

Dolphin Tales

March 4, 2024

Volume 12 Issue 7



March Birthdays

Bodie C.	3/4	Emerson H.	3/11
Wyatt P.	3/4	Gordy F.	3/13
Dhiren K.	3/6	Coco S.	3/14
Heidi M.	3/6	Maggie Mae W.	3/21
Tessa A.	3/8	Noah D.	3/23
Rajveer S.	3/9	Jamesen H.	3/31

Important Dates

March 10th	Spring Forward! Clocks go forward one hour.
March 22nd	Reenrollment Packets / Deposits Due
March 29th	MSOR Easter Egg Hunt
March 31st	Easter
April 4th	Science Fair Division Street Gymnasium
April 8th–12th	Spring Break
April 19th	Gardening Day



Toddler News

Ms. Ginny's & Ms. Kelly's Class

What's been happening...★

We are excited to welcome March by learning about the farm and farm animals. We'll sing songs, read books, introduce new work and really try to bring the farm to life. Declan's mom and dad have been preparing something fun for our class. They've placed several eggs in an incubator at home and will be bringing in some baby chicks to show our class this week. Thank you to the Singletons for sharing this process with our classroom.

We will also have a petting zoo come visit our classes on Thursday, March 28. It's always a fun day petting the different farm animals that we've spent the month learning about.

We will also have an egg hunt on Friday, March 29. Please send in a dozen, treat filled eggs, taped close.

As a reminder, we will be closed for Spring Break April 8-12.

If you haven't purchased your tickets for the aquarium field trip on Tuesday, May 14th, please don't delay! The 10AM timeslot will fill quickly and we'd hate for you to miss it.



Toddler News

Ms. Shannon's, Ms. Kristin's, & Ms. Rachel's Class



★ What's been happening...

This year is flying by! March is when we learn about the farm. This month we will talk about the different names of the animals, what they eat, and what we get from them. Cook Farms will come to school at the end of the month. They will bring a mini horse, mini donkey, calf, goats, sheep, chickens, rabbits, ducks, and possibly a piglet (if it arrives in time). The kids will get to feed and pet them. It's a great way to end the month!

We will also have our annual Easter egg hunt on Friday, March 29th. Parents don't normally attend this because it is over in about five minutes. Each child will need to send in a dozen stuffed eggs. We ask that you not send chocolate, candy that melts, or anything that could be a choking hazard. Our elementary kids will hide the eggs for us and students will need to bring a basket to hunt them on that Friday morning.



Also...

I just wanted to reiterate the importance of buying your tickets now for our TN Aquarium field trip. Please buy your tickets for Tuesday, May 14th at 10. I would hate for you to miss the chance to join us that day. The availability is going fast on other dates so I'm sure it will for this one as well.

Thank you all for making time to come in for a conference with me. I enjoy getting to share their progress with you. It's amazing how much they all grow in a year.

Primary News

Ms. Angie's, Ms. Karabeth's, & Ms. Ribar's Class

★ The Sensitive Period for Language: Tips for Ages 3 to 6

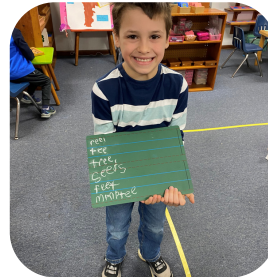
Along with expressing their own thoughts, growing children need a wider vocabulary in order to understand the thoughts of others. There is no better time for young children to learn words than from the ages of three to six. Montessori called this the sensitive period for language. She described it as a window of opportunity, during which the child is drawn to a particular activity or experience and finds it especially easy.

Children this age are word sponges. Notice how hard they listen and how eager they are to try big words like architecture or asparagus. When you give them a rich language environment at just the right time, children's communication skills will thrive.

Learning language is so easy for children during this sensitive period that they can even learn two languages at once. This works best if parents choose a language and use it consistently; for example, mom speaks Mandarin and dad speaks English. Associating one language with one parent at first helps the child discriminate between languages and know which language is being spoken.

Read more here:

<https://www.montessoriservices.com/ideas-insights/language-learning-at-home>



Primary News

Ms. Ortrud's, Ms. Camela's, & Ms. Trudy's Class

Springtime is a wonderful season for children to engage in gardening activities. Here are some ideas and tips for children's gardening in the spring:

1. **Choose Child-Friendly Plants:** Select plants that are easy to grow and maintain, and that children will find interesting. Examples include sunflowers, cherry tomatoes, lettuce, radishes, and herbs like mint or basil.
2. **Create a Kid-Friendly Garden Space:** Dedicate a section of your garden or allocate containers specifically for the children to plant and care for. Make sure it's easily accessible and safe for them to work in.
3. **Teach Basic Gardening Skills:** Teach children the basics of gardening, such as how to prepare the soil, plant seeds or seedlings, water plants, and weed the garden bed.
4. **Make it Fun and Educational:** Engage children by making gardening fun and educational. Encourage them to observe the growth of their plants, learn about the life cycle of plants, and identify different types of flowers and vegetables.
5. **Use Child-Sized Tools:** Invest in child-sized gardening tools that are safe and easy for children to use. This can include small shovels, rakes, watering cans, and gardening gloves.
6. **Encourage Creativity:** Allow children to express their creativity by designing their own garden layouts or decorating plant labels. Let them personalize their gardening experience.
7. **Provide Supervision and Guidance:** While encouraging independence, provide supervision and guidance as needed, especially with younger children. Teach them about safety in the garden, such as handling tools carefully and avoiding harmful plants.
8. **Celebrate Achievements:** Celebrate milestones and achievements in the garden, such as the first sprout, the first flower, or the first harvest. This can encourage children to continue caring for their plants.
9. **Explore Nature:** Use gardening as an opportunity to explore nature and learn about the ecosystem. Talk to children about the importance of pollinators, the water cycle, and the role of sunlight in plant growth.
10. **Enjoy the Harvest:** Once the plants have grown and produced fruits or vegetables, encourage children to harvest and taste their own homegrown produce. This can be a rewarding experience and may even encourage them to eat more fruits and vegetables.

Overall, springtime gardening provides children with hands-on learning experiences, encourages a connection to nature, and fosters a sense of responsibility and stewardship for the environment.

For more reading about gardening with children, follow this link,

<https://www.pbs.org/parents/thrive/gardening-with-kids-how-it-affects-your-childs-brain-body-and-soul>



Lower EI News

Ms. Robin's, Ms. Dolores's, & Ms. Rana's Class

★ Science Fair is right around the corner...

Participating in our school science fair is a fun way for students to explore their world, to question how things work, and to learn scientific principles. Children who participate in science fairs learn skills that can be used for problem solving and critical thinking throughout their school years and life. Our students get so excited when we start to discuss science fair. They enjoy having the opportunity to choose topics they are curious about, asking questions, and planning experiments that will help answer those questions. This fosters their creativity and problem-solving skills. They learn how to plan, organize, and implement a project.

As they conduct the experiment, they learn valuable observation and data gathering skills. As they record and analyze their results, they arrive at a conclusion. We question them so that they reflect on the project, think about what they might do differently, what they have learned, and why. This ability to analyze and problem solve are skills they will use throughout their lifetime.

The excitement is palpable during science fair week when the children set up and design their display boards. They are eager to “show and tell”, as they demonstrate their experiments and explain them to their teachers and classmates. They gain confidence and improve their communication skills during repeated presentations.



Upper El News

Ms. Kathleen's Class

A look back at February...★

February was a busy month full of excitement, growth, and celebration in our Upper Elementary environment. Our studies of ancient Egypt all culminated on International Day and the children enjoyed giving speeches, dancing, singing, and eating delicious food. Thank you to all our parents for participating and making it a special day for the children. We also celebrated Valentine's Day in class by exchanging cards, sweet treats, and even school supplies.

Students often grow and accomplish important goals outside of classroom. We would like to congratulate Seanna Kautz who recently competed in 4-H's District Project Achievement and placed third for her presentation on native Georgia wildlife. Congratulations also go to Bo Payne and Jase Pruitt who led their Upward Blue Devil basketball team to victory and won a championship title... in last minute buzzer fashion. Way to go Seanna, Bo, and Jase!



★ Moving forward into March...

March is all about science in the classroom. We are so excited about science fair this year. The American Montessori Society says, "Giving Elementary children the opportunity to engage in scientific exploration and experimentation on their own is an essential component of a well-rounded Montessori education; it promotes scientific thinking and fosters second-plane development." Please support your child by helping them with research, formulating a testable question, and constructing an experimental model. With your help and enthusiasm, we will have a wonderful science fair this year.

This March, we have several field trips coming up. The first will be our trip to the Rome Floyd Eco Center on Friday, March 8th at 9:00 a.m. We also have our annual 5th year fire station visit on Monday, March 18th at 9:00 a.m. We will send out permission slips with detailed information about both trips.

Jekyll Island is coming up! ★

Lastly, we are looking forward to our three-day trip to the Jekyll Island 4-H Center on April 24th, 25th and 26th. We will send out detailed information about total costs and recommended packing lists in the weeks to come. Thanks for all you do to support your children's growth.

