

UNITY SCHOOL

May

2014



580 N. Garden Way ♦ Eugene, OR 97401

PH: 541-484-0107 ♦ FAX: 541-484-6944

PROGRAM DIRECTORS

How about this weather! Welcome to the joys of spring and summer in Oregon. With one more month left until summer we are noticing longer days outside, warmer temperatures and enjoying more outside activities.

Conferences for each class are going on, so please make sure you sign up and get a chance to chat with the teachers in your child's class. If you missed your conference and would like to reschedule, please see Susanne or Chris in the office.

Teacher Appreciation week is coming up the first week of May. We are blessed with such wonderful and amazing teachers here at Unity and want them to know what a great job they do. During May 5th-9th, please feel free to surprise your child's teacher with a nice card, treat, or a big thank you! This is a great time to let them know how much you appreciate their hard work.

Mothers and grandmothers are invited to join us for a Mother's Day luncheon on Friday, May 9th. Please be on the look out for details and a sign up sheet, as we get closer to that time.

Unity School has two new bunnies! Please feel free to stop by and say "HI" to Patches & Marshmello. They will be living in the hutch on the playground for a short bit so please remember to feed them if you are doing animal care for us on Saturdays and Sundays.

We wanted to say thank you to all the families who have donated items to Unity School the past few months, we rally appreciate it! Remember, your donations are tax deductible!

Please join us for an open house on May 17th between 2-5pm for Unity School's 40th Anniversary party. Cake and announcements will be at 3:30pm. Come celebrate 40 years of supporting children & families in our community.

Thanks,
Susanne & Chris



PANDA

Hi Panda Families,

All of the children made it back to school and we finally made it to bounce. The kids had a great time being able to bounce, jump and crawl on all of the different items they had, and were ready for lunch and nap when we got back.



The month of April was spent talking about Spring and things that grow. We love having Pammie next door to us - she passes along all her great art activities to us. We did several Spring art activities with different types of materials like, paint, glue, sand, collage, water colors and spray bottles. We have added 2 new baby bunnies to our family, and there are lots of flowers and plants growing in our garden. We even planted our own seeds to watch them grow.

Our Earth day celebration was a lot of fun. The children had fun visiting different classrooms and participating in the fun activities they had, such as looking at and touching worms, gluing together tissue paper earths, and visiting the slug and snail circus.

We also want to thank all of you parents for coming to the Teacher/Parent conferences. It was great to sit down with each and every one of you and chat about how well your child is doing in our class.

As warmer weather, brighter sun, and extended outside times approach, please check your child's cubbies for weather appropriate clothing: Short-sleeved shirts, light pants or shorts, possibly sun hats, and light jackets or sweaters.

Does your child wear a special sunscreen? If so, please give it to one of the teachers in your child's class. They will label it with your child's name and store it at school. Unity does provide sunscreen for those children who do not require a special type, and on sunny days it will be put on the children.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please talk to one of us.

Thank you, Cherri, Celia & Mischa

CATERPILLAR

What an exciting month we had in April! We explored two different webs: science and spring.

Our little caterpillars so enjoyed being scientists! Some of our favorite experiments were dropping Mentos into Coke, melting salt, foam and other items with water, and making ice cream.

The class took an interest in the changing of seasons, so we welcomed

UNITY FAMILY



spring with planting seeds, stomping in puddles, collecting rainwater, and exploring nature. We welcomed Celia Todd into our classroom as the afternoon lead teacher; we are thrilled to have her as part of our teaching team! We will still have Tara and Mischa in the morning and Casey will be Celia's assistant in the afternoon. Celia will be able to answer a lot of your questions about your child's day and Tara and Mischa are always available to talk with in the morning.

This Month we have a field trip to the science factory on May 30th! Please have your child here by 9:00, we will return around 11:30, Cost is \$4 per child.

A few Reminders...

- We put sign-up sheets and parent notices up in the back of your room above the children's cubbies. This is a great place to look for information about pet care, naptime, field trips, and other events.
- Please take home and wash your child's nap blankets every Friday.
- Extra clothes (1-2 sets) to leave in child's backpack or cubby.
- The children do have small cubbies, if you notice your child's items not fitting in their cubbies, please take home some of their items, such as pillows that do not fit.



Thank you,

Tara, Mischa, Celia & Casey

LADYBUG

Ladybug families,

We have an exciting and busy May planned for the Ladybug classroom. We are going on a very fun field trip this month. We are still working out the details so check your parent mailbox for more information. As always, we will gladly welcome parent/guardian volunteers so please consider joining us on the field trip or in the classroom. Just speak to Dot or Michelle to arrange a good time to come in.



Our Parent/Teacher conferences are also coming up this month! These are a great time to check in and discuss the skills and successes of your child. They are very short and we can schedule around your busy days. Please keep an eye out for the sign up sheet in our classroom. If times on our sheet don't meet your needs, please speak to Dot or Michelle to arrange a better time.

We are right in the middle of spring, which means it might rain or be hot at any given time or even on the same day. Please make sure your child has weather appropriate clothing to stay comfortable at school. This includes a change of clothes and shoes or coats that are ready for our changing weather.

We have finished the alphabet in our weekly focus on letters and we are starting over. Our

classroom curriculum reflects the letter of the week and a topic that reflects that letter. Check the parent board for updates.

Your child has been very busy doing a lot of art and crafts and other schoolwork. Please check your child's art file for his/her latest work. Some of our files are getting very full and need your attention.

Let's have a great Spring!

Ladybug Teachers,
Dorothy, Michelle and Mandolin.

BUTTERFLY

Hi!!!



It sure has been a beautiful spring so far! We hope that you and your families have been enjoying all that it offers! This past month we have been learning so much about spring and new life. The children have been so inspired by all of the beauty surrounding us here. We have even begun planting flowers in our "Butterfly Garden", which is right outside our back door, in the three tires! Please take a peak when you have a minute!

We would like to remind all of you to please make sure that your child has **at least one, "FULL, WEATHER APPROPRIATE"**, change of clothes in their cubbies at ALL times, marked with their names. We don't have enough Unity clothes to change children into, if there are more than two that need it. The weather is still unpredictable, so it would be really helpful if you could please check your child's cubby and make sure they are prepared. Thank you so much for your help!

As the weather begins getting warmer, we are asking that all children have a bottle of sunscreen that can be kept here at school. Please mark the bottle with your child's name, and please note that we cannot use any aerosol cans. We also ask that if your child wears sandals or flip flops to school, that they have backs on them. The children do a lot of climbing, jumping and running on our playground, and shoes with no backs can be very dangerous. Thank you!

It is very important to protect our eyes from the harmful rays of sun, and we know that children love to wear sunglasses, however, they are easily broken or lost. We feel that it is much safer and convenient to have the children wear hats instead of sunglasses. This also protects their little heads as well. Please, put your child's name somewhere on the hats, so they don't get mixed up with others. Thanks!

A Few Important Dates

- Friday, May 9th - Mother's Day Lunch - 12:15-1:00
- Saturday, May 17th - Unity's 40th Anniversary Celebration - 2:00-5:00
- W, TH, F May 28-30th - Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Friday, June 6th - Butterfly "Parent Play Night" - 6:30 pm-8:00 pm

We may be taking one more field trip before the end of the school year, but we will send out notes about that if it is going to happen.

Please let us know if you have any questions regarding the above dates. Have a wonderful month and enjoy all the fun that Eugene/Springfield have to offer!

OTTERS

Dear Otter and Otter-pup families,

Wow! I am so surprised that it is May already! My goodness! How the year has flown by. Kindergarten is coming to an end and all of the Otters will be moving up a grade. We will be saying good-bye to some friends who will be moving on to other journeys in their lives. We put a form for everyone to fill out about your plans for the summer and the fall so please let us know as soon as you can so we can plan appropriately. We will be doing a Kindergarten graduation/ Otter commencement at the beginning of June. I will figure out the date soon, so that you all can get it on your schedule. The last day of Kindergarten at Unity will be June 17th. Our summer program will start on the following Monday. The kiddos will do many field trips and I will have a June schedule of field trips posted for you at the beginning of June. Let me know if you have a great idea for a field trip or maybe if your work may be a good opportunity for a field trip.

April was filled with learning for the Kindergartners! They learned about Weather, The Earth, Eggs, Dinosaurs, and People (Culture), We had a great Earth Day event where children were able to choose activities in various classrooms for an hour. We did some interesting egg experiments and dyed various items. The children learned about the various critters that lay eggs. The weather has been a great theme for us to further explore the changes in spring and how the weather affects our lives.

Parent/Teacher conferences will be May 5th to 9th. Please sign up on the posted sign-up sheet. If the posted times don't work for you please talk to Susanne or Jessica. Otter and Otter pup parents are more than welcome to schedule a time to talk about your child's development. I only discuss academic progress with the 'full-day kinders.' Otherwise, we will informally meet about social/emotional progress. One last note... I will be out from May 14th to the 21st.

Take care and we'll see you soon!

Sincerely,
Teachers Jessica, Sarah, and Polly



MAY 2014

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
			1	2
5 TUITION DUE	6	7	8	9 MOTHER'S DAY LUNCHEON
12	13	14	15 OVERUSE FEES DUE	16
19	20	21	22	23 SCHEDULE CHANGES DUE
26	27	28	29	30

MAY 17TH - UNITY'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY