

The Sun Times

Volume 7, Issue 10

Newsletter Date

La Luz Early Childhood Center

Enrich the Day, Brighten the Future.™

This month at La Luz ECC:

- Monday- Friday 1st-4th: Scholastic Book Fair
- Monday- Friday 4th-8th Teacher Appreciation Week
- Tuesday 5th: Teacher Potluck
- Monday 11th: Pre-school- Pre-K Dance Performance
- **Monday 25th: NO SCHOOL**

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Hi everyone. I wanted to take a few minutes to thank all of you for entrusting us with your children. We know that where you leave your children while you are at work or school is one of the hardest decisions you'll make and we are honored to be the one that you have chosen.

With that said, we are coming upon another "graduation" season and we are going to start seeing our pre-kindergartners leave us as they make that transition to kindergarten. This time of year is always bittersweet for us. Many of these pre-kers have been here since they were infants and we have watched them grow up. Huge milestones have been accomplished: sitting to crawling to walking to running, babbling to words to sentences, diapers to potty, scribbles to letters to writing/spelling names and words, finger painting to using a brush and painting masterpieces, drinking milk from a bottle to being fed to finger foods to feeding themselves with utensils. The milestones are endless and we have been there along with you in most cases, every step of the way. While we are sad to see them go, we can't tell you how proud we are of what wonderful young ladies and gentlemen they have become. It's always amazing how quickly they move from being seen as infants and toddlers to being ready to enter elementary school. That transformation happens so quickly. Incoming parents of preschoolers take notice (i.e. current parents of Ms. Danielle and Ms. Stephanie). You see your children as toddlers now, but somewhere around September, you will see them as preschoolers. I don't know if this is because our expectations for them have changed or if this is a natural progression for them but I have a feeling that it is a combination of both.

So, congratulations to La Luz ECC's graduating class of 2009. You will be deeply missed but never forgotten. I must go order extra tissue now. Have a great month!

Lisa

Ms. Miyuki's News

Hello everyone!

We are very excited about our beautiful weather. Our children are enjoying outside play time. We want to remind you that you need to put sunscreen on your children before coming to school and bring in a hat and pair of shoes for outside play time. Thank you!

On Monday, May 11th we will be going on a field trip to Explora. We will meet at there at 9am and leave at 11am. We plan to eat lunch at 11:30 back at school. If your child will **not** be participating in this event, please let us know so that we can arrange for extra help.

Ms. Miyuki, Ms. Susan and Ms. Shauna

Ms. Jennifer's News



Someone is out playing in the sun!!!

Ms. Arlene's News

Hello parents! Hope everyone is having a wonderful spring. The time has gone by so fast; we are just about done with the young toddler classroom. All the children are ready to explore new toys and broaden their horizons.

Big news, Emily mastered potty training! Wow! She did it like she was a pro. Great job, Emily! Some of the other children are still trying hard. We do have a few that did not take to kindly to the potty, so we are going to include them in visiting the bathroom but hold off on using it until they feel more comfortable. Remember parents, when they are ready for it, be strong and go with it, don't give up because of a few accidents. I know it's tough, but we will get through it. =-)

With the very hot weather and extremely strong sun, please bring in a summer hat for your child if you have not already. Also, sunscreen is needed if we don't already have some. Please apply sunscreen to your child in the morning and we will apply again in the afternoon. With the hot weather comes very thirsty children. Please bring in a water bottle for outdoor play. These bottles need to be labeled with your child's name. We ask that these water bottles STAY here at La Luz and are only used for WATER. (please note: water bottles; not sippy cups. There are really cool ones with pop up straws for this age group.)

We are looking to plan another field trip soon, most likely to the zoo. If you have any suggestions for other field trips, please share them with us.

A few reminders:

May 1st- Open Registration

May 4th-8th- Teacher Appreciation Week

May 5th-Teacher Appreciation Potluck

May 10th- Happy Mother's Day!

May 25th- **La Luz CLOSED!**

And.... drum roll please!!! May 26th Happy Birthday to Ms. Joslyn!!

Thank you,

Ms. Arlene

Ms. Maria

Ms. Joslyn

Ms. Mona's News

Dear Parents,

We want to start with a few reminders. First, breakfast is served from 8:30am-9am. Second, since it is getting warmer we will need you to apply sunscreen on your child in the morning and we will re-apply it in the afternoon before we go outside; also while talking about the weather, please be sure to check your child's extra clothes in their cubby. Finally, we want to ask that you not send your child in onesies since we are potty training. Your child should wear clothes that are easy for them to pull up and down. On that note, whenever you're ready to switch there is no turning back. Consistency is key.

In April we talked about Birds, Bunnies and Chicks, Pond Life, Insects, and Reptiles. The children enjoyed getting sticky gluing feathers on a bird, and cotton balls on a bunny, as well as making ponds in a cup with Jell-O. We also went on an insect hunt and read books about reptiles. In May, we are going to be learning about our Magnificent Mothers, Zoo Animals, Rectangles and Colors. We will be having a Mommy Pizza Lunch on Wednesday, May 6th at 11am and we invite all our mummies to join us.

Next we want to wish a Happy Birthday to Carly Ann, Aaron and Ms. Lindsay this month.

Finally, as you are all aware of now, Ms. Lindsay is on maternity leave due to unexpected complications. She is very sorry to have left us so early and misses the kids, but is on strict bed rest until the baby is born. We have her in our thoughts and miss her a lot. Ms. Denise will be her replacement till she comes back in August. Ms. Denise worked with Ms. Stephanie and Ms. Danielle's class last summer and this past fall. She is currently going to school at UNM as an Education major. We are very happy to have her join our team for the summer. She will start on May 18th. We want to thank Ms. Katia and Ms. Merilee for their help in our room till then. Since we are talking about leaving we want to say GOOD-BYE to Kristin. She will be leaving us at the end of May to be with her sister at a new school. She was a great addition to our class this year and will be missed very much. We wish her the best of luck at her new school.

Sincerely,

Ms. Mona, Ms. Ana, Ms. Lindsay, and Ms. Denise

Ms. Danielle's News

Greetings!

Spring is here and along with spring we still have winter weather. Please bring in a sweater or a light jacket for your child.

During the month of April, we studied about new life, dental health, doctors and nurses, and firefighters and police officers. We made baby chicks, painted with toothbrushes, made a band-aid collage, and put spots on our fire house dog.

We will be celebrating Cinco de Mayo during the first week of May, and we will study insects, spiders, and bugs on the weeks that follow. We will be making colorful crafts and cooking yummy food.

We are planning a field trip to the Natural History Museum on the 29th of May. Further details to follow.

We would like to thank Megan's dad, Mike for bringing the fire trucks and the wonderful gifts in addition to all the new bike helmets. The children enjoyed exploring the trucks.

Happy belated Birthday to Jordan, Madeleine, and Levi. They turned 3 in April. Happy Birthday to Jack, Hudson, and Nicholas. They are turning 3 in May. Happy Cinco de Mayo!!

~ Danielle, Elma & Lisa

Ms. Stephanie's News

Warm weather has finally arrived. We hope it stays warm for us. Please make sure your child has a hat and sunscreen. We ask that you apply sunscreen on your child in the morning and we will reapply it in the afternoon.

We will be learning about these topics in May:

May 4-8: Special People

May 11-15: Pond Life

May 18-22: Teddy Bear Fun

May 26-29: Camping Fun

On June 10th we will have a BBQ Picnic. We will be celebrating our Moms and Dads. Please join us for some good food and company.

Thank you for joining us on our field trip to the Rio Grande Nature Center. We had such a good time.

We have four birthdays this month: Addison on May 2nd; Mat on May 11th; Tomas on May 26th; and Lily on May 28th. All of them will be turning three years old. Happy Birthday!

We are looking forward to our last summer with all of the children before they go to preschool. We will be planning lots of summer fun activities. On July 29th, we will be having a Going to Preschool Party for our wonderful children. Please keep an eye out for information. It is so exciting for them but it will be sad for us to let them go. We hope you can bring them by to see us in the infant room in August. We have had such a great time seeing your children grow and mature with us.

We will be CLOSED on MAY 25th for Memorial Day.

Stephanie, Mercedes and Connie

Ms. Kristin's News

May is here and the weather is getting warm. Please make sure your child has sun-screen here. We will be applying it in the AFTERNOON. So please make sure you put it on them in the morning. May is also the month in which we prepare for our summer water play and movie days. We will be sending home information and permission slips towards the end of the month.

We would like to remind you that on the 5th at 9:45am, the Exotics of the Rainforest will be coming to class with all their wonderful birds, amphibians and reptiles. Please feel free to join us if you are available. It is always lots of fun.

As a reminder, now that children are wearing their shorts, we will have more skinned knees due to slips and falls. To help prevent this, please make sure children are not wearing flip flops, crocs, or sandals without traction.

Your children are doing wonderfully. They have grown and learned so much. Make sure to pick at their brains and get them to share all their great information.

Kristin, Lynsey, Kendra

Ms. Emma's News

May flowers are in bloom and so are your little ones. How fast they grow! Thank you for joining us for our Earth Day/ Spring Celebration. We had a great time planting. Eating our favorite foods was also a big plus. Our next social will be in June. More details to follow. The curriculum for this month is..

- Letter Q
- Letter M
- Focus on Farm Life
- Focus on Land and Water Animals
- Nutrition

Have a wonderful month.

Sincerely,
Ms. Emma
Ms. Emmily
Ms. Matilda

Ms. Mary Jo's News

Dear Family and Friends,

Can you believe it? It is time for our Pre-K graduation in a couple of weeks! Time has just flown by hasn't it? Hopefully everyone has the date—May 15th—and the time—10:00am blocked on their schedules. The children have really been practicing and are looking forward to performing for their families. Please fill out the attendance sheet that is by the sign in book so we know how many people will be attending this event. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask one of us.

We have been telling the class that after they graduate that they will no longer be **PRE**-kindergarteners, they will be real kindergarteners, and during the summer we will call our class—Summer Camp. I know that several of you have had questions concerning our summer routine. Hopefully this info. Will help:

1. Classes after graduation will continue as usual with several fun exceptions.

Monday: Tumbling and gymnastics!!

Tuesday: Movie Day (you will receive a list of movies and be asked to sign a permission slip)

Wednesday: Water play (more info will follow)

2. Instead of our usual weekly themes, we will concentrate on "Summer Fun, Sun, and Sand Activities."

3. We will continue to reinforce the skills the children learned during the year.

Please remember to bring in new sunscreen for the summer months. If possible, lotion, because it is easier for us to apply in the afternoon. (The spray type gets all over the furniture and makes our floor slippery.)

Last but surely not least, some of our classroom families will be leaving us at the end of the month. We want to make sure that all of you know how thankful we are for how easy you made our school year. We had support from all of our parents and we knew that we were always able to come to you with our concerns. Thank you everyone for all your support.

Merry May,

Ms. Mary Jo

Ms. Janice

Ms. Debora