

May 4th, 2018

Volume 6 Issue 9

# DOLPHIN TALES

## Important Dates:

**May 5:** Support True Value Hardware—a great supporter of the school and the Booster’s Club at their Open House all day Saturday! Carter Avenue. Open 8 am to 8 pm.

**May 5:** Chalk Your Heart Out. 6th years compete for Boys & Girls Club. Vote for us on Facebook!

**May 11:** Third Year Primary Field Trip **May 18:** Toddler’s Field Trip

**May 24, 2018 @ 6:30 pm**

**Graduation and Choral Spring Concert**  
**Shorter University**  
**Brookes Chapel**  
**Mandatory for all Elementary and Adolescent/Secondary Students**

**May 25, 2018**

**1/2 Day Last Day of School**

## May Birthdays:

Sam M.	5/10
Benjamin C.	5/12
Cooper S.	5/25
Cydney A.	5/27



## *Toddler News from Ms. Ginny & Ms. Pam*

I can't believe this is the last newsletter of the year!! I could not be more proud of this class. They have grown tremendously since the beginning of the school year! It's always hard to see the school year end and for kids to move up to Primary, but we will still keep an eye on them. We are grateful to have the younger ones join us for another year. They are like our children! We love seeing them learn and grow!!

Mother's Day/May Day was amazing! Our class did great with all of them singing and participating!! What a difference and how far they have come since the beginning of the school year. Thanks to you that came. It's my favorite program of the year.....so sweet!

This month we will be learning all about the ocean animals. It's so much fun for the children and so many cute songs to sing and crafts to make. We also will have our end of year field trip to the Chattanooga Aquarium and will be able to identify a lot of the sea creatures from the books we read and talk about:)! Each student must have an adult attend this trip with them in order for them to go. We will not meet at school, but at the aquarium at 9:45 by the bridge at the ticket office. Please be on time so we can all at least start together. Each parent will get a slip from us to show an education discount which will save you around \$15. It is free for 2 years and under, but \$8 for 3 year old and adults are \$24.50. Please wear field trip shirts. We are finished by lunch and then you are on your own to eat or continue to explore Chattanooga.

The returning toddlers moving up to Primary visited their classrooms this week on Wednesday and Thursday and will visit next week on Tuesday, May 8 and Thursday, May 10. They MUST be here by 8:20 to get them to those classrooms by 8:30. They start line time at 8:30 and are not allowed to entered after line time starts. Please be on time.

On Wednesday, May 9, we will have a storyteller, Ms. Noodlehead, come to read to our students. Toddler story time with her will be at 10:00.

On Wednesday, May 23, we will celebrate ocean month with swim day!! We will have lots of kiddie pools up on upper elementary playground and have lots of water fun!! The children need to wear their swimsuit to school that morning and bring extra clothing to change into later. Please apply sunscreen prior to bringing them in and make sure all their extra clothing will be labeled in a bag. They will need water shoes or flip flops and also a towel for drying off. We would love a volunteer to bring popsicles for them. We really like the slow melt kind best. Also, please send a no warm up lunch that day!!

The last day of school is May 25. It is a half day with toddlers being dismissed at 11:00.

Thank you again parents for all the many things you have done this year (you've been wonderful), and also for allowing us to love and teach your children. It's honestly been an awesome class!!!



## *Toddler News from Ms. Shannon & Ms. Dana*

Can you believe it's the last month of school? I can't! This year has really flown by!! The children started out so small and have just grown in every way possible! I'm so proud of this class! They are such a sweet group of children and I am so thankful to have had the opportunity to work with them this year. I have grown to love them all dearly! I will miss my older ones who will move on next year! I can't wait to see how much my returning ones will grow over the summer! Thank you for all that you've done to make our classroom a wonderful place to be!

This month we will be learning about the ocean. We will talk about the many creatures that live in it, we will also discuss that the fact that there are multiple oceans, and learn lots of fun songs and make a few crafts. We will be doing lots of water work this month in the classroom-such as sink and float, scrubbing the shark, and an ocean sensory table.

We will take a trip to the Tennessee Aquarium on May 18 to see some of the animals we will learn about this month! We will meet there at 9:45 by the bridge next to the ticket office. Each parent will get a slip to give the cashier to show that you are with our school so that you can get the education discount. The cost is \$8 for 3-year-olds and 2-year-olds are free. The cost for adults is \$24.50.

Each child will need an adult to transport and be with them for the day. Please wear your Montessori field trip shirt. We will tour the Aquarium together and then will dismiss for lunch. You are then welcome to tour more or head back to Rome.

We will have a swim day on May 23. We will have small pools set up to swim in. The kids will need to come to school dressed in their bathing suits, cover-ups, swim shoes, swim diapers if applicable, and sunscreen. You'll also need to send in a towel and a bag with clothes to change into afterward. We ask that you please not send in warmups at lunch on this day; something like a sandwich would be perfect.

The last day of school is May 25. It is a half day. Toddler dismissal will be at 11. We will need a large bag for them to take their things home. Thank you again for a wonderful school year!! I hope you have a wonderful summer!



## *News from Ms. Ana Maria & Ms. Valerie*

Hello,

I can not believe it is the last month of the school year! We have had an exciting school year and have learned so much!

Here are some ideas of things to do with your child this summer:

- Have your child write letters to friends and family. They could even tell you what they would like to write and then trace it or copy it. Younger students could draw pictures.
- Send your child on a nature/bug hunt. Let them start a nature table somewhere to collect things they have discovered.
- Let your child help with more things around the house. They can set the table, wash windows, fold towels, and sometimes even help with some cooking. Give your child more responsibilities, and they will rise to the occasion.
- Be sure to sign up for the reading program at the Sara Hightower Library. It is a great way to encourage your child to read throughout the summer. The children get prizes for the amount of time they read. The time you read to your child also counts.
- Encourage your child to count objects. Maybe when you are cooking, have your child find 15 toy cars for example. You could even make it a game in the car to see how far you can count.
- Play I spy games, but do it with letter sounds. I spy something that starts with an "a." Make it a scavenger hunt, where they have to find objects in the house for certain letters.
- Ms. Angie and I will be around the school this summer. We encourage you to continue to check out readers during the summer so your child will continue on their reading journey.
- Call up friends to meet at the park for play dates.
- The children love science projects. On a rainy day, you could google some science projects and do some with your child. You can do a lot of science projects with just things you find in the kitchen.
- Another favorite is painting or drawing with chalk.
- Please let me know if you are interested in tutoring this summer. I will have a schedule soon. I just need to finalize all of my summer adventures first.

Be sure to send us any pictures of any adventures your child takes this summer! I hope everyone has a wonderful summer break.

Thanks!



## *Primary News from Ms. Angie & Ms. Carolina*

We have had a wonderful year and it has flown by. Its hard to believe that our school year is coming to an end. We have enjoyed watching the children bond with each other and form friendships that will last a lifetime, gain knowledge through many lessons, and learn to work out differences through communication. It has been an honor to be a part of your child's journey thus far. We have shared many beautiful moments that will forever be treasured.

Our year of studies in August began with our place in the universe. We enjoyed learning about the planets and how we can make our planet Earth a better place for our future. From the universe, we went to the oceans. We learned about the land and water that makes up our planet. The children enjoyed a "Space-y" lunch and then an "Ocean-y" snack. Lessons about the ocean were some of our favorites. The children enjoyed learning about many of the ocean animals and creatures.

Our trip to the pumpkin patch was a great way to kick off fall. We saw some amazing pumpkins and enjoyed the day with family and friends. We ended October with our traditional Halloween walk. Watching the leaves change color throughout the month and enjoying the weather get cooler were again made into lessons that the children enjoyed.

In November we enjoyed our traditional feast in class to celebrate Thanksgiving, during this time, the children shared things that they were thankful for; families and friends seemed to be on everyone's list. We also began preparations for the infamous HOLIDAY PROGRAM. Once we were told what the theme was, we immediately thought of Elvis and the showgirls. We were able to have a vision of the children performing on stage in Vegas. It was so much fun to perform and I am sure that each of you enjoyed watching. We also enjoyed pajama day and a visit from the Elf who left snowy marshmallows all over the room.

After enjoying our winter break, we began our studies for International Day. Learning about Switzerland was fun and we enjoyed the food. Time never slowed down and neither did our studies. We loved the Easter Egg Hunt and watching the arrival of spring. One of our favorite's studies in the spring was watching the caterpillars become butterflies. Our lessons on flowers and insects are fun and we always learn something new.

Our primary class trip to the Chattanooga Zoo was a fun day with the families. The children enjoyed sharing the multitude of information that they had learned about the animals.

~"Free the child's potential, and you will transform him into the world"~

May Day brought out beautiful flowers, children dressed in Sunday best, and fellowships with friends and families. It was nice to honor Mom on this day also.

We are ending our year with more studies of insects and flowers. We will have "Bug day" on the last day of school, which is a half day. We are also enjoying our last few days with some friends who will not be in our class next year.

It has been a great year with many wonderful memories. Thank you for sharing your children with us.



## *Elementary News: Ms. Maggie and Ms. Stefanie*

“When a child begins to think and to make use of the written language to express his rudimentary thinking, he is ready for elementary work; and this fitness is a question not of age or other incidental circumstance but of mental maturity.” - Maria Montessori

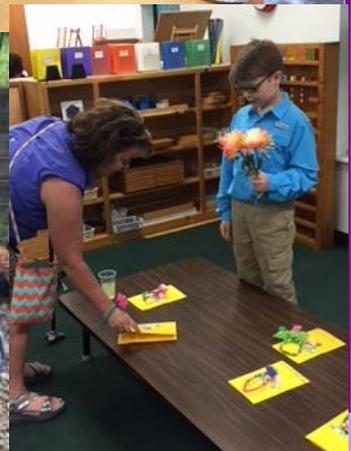
The ability to communicate through the written word is an important and indispensable skill even in today’s technological world. In lower elementary we strive to build the foundational skills a child will use throughout his or her lifetime to communicate thoughts, feelings, ideas, and information. It is a gratifying accomplishment for a student to grow in his ability to compose a sentence which accurately expresses the precise thought he or she wishes to convey. Our students have many opportunities to utilize the written word both in our typical morning work cycle and for special programs throughout the year. First, second, and third-year students receive suitable assignments through the Language Albanesi cards to improve their ability to compose sentences about various subject matter. This requires the child to use critical thinking skills as well as creativity. Students also have opportunities to improve their written communication through journaling each morning about an event which occurred on that day in history. Historical Timeline and International Day presentations are two excellent occasions for a student to gain proficiency not only in sentence composition but also in composing a paragraph. A Montessori education offers unique and productive avenues for a child to expand their knowledge and application of the written word. Thank you all for celebrating Spring with us at our beautiful May Day presentation. Watching the Maypole being woven is always a charming sight and we appreciate the hard work the students put into it in order to present it to us all. Thank you to Ms. Dagmar for working with our students on their songs!

During the month of May, the 1st and 2nd years will be studying the continents of North and South America. We’ll be learning the countries, capitals, landforms, waterways, and flags of these 2 continents and finishing our lessons on the parts of the plant for 1st years and the types of leaves for 2nd years. The 3rd years will explore the continent of Australia, Chordates in Zoology, and parts of leaves and flowers in Botany.

Our class will be taking a field trip to the LCCL Strawberry Farm this month. The students were very enthusiastic about this trip last year and we’re certain it will be just as enjoyable this year! Fresh strawberries are always a treat! May 16th is the date for our strawberry picking. Not only will we be picking fresh strawberries, we’ll also be enjoying the most delicious strawberry ice cream around! Strawberries are \$2.50 per pound and ice cream is \$4.00. Please send money for your child in a sealed plastic sandwich bag labeled with their name.

Graduation will be May 24th in Brookes Chapel on the campus of Shorter University at 6:30. All students need to arrive by 6:00 for pictures. All female graduates should be dressed in a white dress and male graduates in a navy jacket, tie, and khaki pants. All other students should be dressed in their “Sunday best”. Please join us in congratulating our graduates and students as they move on to their next cycle of learning!

It’s hard to believe the end of another school year is here already! This year has been one of exciting new discoveries, growing in grace and knowledge, making new friendships, and strengthening old ones. We’ve loved our time with your children and look forward to seeing everyone again in the Fall! We wish you all a restful summer spent relaxing and creating fun-filled family memories!



## *Elementary News: Ms. Dolores and Ms. Anna*

May Day was beautiful and I hope all the moms and visitors enjoyed it as much as our children enjoyed preparing the special day for you. Thank-you, Ms. Dagmar, for teaching us such fun songs! Spring is finally here, we think...

During May we will finish up our botany studies, using our recently re-beautified Memory Garden to complement the study of leaves, flowers, and seeds. We also plan to do a little rock hounding/identification.

As we reflect on the year that has passed us by so quickly, the children seem to remember the field trips and special events the most; reinforcing the fact that all the extra time and effort that go into pulling these things off is well worth the end reward. Our Fall trip to Carlton Farms still gets mentioned during afternoon class time and the recent 4-H trip to Rock Eagle was so popular that the children have much difficulty choosing their favorite moments. Our fabulous chaperones cannot be thanked enough for making these off-campus trips possible. And thank-you, Boosters, for our in-house field trips. The science guy was amazing, the storytellers entertaining, and the Bartow History visitors were a perfect complement to our Rock Eagle classes.

The first years still have their "happy to be in lower elementary" excitement and have learned to be more independent and make wiser choices. They've been thrilled to begin mentoring our rising 3rd year primary students and want them ALL to be in our class next year. Also enjoying our recent classroom visitors, the second years are eager to take on their leadership roles next year. Though we hate to see them go, the third years have achieved their lower elementary goals and return from their upper elementary visits radiating with enthusiasm. I consider the 3-year cycle to be one of Maria Montessori's more genius ideas and she had plenty of them.

Thank YOU for entrusting us with your child's education. We love them all and look forward to many more interactions this month and next school year.



## *News from Ms. Rebecca and Ms. Kaitlin*

### Exercises of Practical Life - Elementary

What do we do in elementary practical life in our home?

There is no concise list. The idea is to provide practical life exercises needed for the children's specific needs. Ideally, they've left primary with basic skills in cleaning, basic food preparation (including cooking with a toaster oven or similar), polishing, care of self, care of clothing, work cycle completion.

Teaching practical life skills seems to come more naturally at this age because historically children have begun to learn these things at this age. We chose to teach certain skills at primary because there is a joy in just doing the activity in and of itself. Now those things are integrated and the child's mind and hands are free to move on to focus on things that are now of deep interest. By the adolescent years, they should have enough tools to work through the emotional changes with grace and health.

Now, in elementary, they are on to bigger things than at primary. In the home, here are some ideas for practical life practice:

- continuing ALL skills from primary
- answering the phone
- taking a brief message
- placing a phone call
- using the sewing machine
- following a very, very basic sewing pattern
- continuing with cross-stitch, crochet (trying to add knitting)
- Weaving
- indoor gardening
- woodworking- sanding, patterning
- changing light bulbs
- charging batteries of various kinds (phone, computer, rechargeable batteries)
- reading a map (inside buildings, road maps)
- using fusible web to make some clothing and stuffed animal repairs
- household repairs as they come up (just include the children in everything)
- selecting merchandise at the store for supplies for our home businesses
- grocery shopping lists
- basic budgeting - household
- basic budgeting - personal expenses
- pet care
- emergency situations (when/how to call 911, what to do if someone collapses)
- very basic first aid care
- how to handle various social situations



In reality, practical life is all around us. As much as possible, include our children in the real day-to-day events and occurrences in our lives, providing them skills through the lives that we adults lead.

<http://montessoritrails.blogspot.com/2012/04/exercises-of-practical-life-elementary.html>



# 2018 Rome Track & Field Kids Camp

2017 Girls and Boys Floyd County Champions  
2017 Boys Region 7-AAAAA Champions; Girls Region 7-AAAAA Runner-Up  
2018 Girls and Boys Floyd County Champions  
2018 Girls and Boys Region 7-AAAAA Runner-Up

\* Required

**May 29, 30, and 31**

**COST: \$30 prior to May 23rd, \$40 after May 23rd.**

**LOCATION: Historic Barron Stadium / Maddox Track 5:30pm to 7:30pm**

For more information, please visit <https://goo.gl/forms/YuqUeb6AOSzCyWPI2>

