Coats, hats, and gloves are still needed
- Please take your child's nap stuff home and wash it every Friday
- Please remember to check your child's art file and take their art home

Thank you, from the Caterpillar Teachers,  
Tara, Mischa, and Casey

## LADYBUG CLASS

Welcome to Spring in the Ladybug Classroom!

The sun has been shining more and we have been spending some more time outside lately. This trend will continue, as the weather gets better. Please dress your child appropriately for Springtime in Oregon. The mornings are usually a bit chilly and the afternoons much warmer. There are always chances of rain too! We suggest layers that can be removed or replaced depending on the unpredictable weather changes so your child will be comfortable at school.



We are finishing up the alphabet with our Letter of the Week series. Please check the parent board to see which letter we are focusing on each week. After completing Z, we will begin the alphabet again with a deeper focus on phonics. We are adding sign language to the letter knowledge as well. Feel free to ask a Ladybug teacher how to sign each letter if you want to sign with your child at home.





Thank you to Vanessa (Carlitos' mom) for volunteering her time every week! We encourage the school-home connection and want to invite all Ladybug families to come and spend some time in the classroom as a volunteer or to share something about your work or hobby that the kids may enjoy. If you have an idea you would like to share or would like to volunteer your time, please speak to Dorothy or Michelle to arrange a good time for everyone.



Parent-Teacher conferences are coming up soon! Please keep an eye out for sign up times that will work for you and bring your questions for us!

As always, please speak to Dorothy or Michelle if you have any questions or concerns.

Dorothy, Michelle, and Mandolin.

## BUTTERFLY CLASS

Happy April and happy spring!!

We are so excited that spring is finally here! Eugene is bursting in blooms and blossoms...such a beautiful sight!

March was full of fun, interesting and "different" things to learn, and the children had so much fun experimenting with sponges, rocks, plants and so much more! Thank you for sending your children to school with the sponges...we learned so much and had a ton of fun, seeing what kind of sponges everyone brought! Who knew sponges could be so much fun to learn about!

During the month of April, we will be learning about new life, gardening (inside and out), celebrating our Earth, and friendship/community.

With Parent/Teacher conferences right around the corner (May), we will be doing some assessments and putting together portfolios for each child in our class, so that we will be able to share a little of what they have learned throughout this year with us. Please watch for a sign up sheet for conference times around the beginning of May.



On Thursday, April 3rd, the Butterflies are taking a field trip to "Jamba Juice"!!! We will be boarding the Unity bus promptly at 9:30, so please have your child to school no later than 9:15. If your child doesn't normally attend school on Thursdays, please feel free to bring them for the trip. You can pick them up when we return around 11:30. If you have any questions, please feel free to chat with Pammie.

Well, that's it for this month! Have a wonderful and joy filled month!

Smiles and Hugs,  
Pammie, Dorothy and Cassie

## OTTER CLASS

Dear Otter and Otter-pup families,



Hi! Isn't it so nice to get out of winter and into milder weather? We hope you all enjoyed the sunny days we got in March! It was nice to get some nice weather for Spring Break. The Otters/pups went on some great field trips! It was a small group (as is normal during this break when many families like to use the time to take a vacation). We enjoyed a nice nature walk at Spencer's Butte where we made it to the top and had a great view of Eugene. Then we took a trip to Splash for some swimming fun and finally did a volunteer session over at Grassroots Garden.

Speaking of field trips, I want to take a moment to talk about summer break for those who are new to the group. The Otters go on 3-4 field trips per week. They also get to go on a BIG trip at the end of the summer. The field trips are based on weekly themes. They include trips to playgrounds, volunteering, museums, hikes, swimming, berry picking, and many others. I will have a list of the themes out for you by next month and will have June trips scheduled and posted by the beginning of June. And, don't forget about our annual camp-out Aug. 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>. Mark your calendar for this exciting events

We'll probably get our normal 'April showers' for this month. So, please make sure your children are prepared for outdoor play with a hooded jacket or rain jacket, and possibly rain boots. Also, the mornings are still chilly this time of year so please make sure they are wearing shoes with socks and warm clothes to be outdoors on a chilly morning.



The Otter-pups did some fun learning in March. They worked on the sounds for "Bb", "Tt", and "Ii", and learned the word families for the -en and -et sounds. The students are really showing how much they have learned, not only academic skills but also the ability to stay focused and attentive during structured times. We will be doing parent-teacher conferences in May. Please watch for a sign-up sheet. All student families: full-day, wrap-around, and after-school, are welcome to sign-up to discuss your child's academic or social progress/needs.

The themes for the month of March have been: spring, safety, and numbers... part II. We also had to say good-bye to Teacher Whitney. The students were very sweet and made her lovely, cards, pictures and a cake to show how much they will miss her. You will probably be seeing a new staff face in the Otter room soon.

Take care and please don't hesitate to ask if you have any questions or concerns!

Sincerely, Teachers Jessica & Polly

# APRIL 2014

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p>April Showers</p>  <p>bring May Flowers</p>	1	2	3 Butterfly field trip to Jamba Juice	4
7 <b>TUITION DUE</b>	8	9	10	11
14	15 <b>OVERUSE FEES DUE</b>	16	17	18
21	22 CELEBRATION 	23	24	25 <b>SCHEDULE CHANGES DUE</b>  FOOD FRIDAY
28	29	30	April 1	April 2

**PANDA TEACHER/PARENT CONFERENCE WEEK**