

# Dolphin Tales

May 5, 2023

Volume 11 Issue 9



## May Birthdays

Eleanor H.	5/3	Ben H.	5/21
Benjamin C.	5/12	Evan H.	5/27
Parks H.	5/17	Dev S.	5/29
Hank R.	5/19		

## Summer Birthdays

Abigail S.	6/1	Benjamin A.	6/2	Michael A.	6/2
Corbin K.	6/3	Bentley W.	6/4	Molly H.	6/7
Ayati S.	6/12	Kayleigh P.	6/13	Clayton H.	6/16
Vishnu A.	6/17	Cora K.	6/19	Ben M.	6/20
Liam C.	6/23	Arhaan P.	6/24	Ace P.	6/29
Marissa G.	7/16	Quinn B.	7/17	Wanting C.	7/21
Sara Beth D.	7/28				

## Important Dates

May 11th	Lower El Field Trip – Lazy Creek Farms
May 12th	Third Year Primary Field Trip – Creative Discovery Museum
May 12th	Toddler Field Trip – Tennessee Aquarium
May 25th	Graduation
May 26th	Last Day of School (1/2 Day)
May 30th–June 1st	Teacher Work Days



# Graduation Info!



*Portraits*

Sign-Ups for Graduation Portraits are now open! Please click the link below to select a time. If the list fills up and you are not able to select a time, please contact Ms. Jamie directly to schedule a time.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10COF4EA4A62BA5FDC61-graduation1>

## *Important Graduation Information*

**All students participating in graduation should be dropped off at Brookes Chapel (Shorter University) at 8:00am on Thursday, May 25th for rehearsal that morning. Rehearsal will begin promptly at 8:30am.**

Third Year Primary Parents – Please pick up your child from Brookes Chapel at 10:30am.

Elementary Parents – Please pick up your child from Brookes Chapel at 10:45am.

*Primary and Elementary students are encouraged to go home and rest for the day following rehearsal.*

Primary parents – if your child must return to school, please send something for him/her to rest on as they will have rest time at school.

**IMPORTANT:** Adolescent/Secondary students will not be dismissed following rehearsal and **MUST** return to school.

When returning that evening for Graduation, please leave your child with his/her teacher at Brookes Chapel **NO LATER THAN 5:45**. Group pictures will begin promptly at that time and we need all participating students present.

**Please note:** Due to restrictions at Shorter University, we will not serve refreshments at the Graduation ceremony this year.

### **A Message from Ms. Ariana:**

Remember to practice your songs for graduation!





# Lost & Found

## ATTENTION:

Any items not claimed by Friday, May 26th will be donated!



Amazon Essentials  
11-12 Years



Tags Removed  
Small(?)



Shein  
13-14 Years



Children's Place  
7-8



Wonder Nation  
Large 11-12



Russell  
XL 14-16



First Impression  
24 Months



Patagonia  
S 7-8



UNI QLO  
5-6



Joules  
5 Years



Xersion  
S 7-8



Abercrombie & Fitch  
9-10



Eddie Bauer  
S 7-8



OshKosh  
3T



Wonder Nation  
XS 4/5



FUSAI  
5



AND1  
2



Assorted  
Accessories



Assorted Water Bottles



# Toddler News

Ms. Ginny's and Ms. Kelly's Class



## ★ What we have been learning...

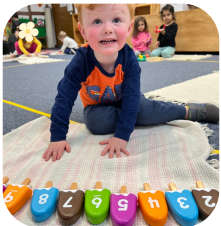
Wow! This school year has flown by! We are excited to study the ocean and marine life this month. Reminder that our Tennessee Aquarium field trip is Friday, May 12th. If you haven't yet, please purchase your [tickets](#) for the Aquarium for that Friday at 10 AM. We will meet at the bridge closest to the ticket booth at 9:45. This field trip is not required; however, there will not be anyone at the school to watch the toddlers who choose not to participate.



Thank you SO MUCH to Torben's dad for building our TWO NEW PICNIC TABLES! And thank you to Torben's mom and Finlee's mom for designing and painting them. The students have really enjoyed eating lunch on them during the pretty weather we've been having.



Keep an eye out for Toddler Swim Day coming up in May, weather permitting. We will send out info and dates closer to time.



## Thank you!

Our last day of school is Friday, May 26th. This is a half day only! Our pick-up time slot is 11-11:10am. You may pick up earlier if your student is in attendance that day. Please be prompt when picking up to ensure the flow of traffic in the parking lot remains steady. Also, please send in a large bag with their name on it that week so we can send home their belongings.





# Toddler News

Ms. Shannon's, Ms. Jessica's, and Ms. Kristin's Class



## ★ What we have been learning...

I can't believe it's May. We are finishing out our final month. We will be studying the ocean this month. We will talk about the different types of oceans and the creatures that live in them. We had a wonderful lesson on sharks this week. We talked a lot about their teeth, their gills, and what they like to eat. The ocean is a wonderful topic to end with so that we can do a lot of water work. The children have been very interested in all the new lessons. Please make sure that your child has extra clothes, including shoes. May will be a very wet month! We have a lot of fun ideas to end our school year! The TN Aquarium trip will be May 12th. Please make sure to purchase your ticket, if you haven't done so. For the last week of school, we will have a color day, dino day, movie day, swim day (weather permitting), and end the week with a dance party, snow cones, and face painting. Lots of information will be coming home closer to these days. It is going to be an exciting final month of school!



# Primary News

Ms. Krystle's, Ms. Macy's, and Ms. Trudy's Class

## Classroom update... ★

The last month of the school year is here! Boy has time flown by! I want to thank each one of you for sharing your beautiful and curious child with me. It has been an honor to be their Lead Guide this school year. I hope you have enjoyed all the growth your child has made this year, I sure have! Your continued encouragement and support has been instrumental in your child's education. Your homework this month will be to play outside for an hour. :)

The artist of the month is Salvador Dali and his paintings of surrealism, modern art, and cubism.

The cultural area we will be studying this month is: Australia and all things that encompass that such as: culture, foods, living/non-living, plant/animal biomes, musical instruments, sentence reading, instruments, landmarks, flags, etc.

We will also be studying the parts of a butterfly, parts of a bee, parts of a kangaroo, and parts of a dragonfly.

Ms. Angie will be offering Tutoring (academic, social, continuity) this summer. If you would like to sign up an hyperlink to do so will be available soon. Cost is \$30/hour.

If your child has mastered all their letter sounds and uses a reader, over the summer, you are able to check out 2 books a week. This is on the honor system. I have a sign up sheet where we keep the readers (if you are unsure of where this area is located in the classroom, please ask Ms. Jamie or Ms. Angie and they will happily show you where). The order of the book sets are: Binders 1-8, then set M1/1A, then set 2, then set M2/2A, then set 3, then set 4, then set 5, then set 6, and finally chapters books. Below is a picture of what the sign up sheet looks like. Also, please have your child complete their workbooks over the summer. If you finished yours and need the next one, please see Ms. Angie.



## Important Dates:

- **May 1:** May Day/Mother's Day celebration. All primary children need to be dressed in their Sunday best and be at school \*by\* 8:00 A.M.
- **May 25:** Graduation (more information to follow)
- **May 26:** Half day (no lunch). All primary children will need to be picked up by 11:00 A.M. because it is the last day of the school year.
- If you're interested in Summer Camp, please see Ms. Jamie.

## Third year important dates:

- **May 12:** Creative Discovery Museum in Chattanooga, TN. We will meet there at 10:00 A.M. You will need to purchase your own ticket and your child's ticket. You are welcome to enjoy the museum on your own (meaning we do not have to stay together as a group), but of course if you want to, we can stay together. At 12:30 pm we will meet in the front of the museum (outside) and walk over to Sticky Fingers to have lunch together as a community. Each child needs their own adult to accompany them on the field trip.
- **May 17:** Ridge Ferry Playdate. Please pick your child up from school at 11:00 A.M. and meet at Ridge Ferry under the gazebo and we will let the children play and eat their sack lunch together. You may take your child back to school, if needed.
- **May 25:** Graduation. All third years will meet at Shorter College at 8:00 A.M. for graduation practice. You may stay or come back to pick up your child. Please pick up your child at 10:30 A.M. If your child comes back to school, your third year child will be required to rest.

**May (June & July) Birthday celebrations.** Main dish and dessert will be provided by the birthday family. Please supply your child with fruits and veggies to supplement.

- **Mila,** 5/2- pizza and cupcakes will be served
- **Kevin,** 5/5-pizza and cupcakes will be served
- **Hank,** 5/10-Food TBD
- **Benjamin,** 5/16-pizza, fruit, and cupcakes
- **Arhaan,** 5/18-Food TBD
- **Ben,** 5/22-Food TBD
- **Dev,** 5/24-Food TBD





# Primary News

Ms. Angie's, Ms. Karabeth's, and Ms. Rana's Class




As we observe the afternoon work cycle and we often think about how fortunate we are to work with our current third-year students since they were three years old.



How their concentration level has deepened, their vocabulary expanded, their large and fine motor skills improved, and lastly, and perhaps the most importantly, their awareness of themselves – how they can take care of themselves and how they can help others, how they can contribute to the classroom community to make our room an even better learning environment for all of us. How ready they are to start a new chapter next year!

One of the incredible factors of the Montessori classroom is that the children are not only guided by the adults but by their own peers as well. Maria Montessori said, "We discovered that education is not something which the teacher does, but that it is a natural process which develops spontaneously in the human being." Seeing how the older children navigate themselves in the classroom encourages the younger children to follow in the footsteps of the older children, and the wonderful three-year leaning cycle of the Montessori classroom continues so naturally. It is a beautiful domino effect, and we are thrilled to say that the younger children are well prepared to receive the torch and continue their Montessori journey next year.

As sad as we are (as always) to have to say goodbye to those who are leaving our environment, our excitement for the next year is also tremendous! We wish you the best with your new adventure, and for those who will be returning next fall, we can't wait to start our new chapter!



**Dear Parents,**  
**The last day of school... the closing of one door and the opening of another. I want to thank each child for all the warmth, the memories, and the learning that we have shared this school year. To my students, I say THANK YOU! For when I teach, I also learn. This past year we have grown together. A little bit of each of you will always be with me. Always strive to be the BEST that you can be!**  
**To the parents, I say THANK YOU for allowing me to be your child's teacher. It has been a wonderful and rewarding year for me. I will love your child** Always





# Lower El News

Ms. Robin's and Ms. Dolores's Class

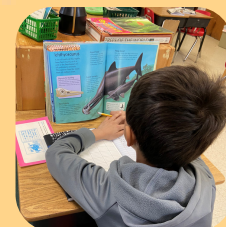


May Day was lovely. Thank you for participating and standing out in the chilly air!

The lower elementary field trip to Lazy Creek Farms is next Thursday, May 11th. We have enough drivers for the trip. Thank you to those who volunteered! We'll leave around 8:30 am and return to school after lunch. The trip will include picking strawberries, a farm tour, a presentation on the life cycle of the strawberry and the honeybee, and ice cream. The cost is \$10 per person. Please turn the money in by this Friday, May 5th.

Graduation will be held on Thursday evening, May 25th at the Shorter University chapel. Our school also presents the end of the year performance at graduation, so all students are asked to attend. 3rd year male penmanship students need to wear khaki pants, a white dress shirt, and a navy blazer. 3rd year female penmanship students should wear a white dress and white shoes (No heels, please). All other students should wear special occasion clothes.

There will be a graduation practice at the Shorter University chapel the morning of graduation. Students need to be dropped off at the chapel by 8:00 am. They will need to be picked up after practice. All students are welcome to go home and rest for the day. They may also be brought back to school until regular dismissal.





# Lower EI News

Ms. Stefanie's and Ms. Ribar's Class

Children are ready for a break after working hard to finish their school year. Yet sometimes, pausing a well-honed learning routine can worry parents. Summer learning loss is a real thing; it refers to a child's regression in school skills, such as reading or math, that can occur over the summer break. While parents may continue with independent learning activities at home, it can feel tricky to continue them while travelling.

The good news is that summer learning can be adapted for the road, hotel room, or tent. The Montessori Method is a wonderful fit for things like outdoor learning and fostering independence.

The Montessori Method encourages the development of the whole child. In addition to strengthening their academic abilities, Montessori learning advocates for children's social, physical and emotional growth. Children are encouraged to be independent and to follow their natural curiosity. It's important that children can engage with their interests at their own pace, in a variety of settings. Since learning focuses on direct interaction with their world, children learn by doing.

If this sounds like the way a child may naturally approach being on vacation, you're correct. Exploring new places creates a wealth of learning opportunities for children. Taking a family trip allows for practice in new ways, too. How often does your child get to pack a suitcase?

There's also a palpable excitement in the air as a vacation draws closer that's ideal for your child's imagination. Vacationing in a traditional place your family is accustomed to visiting can trigger memories of routines only found on holidays, such as making s'mores around the campfire or swimming in the same lake. Meanwhile, a brand-new destination can encourage an adventurous spirit in children – anything from the local language to cuisine is a chance to explore and learn.



Montessori classrooms are designed to allow for large blocks of uninterrupted time for exploration. Your vacation can do the same. Maria Montessori prized unstructured exploration as the ultimate learning experience and noted that “free choice is one of the highest of all mental processes.”

But according to the National Recreation and Park Association, unstructured outdoor play has decreased by half for children in the last 50 years. To put free time first, it's critical to avoid the desire to over-schedule your child.

More free time can make a family trip feel even more restorative. As a parent, you're asked to intervene as little as possible when it's time for discovery and play. Once you see your child focused and engaged in an activity, think of providing support as a way of encouraging them to go deeper.

I hope you all enjoy creating meaningful memories with your friends and family over summer vacation!

# Upper El News

## ★ Coming up this month...

We would like to thank our mothers/special persons for celebrating with us on May Day. We hope everyone enjoyed the program. Thank you for all that you do! Please be aware that the picture frame gift has a protective film on it. Please peel this film off. Thank you!

### May 19th (Tentative)– Native American Presentation

- This presentation will be given to the younger programs and will take place in the classroom. This is an interactive presentation. The students will present their artwork and artifacts that they make in class.
- Students need to dress according to their tribe. We encourage homemade costumes but they do not need to be elaborate. Try to find articles of clothing around the house that would go well with your tribe's traditional wardrobe.

Graduation– May 25th – All students will meet at the Shorter University Chapel at 8:00 a.m. for practice. The practice typically ends by 10:30 a.m. Please let us know if your child will need a ride back to school. The graduation ceremony starts at 6:30 p.m. and all graduates need to be there by 5:45 p.m. A schedule for pictures will be sent out soon. Non-graduates (4th and 5th years) need to arrive by 6:15 p.m.

### Graduation Attire:

- Girls (Zoey)– need to wear a white dress and white shoes
- Boys (Luca, Davis, Ace)– need to wear khaki pants, white collared button-down shirt, a navy blazer, and black shoes
- Non-graduates (4th and 5th years)– need to wear their Sunday best

### Half Day/Field Day – May 26th

