

**LENEXA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
PRESCHOOL/CDO NEWSLETTER
APRIL 2019**

Welcome Spring! Our classrooms and halls reflect the joy that spring brings to us all. We are looking forward to warmer weather and more frequent outdoor recess. Preschoolers are excited to watch our own crop of painted lady butterflies come to life in our preschool rooms in late April. Be sure to sneak a peak if you get a chance!

April and May have many important dates including:

April 3 & 4	Vision Screening during class time
April 17	Pre-K Conferences (Make up snow day for Pre-K/T-K)
April 18	T-K/3-Yr.-old Conferences (NO Preschool)
April 22-25	Scholastic Book Fair
April 25	Awesome Art Show/Book Fair 6:00-7:30 pm
May 14	Last Day for Enrichment
May 15	Last Day for TK/Pre-K
May 15	Last Day for CDO (Make up snow day for CDO)
May 16	Last Day for 3-year-old Preschool
May 17	All School Picnic at Electric Park, 10:30 – 12:30 am

SPRING ART SHOW AND OPEN HOUSE

On **Thursday, April 25**, teachers will be in their rooms from 6:00-7:30pm to greet students and families and view some of the children's awesome art work. This special evening gives us an opportunity to celebrate the children and teachers that play and learn here together every day. Additionally, there will be an early childhood Scholastic Book Sale in the gathering room of the Preschool Building, and an interactive musical performance by Johnny and Adam in Schneeberger from 7:00-7:30.

We hope your family will come and enjoy this festive evening with us!

HENRY'S HAUL DONATIONS

During our spring Art Show Week while we celebrate your child, we will celebrate all young children by seeking donations of hot wheel cars for patients at Children's Mercy. This charity is sponsored by a current preschool parent and her business, The Kid Stitch. Leave your donation in one of the tubs outside the preschool office April 2-27. See the attached flyer on the last page of this newsletter for more details.

FALL 2019

Please spread the word to friends and neighbors that we still have a few openings in our Pre-K, T-K, and Toddler CDO classes. We would love to have some new little friends to help us fill those spaces. We have a few spots open in Enrichment classes too. Thanks for spreading the good news about our school. Our parents ROCK!

OUTSIDE PLAY

Please remember to dress children appropriately for outside play. Even though we may expect a high temp around four o'clock, please keep in mind your child may be playing outside in mid-morning when it is much cooler. Long pants, layers, and/or jackets may be necessary for their comfort.

STRENGTHENING COMPARISON SKILLS

Helping your child develop comparison skills is a great learning opportunity to help them understand the world around them and nurture vocabulary. Think about ways to help your child compare routines and objects in daily life. Compare your breakfast, bedroom, or clothing with your child's. Discuss "How are they alike?" "How are they different?"

POSITIONAL WORDS

Play the positional word game with your child when you have a few spare minutes. Say to your child "Put your dinosaur "in front of" the couch. Now put your dinosaur "under" the couch." Use "beside", "behind", "on", "in", and any other positional words you can think of. Having your child act out positional words with their bodies is also fun for children.

Having your child put their dinosaurs in a line, you can begin teaching them numerical order of "first", "second", "next", "last", etc. These real-life opportunities can be fun activities for you to enjoy together that teach important concepts to your little one.

T-K

This month we are finishing up "The Three Little Pigs" story, house and dictation. We have read different stories about the "Three Little Pigs" and are comparing/contrasting the different versions. For example, what is the difference between the stories we've read? Is anything the same? We will become the author and illustrator of our own "Three Little Pigs" book. We'll also talk about the zoo. What animals live there, where those animals would live if not in the zoo, and their natural habitat. Our next topics will be chameleons and geometric shapes.

PRE-K

April brings in many exciting activities, including our spring conferences. We are amazed by the amount of growth your children have made this year! We look forward to meeting with you and sharing all the exciting things your children have accomplished this year. As the weather warms up and the world outside of us gathers with life, we will explore the beauty around us. Our first area of emphasis is learning about the great masters-of-art, including Piet Mondrian, Georgia O'Keefe and Michaelangelo. We will end the unit with a contemporary artist they all know and love, Eric Carle. We will then take our studies to "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" by Eric Carle and study caterpillars and butterflies! We will learn about their life cycle and study the symmetry of their wings. It's a very exciting unit as we have butterflies hatch in our room during that week! We will then move into studying weather with many opportunities to learn about clouds, wind and rain. We have many fun and exciting activities planned this month! Before we know it, May will be here, and the flowers will be blooming!

MONDAY/WEDNESDAY ENRICHMENT

Hello families! Happy April! In Pre-K Enrichment this month we will be bringing the outdoor elements inside! This month we are exploring how rainbows are made, we will learn about gardening and try to grow our very own grass! We will celebrate Earth Day and learn how to protect our earth. During our last week we are going to explore the creepy crawly world of bugs! We hope for good weather, so we can take some of our lessons outside.

3-YEAR-OLD PRESCHOOL

April is full of showers as well as sunshine, springtime births of new babies of all varieties, and new discoveries around every turn for our preschoolers. We will start the month with our unit on frogs and pond life. We will explore the life cycle of the butterfly from egg to adult and we will read *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle. We will create our own beautiful and symmetrical butterflies. If you hear your child sing the silly song, "I'm bringing home a baby bumblebee!" you will know where he or she heard it. We will learn about the fascinating lives of bumblebees and why their very existence, along with other pollinating creatures, is so very critical to us. Our book, *In the Tall, Tall Grass*, will introduce us to the hundreds of insects that inhabit our own back yards and we will make our own tall, tall grass pictures. Be careful where you step!

TUESDAY/THURSDAY ENRICHMENT

We are looking forward to another month of fun activities in Enrichment. Our art projects include finger painting, clothespin caterpillars, and inkblot butterflies. We will spend some time this month talking about Earth Day, our wonderful world, and ways to protect nature. We have a fun art activity planned to celebrate Easter, and we will use Easter eggs to do a science experiment, use fine motor skills, and practice counting. We look forward to what we hope will be a month with nice weather and lots of outdoor play. Please make sure the extra clothes in your child's backpack reflect the current weather, just in case a change of clothing is needed. Our school year has gone by so fast. We will definitely be enjoying our last several weeks together!

OLDER 2'S AND YOUNGER 3'S CDO

April will be a full and fun filled month as we welcome in spring. We are hoping for weekend April showers and nice sunny days during the week for playing outside. We need that after all the ice and snow. This month we are looking forward to the art show and are getting lots of art done to show you. We will enjoy the following units:

Week 1- Zoo

Week 2- Rain & Rainbows

Week 3- Easter

Week 4- Flowers & Grass –things that grow

Our shape this month is the diamond and our color will be Rainbow!

TODDLERS CDO

April brings warmer days, sunshine and the opportunity to run and play outside. The first two weeks of April we will be having fun playing and learning about dinosaurs. Then, we will be splashing into some water fun! We will catch fish, whales, and ducks with our nets. We will float our sailboats in the water, while discovering what items float or sink.

FANTASTIC FRIDAYS/FRIDAY ENRICHMENT

As the weather is finally warmer, we are excited to stretch our growing muscles and play outside! We are looking forward to running, climbing, jumping, and riding bikes in the sunshine. The month of April has an exciting start as we begin our ocean unit. We will learn all about the animals and fish that inhabit our oceans. We will read Mr. Seahorse & The Deep Blue Sea. There will be much splashing in our sensory table as we catch fish with nets, explore shells, and watch out for a few sharks hiding in the waters. The last two weeks of April will be all about Bees & Bugs. Learning about the life cycle of a bee, making a bee hive, and discovering pollination will keep us very busy. We will become budding little Entomologists as we learn about many other insects. We will be "busy bees" this month!

MUSIC AND MOVEMENT

Hello SPRING—we are going to welcome the change in season with fun, upbeat songs about bugs and bunnies—and a little about the weather! We will put together a routine with rhythm sticks using nursery rhymes and try some "limbo-ing". Towards the end of the month, we'll begin preparing for our final songfests in May—it'll be here before we know it!!



**What we need...
NEW Single-
Pack
Hot Wheels Cars**



for the patients at Children's Mercy Hospital

Drop off location: LUMC Preschool

Donations accepted: April 2-27

The Child Life Program at CMH provides a fun environment for kiddos to occupy their time during procedures and to put a smile on their face during their stay. Toy cars may seem like such a simple donation. However, these cars mean the world. *No donation is too small!*

Questions: Ask Lori

More info: www.HenrysHaul.com

GOAL: 10,000 SINGLE-PACK CARS!