



The Tree House

Tid Bits

April 2018 Newsletter

Spring is here, it is such a wonderful time of year. Spring at The Tree House gives us a breath of fresh air. We are reflecting on the growth of the children in our programs and look forward to the final months of the school year - can you believe school is out in 8 short weeks! Time to start making your summer plans.

There is no school on April 30th. There is no preschool that day. A camp day is offered for school age children and the forms will be available on the sign in table by the middle of the month. We will send out a remind text when they are available.

Our next **parent discussion group CHANGE OF DATE:** Sibling Rivalry (or rivalry with any family member) will be on Thursday April 12th from 6 - 7 PM here at the Tree House. This is open to the entire community and as always, we provide free childcare.

We are excited about bringing back Family fun night in the park! We are in the works of planning another "Wheel Experience" and music in the park event on Thursday April 19th from 6-7:30. We will have trucks and tractors for the children to explore, a trikes and scooter obstacle course for children to try and at 6:30 Jump For Joy Music will perform for us. There will be dinner available for purchase. More details to follow as we get everything finalized.

School age registration for the fall will begin May 1st. You will be automatically enrolled for the 2018/19 school year with the same schedule you currently have and bill you the registration fee. Please let us know if you are making other plans for next year so we can open up your spot for new families. If you would like to make changes to your current schedule please turn in a new application on May 1st. We anticipate that our afterschool program will fill as it did this year so don't delay!

Summer program information for both school age kids and preschool kids is out and enrollment is ongoing. It is likely that we will fill in both programs so sign up soon if you need a spot.

The **Lost and found** is out of control and we will be donating what's left at the end of each week. If you label your kids jackets and sweatshirts we are happy to return them to their cubbie or hook.

Two Day: Friendships, play and music fills this class. It has been really fun to watch them develop and transition from parallel play into the beginning stages of cooperative play. It is easy to see how they will fit into our 3 Day class next year. Their language is

growing every week, picking up new words and they are starting to use the Boost concepts of "thought bubble" and "trade you" very effectively. As the weather continues to warm the children enjoy playing in the water. It is essential that each child has a change of clothes in their cubbie! We don't like them to come in wet and sandy and we really don't like to send them home (or to child care) wet and sandy. Please help us!

Three Day: St. Patrick's Day was full of fun for the Toucans. They had fun growing leprechaun eggs then checking them out when they had hatched and left glitter and footprints all over the Tree House! Their favorite book was *The Night Before St. Patrick's Day*. They loved the group play with beans, shamrocks and containers. Outside they loved digging for gold. Great development for all those large motor muscles! With the warm weather the kids like to play in the sand and water. Unfortunately, they are not very neat about it so they get wet and sandy! Please leave a change of clothes in their cubbie so we can change them before sending them home! This class has really taken to the Boost vocabulary. They make sure their body is in the group at circle time and that they are listening with their whole body when the teachers and their friends are talking. Thought bubbles, group plans and bubble timers to negotiate a turn are part of their daily play.

PreK: The monkeys had a blast looking for leprechauns. They checked their eggs daily and wondered why some were bigger than others, they loved looking for clues that the leprechauns had been in the classroom. It was great fun to watch them go around as a group looking for clues of glitter and foot prints. Their favorite book was *Dinosaurs Galore*. They loved talking about the difference in different dinosaurs, singing about them and making graphs about what dinosaur was their favorite one. The monkey's social skills and use of the Boost concepts is impressive to watch! They are sharing and taking turns very effectively and largely independently. They make group plans and include those who want to join. The social skills they are learning are invaluable for the years ahead of them.

Enrichment: Outside play is a favorite for this group, especially when the weather is so nice! They love four square, wall ball, various tag games and playing in the sand. Inside the kids are exploring art, dramatic play, putting on shows and playing lots of games. It is great to hear the kids use our Boost vocabulary, "What is the group plan?", "Can I join your plan?", "You can have a turn when the timer is done". Using this vocabulary helps the kids cooperate in groups and learn how to be flexible and cooperative with others.

Enjoy this amazing spring weather. The weeks from now until school is out go by fast. Enjoy!