

May 2010

West Cobb Times

Thank You For A Wonderful Year

Every year at this time, I can't believe how quickly the school term has gone by. It seems like just yesterday that I was speaking at the Private School Orientation and giving tours to perspective parents to join our 2009-2010 program. It's been an amazing year filled with many West Cobb traditions (History/Holiday Program, committee meetings, field trips, conferences, testing, and transitioning from room to room) along with many new ideas/activities (Monthly Spirit Night, Music Night, Trike-a-thon, updated daily sheets, French, and Chess program). We've had many returning teachers and some new faces this year. I'd like to thank the staff at West Cobb for continuing to help the school grow and become stronger. I'd also like to thank the parents of West Cobb for continuing to support the program and for giving me feedback (in person and through e-mail) about their experience.

I'd like to thank Liam's mom (the chair for the Parent Expertise Committee) who enabled us to have some of our parents share their talents with the school.

I'd like to thank Chandler's dad, Darrick's mom, Louise/Lucas mom, Carson's mom, Stone's mom, and Paige's mom for your dedication on the Education Committee. You rocked this year!!!

I'd like to thank Tiffany/Tristan's mom, Owen's mom, Jalen's mom, Carter's mom, Diane's mom, Deanna/Jesse's mom, Stone's mom, and Shawn David's dad for helping to creatively come up with ways to raise money during a recession year.

Most especially, I'd like to thank the Parent Advisory Board for giving me feedback from 'the parents' perspective throughout the year. The feedback and suggestions will stay with me as I plan and map out our 2010-2011 school year.

I hope the end of the school term is a happy time for you. Please let me know if I can assist you in any way to make the transition to the summer program any easier for you and your family. Again, I appreciate you having chosen West Cobb Prep Academy for your child's educational, social, cognitive, physical and emotional development for the 2009-2010 school term. The staff at West Cobb hopes to serve you and your family for many years to come.

Ms. Marla

parent Surveys

Included on the counter next to the newsletter is the Final Parent Survey of the 2009-2010 school term. We would really appreciate your feedback in helping to make our school grow better and stronger. It is an anonymous survey, therefore we would appreciate your feedback... both positive and negative. We will have a light blue box in the lobby beginning Monday, May 3rd and it will stay there for 2 weeks. Please help us by sharing your thoughts and feelings!

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

5/3-5/7

With the help of so many West Cobb Families, the Teacher Appreciation Committee has planned a week full of special treats for the staff at West Cobb. None of this would have been possible were it not for the families who contributed to the financial fund.

Thank you in advance!!

INFANT 1 & 2

In April we not only welcomed Aidan, Austin and Gabrielle to our class, but also Ms. Kelly! We spent a lot of time learning about each other through tummy time, outside play and simply learning about the individual vocalizations we have.

We explored the sounds around us by playing with rattles and listening to the wind chimes outside. We enjoyed stacking up towers of red blocks and knocking them down again.

During storytime, we talked about face/body parts while reading 'Nighty Night' and 'Eyes & Nose & Fingers & Toes' along with many others.

We look forward to learning more about each other and exploring more of our environment together!

Ms. Laura, Ms. Kelly & Mrs. Louisitha



Congrats to Tessa's family on the birth of their new son!

TODDLERS

During the week of Earth Wonders, we focused on the ocean and various ocean animals. We had fun making our own Octopus and Crab!

During the weeks we discussed Insects, the children had a blast learning about butterflies, caterpillars, and ladybugs. The children enjoyed reading two of the classes favorite books: The Very Hungry Caterpillar and The Grouchy Ladybug.

The sign language we learned were Play, Baby and Help.

We focused on the oval and diamond shapes.

Ms. Arkeyshaw and Ms. Princess

**Don't forget-
We will be closed Monday,
May 31st in honor of
Memorial Day.**

JR. PRE-SCHOOL 1

During Earth Wonders theme, we learned about the beauty in our earth. We created bird feeders which were sent home, but we kept one to place outside our classroom where we were able to enjoy watching the birds stopping by.

We learned about the importance of friendship and made our own friendship chain for the room.

Of course, the Egg Hunt was a huge success! Not only did everyone enjoy hunting for the eggs, but we encouraged everyone to 'share' their eggs with others.

During Insect Week, we displayed fake insects in our science center and the children enjoyed looking at them through the magnifying glass. We learned a few new songs such as "Shoo Fly" and "The Ants Go Marching".

We learned many new Spanish words this month including Moon/Luna, Bee/Aveja, Spider/Arana, and Friends/Amigos.

A few more of our friends have joined the 'potty crew' and we are so proud of them!

Mrs. Martha

SR. PRE-SCHOOL

We had a spectacular month of April. We used our imaginations to dream of Art, Stories, and Music. Turning our room into an Art Museum was fun. We made cool sculptures, Abstract Art, Portraits of Ourselves, and Letter Art. We learned of famous artists like Leonardo Devinci and Picasso.

Next, we had a wonderful time talking about three classic stories (Goldilocks and the Three Bears, The Three Little Pigs, and The Three Billy Goats Gruff). We discovered that each story has the number Three in it and the word 'The'. We also learned about the th blend. Our favorite story was 'The Three Little Pigs'.

We love music and thoroughly enjoyed creating our own band in our class. We listened to famous composers such as Bach and Mozart. We had fun learning about musical opposites (the tempo, the pitch and the sound).

We found out different ways our bodies move. Whether we are jumping, dancing, tip-toeing or eating, we are always moving EXCEPT when we are sleeping!

That Puppet Guy was awesome! He taught us how to keep the Earth clean. As we prepare for Pre-K, we will begin to blend more sounds and begin reading words.

Ms. Tia and Ms. Erica

Thank You

Jr. PRESCHOOL 2

During our Earth Wonders Theme, we focused on bodies of water, mountains, flowers, and animals. We planted grass and made bird feeders which we hung on our playground fence.

For our theme of Insects, we had a bug hunt outside on our playground and drew pictures of the different types of bugs we found.

During our Authors and Illustrators theme we read some of our favorite books. Before we read each book, we read each author and illustrators name and discussed what they each did for a living.

Ms. Tameka & Ms. Ericka

To Maya's mom for volunteering to teach the children about Origami.

To Noelle's mom for organizing and coordinating Teacher Appreciation Week.

To the parents of Layla, Trip/Nicholas, Austin, and Chandler for referring families to West Cobb. They will receive \$100 referral fee.

TRANSITION WEEK FOR MANY OF OUR STUDENTS

5/24-5/28

Current Sr. Pre-School Children:

All children who will join either the Private or GA Pre-K in the fall term will move to the classrooms in the back of the building (currently Kindergarten classes). Ms. Tia will take over one of the two classes while Ms. Erica will take over the other. Both classes will continue to use the curriculum they have been using throughout the year.

Toddler-Jr. Pre-School 2 Children:

Some of the older children from each of the rooms may receive transition letters for the next classroom. If we feel your child is ready and your child is age-eligible for the next class, you will receive a letter via your child's cubby the 2nd week of May.

*All those who are potty trained and 3 years old will move to the Sr. Pre-School class- however since Tia and Erica have moved out for the summer- we'll let you know who will teach the class in the transition letter.

*All those who are 2 1/2 years old and in the Jr. 1 room will transition to the Jr. 2 room.

Mother's Day Celebration

Calling All Mother's!

We'd like to invite you to share in the celebration with 'Muffins with Mom'. You are invited to stay for morning snack on Friday, May 7th (whenever your child's class has morning snack on their schedule). Although adult seating is limited, your child will be thrilled to hand you your card/gift and share with you their daily schedule!

*Parking is limited, so please use the Food Depot parking lot instead.



Conferences

SUMMER PLANS

for Infants through Sr. Pre-School

Since we are a full year-round program, we are assuming your child will continue in our school through the summer. If this isn't the case, please stop in the front office so we may remove your child from our master summer roster.

The Private School will hold their Parent/Teacher Conferences the week of May 3-6th. For those who are regularly picked up at 2:30, we have early dismissal those 4 days at 12:30 instead. Those children who are in the full day option will automatically go into the afternoon program with the assistants.

Please be sure to sign up for your conference.

This is the final conference of the school year.

If you haven't signed up yet, please do so today.

PRIVATE PRE-K 2

We started off the month with dying eggs and going on an egg hunt! Maya's mother came to visit our class and taught us how to do Origami. We had so much fun learning how to make a house, piano, and a dog out of paper. It was such a great way to start off the month of April. For Earth Day, we got to learn about how to make our earth a better place and watched a puppet show.

In Math, we learned about Tangrams, three-dimensional shapes, subtracting basic numbers, and adding basic numbers. We started to practice our hundreds charts and are coming so far on them! We are continuing to reviewed skip counting by 2s, 5s, and 10s. We are beginning to identify even and odd numbers, as well as symmetrical designs and measuring distance.

In Social Studies, we have been reviewing our home phone numbers, birthdays, address, and the city and state in which we live in. We learned what the United States looks like on a map and where Georgia is within the United States. We also learned about the Globe!

In Phonics, we learned about the disgraphs SH, TH, and OO. We began to talk about the sneaky E and how it sneaks into words to make the other vowel long. We learned about how the sneaky E makes the A long as well as the O.

Ms. Lauren



Private Pre-K (Kensley, Lucca and Lauryn) at the Egg Hunt. Who could find the most eggs?

PRIVATE PRE-K 1

In phonics,

we studied blends •br•ch•sh•ck•gr• and sp. We had fun identifying words with blends in the titles of some of our favorite books.

In math, we learned how to use a ruler, abcc patterns, count by two's, and learned how to solve word problems.

In social studies, our character education word was courtesy. We also made personal identification books to review our addresses, birth dates, and telephone numbers.

In science, we studied plants. We planted seeds and learned the steps needed for seeds to grow into plants.

We especially, enjoy celebrating earth day!

In May, we will review the concepts we learned in Pre-K, look forward to making our end of the year books, and preparing for our graduation.

Mrs. Lindsey

Here are the Super Stars (PP1) at our Earth Day Celebration w/ puppeteer, Lee Bryan.



Latin Folk Storyteller visits West Cobb on Wednesday, May 26th at 10:00. (We continue our Around the World Theme). Don't forget to ask your child about it!

AFTER SCHOOL with Ms. Andrea

April was Health Month, so we discussed the importance of eating healthy fruits and vegetables. The highlight was during Spring Break when the kids participated in Hat and Glasses day and we enjoyed our Bowling and Kangazoom field trips!

FIRST/SECOND GRADE

Math Concepts: Measurement, drawing line segments to the nearest half inch, temperatures, representing numbers using base ten blocks, subtracting three facts, estimating and finding the capacity of containers.

Phonics Concepts: Dubbling rule, digraph ey, sibilant sound, suffix ous, unaccented syllables, final stable syllables tious and cious, vcccv syllable division, spelling with final c, soft and hard C, and scribal O.

Language Arts: Verbs- have has, and had, words that compare, adjectives, synonyms, and sequencing.

We also attended the field trip to the Dunwoody Nature Center and learned about Insects. We learned the names of the various parts of an insects body, more about how an eye on an insect works, how many legs an insect actually has, where to find insects, and we even found our own insects to name, draw and describe.

And of course, we spent the final two weeks this month with our ITBS testing!

Mrs. Bryan



Happy Birthday!

Jayla (Sr P)	5/1
Michaela (Jr 1)	5/5
Gabrielle (I2)	5/5
Bree (PK2)	5/8
Devin (PK2)	5/9
Jordyn (ASP)	5/14
Taylor (PK1)	5/16
Noelle (Jr 2)	5/21
Ms. Tia (Sr P)	5/23
Tessa (T)	5/25
Jalen (1st)	5/25
Lance (PK2)	5/27
Gavin (Jr 2)	5/30



SUMMER CAMP INFORMATION FOR CHILDREN WHO COMPLETED PRE-K UP THROUGH AGE 9...

The calendar and registration form for Club Adventure are available at the front desk. The activities include field trips, water park days, visitors, arts/crafts, cooking, and drama. We had much success in previous years holding an academic program from 8:00-10:00 a.m. to ensure our children do not forget all of what they learned this year... which we will continue to do again this summer.

The summer program begins on Monday the 24th and continues through August 6th. If you are interested in having your child in the program- a registration form must be completed to ensure space.

KINDERGARTEN

April meant spring time fun in Kindergarten. Plants were a natural progression from animals in our living and non-living unit. We learned about the food chain, parts of a plant, how trees help us and planted our own vegetables. We discussed foods that we eat and how fruits and vegetables grow from plants. The students were surprised to learn that we eat various seeds, roots and leaves!

In writing, we introduced Expository writing, a term for writing to explain. As we delved into plants, students demonstrated their knowledge through writing. Our extensive writing for this month was How to Plant a Plant, where students sequenced the process in their writing using transition words such as first, next, then, last, second, third, and so on. Complete sentences, correct punctuation and correct sequencing of events were emphasized as well.

Mrs. Ranasinghe and Mrs. Dollar

French

Letters:	V,W,X,Y,Z
Math:	15-20 (20-30 for older groups)
Color:	Review colors w/ games
Shapes:	All shapes- review
Theme:	Fruits et Legumes (fruits/veggies)
Month:	May/Mai
Theme:	Les vacances d'ete en France (Summer Holidays in France)
Song:	Review Le Clown

Spanish

Subject:	Dinosaurios/Dinosaurs
Letras:	U,W
Color:	Gris/grey
Figura:	Octagono/Octagon
Relacion:	Alto,Bajo/Tall,Short
Asiste:	Arqueologo/archaeologist
Matematicas:	26-30



Based on parent feedback from last years parent surveys, we have decided to make a change in this years graduation program. Instead of each class having a 30 minutes window for their graduation program, we have made a few modifications. We are still holding Graduation at Oliver Springs Baptist Church on Saturday, May 15th.

The Pre-K classes will join together at 9:30 and hold their official graduation program with caps/gowns/certificates of completion. The program will end no later than 10:15.

The Kindergarten, First and Second Grades will join together at 10:30 to 11:30 for the end of the year program, unique certificates for all individuals, and a photo-opportunity with caps/gowns (just not an official walking across stage to receive a diploma).

Please be sure to give me verbal feedback as the surveys would have already been returned to management.

Around the World

SPIRIT NIGHT

Please join us for the final Spirit Night of the School Year at Chick Fil A on Thursday, May 13th from 5-8pm (the one on S. Cobb)

The school receives 10% of all carry out and dine-in orders during that time (which averages around \$80) and you are able to spend an evening with other adult company, while your children not only enjoy a delicious meal, but each other's company in the indoor playground.

See you there!

The Education Committee has planned the final event of the school year – a Cultural Night at West Cobb!

Thursday, May 20th from 6-7pm

A flyer for volunteers has been given to the entire student body to help make this final event be as much of a success as our other events this committee has planned!

Food, activities, art/crafts from various countries around the world will be represented. So please – come out and support the Education Committee and help our children be exposed to more than American Culture!



ETIQUETTE CLASS

Don't Leave Home Without Them! We stressed the importance of taking your Good Manners with you when you leave the house. When you are at a friends house, good manners include following the house rules, staying with the friend (not wandering off), and thanking the friend *and* their parents before leaving. We acted out how using Good Manners at a movie theater makes everyone happy. Also, we acted out proper manners for entertaining and exiting an elevator!

(The pictures above represent Manners in the Movie Theater and the 'key' to good manners)

The Etiquette Class invites you to attend our end of the year celebration/recap on Thursday, May 13th. Kindergarten, First and Second Grades will hold their celebration from 1-2pm. The Pre-K classes will hold their celebration beginning at 2:00. All parents are asked to join so you can see for yourself how much your child has learned.

Again – please plan on joining the final day of etiquette class!