

Saline Cooperative Preschool

Newsletter

March/April, 2011

A Note from Ms. Bonnie

Thank you to everyone for the little things you have done throughout this year. And thank you for the generous gifts I have received from you.

Children need to develop positive self-esteem—to feel good about who they are. Self-confidence is fostered when children have challenging activities that they can master, and when adults give them real decisions and choices about their learning.

Young children gain confidence as they accomplish difficult tasks. As they work through the stages of development, new challenges and tasks present themselves every day. Confidence is built as children learn to do new things like tie their own shoes, spell their own names, or complete a new puzzle.

As a parent, you can be a partner in building your child's self-esteem. Giving children responsibilities at home, and increasing those responsibilities with age, help to build self-esteem. Encouraging a child by specific comments is also effective. An acknowledgement of a job well done—for example, "I noticed you carefully folded all of your socks and put them away."—has more meaning to a child than a general "good job."

Early childhood expert Lillian Katz reminds us that esteem is conveyed to children when adults treat them with respect. We respect children when we ask them for their views and preferences, and when we provide opportunities for real decisions and choices about the things that matter to them.

~Ms. Bonnie

A Note from the President

I want to thank everyone who attended the General Membership Meeting. These meetings

are important. We are a Cooperative Preschool and as such, we operate with each member receiving voting power. Therefore, we need members there to vote.

An email was sent out about the theft we experienced recently at the preschool. Please remember to be cautious with your valuables. Until the Board can create a cash policy, please place any payments in the locked tuition box. Make sure you put any accompanying paperwork in the fundraising, or other appropriate, box. Joanna Day, the Assistant Treasurer, can't guess what is inside an envelope, so please label your payments. (Example: Brendan Patrick, 4 PM, Little Caesar Fundraising.)

The Board is busy preparing for next year. We especially want to thank the Membership for their support of the new 5-day-a-week afternoon program. We hope it will be successful. If you know anyone who might be interested, have them contact Deb Hamann, the Membership Chair.

Next month will be the combined Board Meeting for the new and old Board. Your help during this transition time is greatly appreciated.

~Victoria Patrick

A Note from the Vice President

Thank you to everyone who has returned the Preschool Survey, received at the March General Membership Meeting. If you have not yet turned the Survey in, please leave it in the Vice President's box as soon as possible. The

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Board appreciates your feedback and will try to incorporate your ideas for next year!

~ Becky Meyers

Important Reminders: Please Read!

Health Issues: You must contact Andy Stager (Health Chair) if your child is diagnosed with a communicable disease!

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Job Folders: **Job folders must be returned to the preschool by April 29.** Contact Lynne Lemley, Job Coordinator, if you need your Folder beyond that date. Please give folders directly to your Session Chair so that your folder can be signed in. If you must, for some reason, leave your folder in the Session Chair's mailbox, it is your responsibility to include your name, clearly visible, inside the folder, on a post-it note.

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Publicity Opportunity: Please fill out the *Ann Arbor Family* Family Favorites Ballot (www.annarborfamily.com). You must vote for a minimum of 30 items for your ballot to be counted. Remember to vote for the Preschool as "Best Preschool" and Ms. Bonnie Jacques as "Best Teacher." *Ballots are due by April 22, 2011.*

Fundraising Update

Mark your calendars! Lily sales will run from April 12th to April 19th. After Easter, look for Little Caesar sales.

~Jenny Roberts
Fundraising Chair

Field Trip Update

3's: No current information at this time.

4's: An information letter was placed in each member's box on Monday, March 28, regarding our upcoming field trip. On Monday, April 18, we will be visiting City Limits Pancake House in Saline. Siblings are welcome to come, but due to safety issues, they will not be allowed in the kitchens. When paying for the field trip, please give money directly to your Field Resource Representative. More information will be forthcoming. If you have any questions, please contact your Field Resource Representative.

We have also scheduled a field trip to Copper Creek Conservatory on Wednesday, May 18, for both the morning and afternoon sessions. The students will have an opportunity to enjoy some of the animals that have a permanent residence on the property, as well as have a hands-on classroom experience. Exact times and cost are still to be determined.

~Field Resource Coordinators
Melissa Wolff, Julie Marion,
and Veronica Malinczak

Important Dates

4/11: Classes Resume after Spring Break

4/22: No School

5/5-5/6: No School (3's Conferences)

5/9: Mother's Day—4's

5/10: Mother's Day—3's

5/15: **Fundraising Totals Due**