

AUGUST 2010

West Cobb Times

CHANGES...

I am extremely proud to announce some of the new programs we have at West Cobb Prep Academy in our Private School. Under construction (but here for the new school year) is our West Cobb News Room. Although our students have been very successful in terms of public speaking at our various programs held throughout the year, the First/Second Grade class will now have the ability to practice their public speaking skills daily by heading to the News Room and reading aloud school announcements, the menu, the weather report, and lead the school in the Pledge of Allegiance through the PA system. We have also added a Pre and Post test to our Private Pre-K program (as they were not yet ready for the advanced ITBS tests). We now use a different curriculum for Science, Handwriting, and Social Studies and have added curriculums for Vocabulary and Art. We have specified field trips for each of the three grade levels in order to not repeat programs as the children continue to stay with us. We now have curriculum maps so that parents can follow along with what teachers are teaching the students throughout the year. We have added internet access in each of the private school classrooms and have a Smart Board in our 1st/2nd grade class. And finally, we will now have a daily Mandarin class (along with the once a week Spanish and French class).

But with so many changes, I would like to reaffirm that so much of the private program is the same. The monthly etiquette class will begin again on the 12th (always the 2nd Thursday of the month), the Holiday/History/Graduation programs are scheduled, ITBS tests and conferences placed on the calendar, re-hired strong teachers who truly enjoy teaching children, Curriculum Night, structured schedule, field trips that are pertinent to the learning topics, full/part day options, individualized lessons, two parent surveys, and an Open Door policy where you can feel free to sit down in my office to discuss any concerns (or share any compliments) you may have.

And while I may have concentrated much of my efforts on the Private Program, please read below to find out how Ms. Janira is impacting the younger children's classes.

Ms. Marla

PRIVATE SCHOOL ORIENTATION

Please remember if your child is registered with us in the Private Pre-K through 2nd Grade, the mandatory Orientation is being held on Thursday, August 5th from 7-8pm. We will cover the following topics: Curriculum, New Schedule, Parent Agreement for 2010-2011, Enrichment Registration Information, and of course meeting your child's teacher.

Remember, this meeting is for adults only and therefore I will understand if only one parent can attend.

If you are unable to be there, please see me by the 6th for detailed information.

As we enter the start of a new school year, West Cobb has made a few changes. The curriculum for the Toddlers, Jr. 1 and Jr. 2 classes will now be written by me. With this change, parents can expect to receive a copy of each weeks lesson plan as well as a Connection to Home Letter. This letter will provide insight to the upcoming themes, sign for the month, character education trait of the month, and ways to continue the lessons at home.

The entire school will participate in the character education trait each month. There will be stories, small lessons, and the consistent practice of these traits.

Ms. Janira

INFANT 1

Wow! What a great month it has been! We have been working very hard on rolling over as well as spending more time on the floor for 'tummy time'. We've been singing, reading and working on different colors. In August, we will be working on sitting up without support and continuing to focus on strengthening our necks and upper body.

We say goodbye to a couple of our friends as they move up to Infant 2 and we welcome some new children to our class throughout the month.

Ms. Andrea & Mrs. Louisitha

INFANT 2

In July we worked on jumping up and down, bouncing to the beat of the music, walking on pillows, mountain climbing, rocking and rolling, and sit and rock with support all for our gross motor activities.

We've been enjoying spending some time outdoors- early morning is best as it's a bit too hot for us in the afternoon sun.

Ms. Laura and Ms. Porcia

JR. PRE-SCHOOL 1

In July we learned all about The Circus. We had fun painting our faces like a clown. We also enjoyed exploring our senses with a Popcorn Activity. For our theme of Zoo, we learned a little bit about various animals that live in a zoo as well as what a zookeeper is and what are his/her responsibilities. We made our very own elephant ears and took a small tour throughout the school so everyone could see them!

The sign language this month were Lion, Elephant, Monkey and Giraffe. We worked on our large motor skills by hopping on one foot and jumping with both feet. Of course, everyone loved to combine that activity with the splashing of the puddles in the water park.

Mrs. Martha

TODDLERS

Our themes for July were the Circus and the Zoo. We talked about various types of animals including a zebra and a camel. During Circus Week we marched around the classroom with instruments- pretending to be in a circus parade. What fun the toddlers had gluing together various shapes to construct zoo animals!

Also this month we focused on pre-math skills such as sorting pegs by color and counting our friends during circle time. In addition, the toddlers are doing a great job of learning to follow one step, simple directions!

Ms. Arkeyshaw and Ms. Kelly

Jr. PRESCHOOL 2

This month the children had fun learning about circus and zoo animals. We accomplished reading our A-F books this month. We even had a few children in the class take over for me during our morning and evening circle time so they could read the books to the class. We reviewed our shapes and continued to practice spelling our first names. We would like to congratulate those in our class who became 'Big' Boys/Girls by becoming potty trained! I'm so proud of you. We are looking forward to having Ms. Tameka return to our class!

Ms. Ericka

SR. PRE-SCHOOL 1

We've had a great time reading this summer! Each child had fun reading the Zoo-Phonics Book of the Week at school and received a book to take home with them so they can share it with their parents. We reviewed the letters A-M. We started tracing our names during our pre-writing program. The students will continue to practice this more throughout the year as they begin the new curriculum at the start of the school term.

During our America's Birthday Theme, we designed and named our own country flags. We also made a red, white, and blue wreath with our hands.

Here's our Sr. Pre-school 1 class at the water park!



SR. PRE-SCHOOL 2 & 3

We started off the month celebrating the birthday of the United States. We made a flag and rice shakers that symbolized our country. We are almost at the end of our alphabet- we are on the letter Xx- for x-ray.

Can you believe that we've counted and can recognize the number 7. We can now fill in missing numbers in a number sequence and write the numbers 1-10 all by ourselves.

We have been concentrating on our independent skills now that we are almost in Pre-K. During naptime, we are now able to cover ourselves with a blanket without assistance.

Sight words are fairly easy to us now. We have been sounding out words which is giving us a head start on the fall curriculum.

We continue to have alphabet stories, letter tracing and independent writing daily.

Of course, we continue to enjoy the water park and will be sad when the summer is over.

Ms. Ericka and Ms. Tia

ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS FOR 2010-2011

(All Registration Forms are in the Front Hallway)

- **Dance:** This program is offered for ages 3 and older on Friday afternoons (3:30-4:30) and if necessary on Tuesday afternoons. The class focuses on Tap and Ballet- around 20 minutes each. The program is set up for Fall/Winter Session and a Winter/Spring Session. Each session culminates in a Dance Recital which is held off-site.
- **Tumblebus:** This program (tumbling/gymnastics) is offered for ages 18 months and older and is held on Friday mornings. This is a year-round program and can begin and/or stop at any time. Photos and recaps of how they spent their time is posted on their board.
- **Soccer:** This program is offered for ages 3 and older on Tuesday mornings. This class teaches the basics of controlling a ball, how to play one on one, and ultimately hold a group scrimmage. This program is set for 8 week sessions. Each child receives a t-shirt and ball.
- **Chess:** This program is offered for children in Kindergarten or older on Wednesday afternoons from 2:45-3:45. This program asks for parent volunteers in exchange for discounted sessions. Each child will need to purchase a chess set.

CLUB ADVENTURE 1

We've been hiking, camping and visiting the zoo this past month! We loved seeing the animals- most especially the monkeys! During our Academic Program, we have reviewed pronouns and verbs. We also learned how to head our papers with a Title.

We've been having discussions about some of the differences we will experience as we move up to Kindergarten. Some will be entering public schools while many will enter our Private Kindergarten class. While we have been excited as we've shared what will be new in just a few short weeks, we have also expressed sadness that the summer is coming to a close... and that means no more Water Park!

Mrs. Victoria and Ms. Wells

Thank You

To Jalen's mom for the donation of toys, binders, and office supplies.

To Deanna's parents for the donation of books.

To MaKayla's mom for the delicious Teacher Appreciation Treats in July!

To Maya's mom for the donation of a laptop.

To all of the parents who attended the Open House in July (or who referred a family to the program).

CLUB ADVENTURE 2

We went to the Planetarium to learn about the stars, the planets, the sun and the moon. It was amazing! We went to DacKids where we could pretend to be pirates in this huge indoor sand pit. We read about and saw various animals at Zoo Atlanta.

We discovered camping is a lot of fun. Other outdoor activities can include hiking, white water rafting, and rock climbing. At the Yellow River Gaming Ranch we saw a deer, a peacock, chipmunks, squirrels, a Georgia black bear, a bobcat, tiny turtles, a dove, a cougar, chickens, pigs, donkeys, sheep, a rooster, and bunny rabbits. We pet and fed most of them.

Mrs. D and Ms. Andrea



Happy Birthday!

Imani (Jr. 2)	8/2
Allyson (Club 3)	8/2
Camryn (Club 2)	8/10
Stone (Sr. 3)	8/11
Luke (Club 3)	8/14
Mrs. Princess	8/15
Kailyn (Jr. 2)	8/21
Jesse (12)	8/21
Johnathan (Club 3)	8/29

Happy Birthday to all!!

CLUB ADVENTURE 3

We continued to work on strengthening our writing skills. We've completed three chapter books (during group reading). During 'Science Wonders' we visited the Planetarium and learned about our solar system. We also learned about what it means to recycle and the importance of recycling. During 'Stars and Stripes' our class learned about our country. We learned all about our country's flag and what it symbolizes. During 'Animal Planet' we observed how various animals live in the wild, the zoo, and as pets. We also visited Zoo Atlanta!

During 'The Great Outdoors' our class learned a few life saving rules about camping and we had our own camping experience here at West Cobb- which included tents, sleeping bags, and ghost stories!

The end of the summer is approaching rather quickly. As it comes to an end our class is looking forward to our 'Wild Wild West' theme and our end of the year Luau Celebration.

Our final field trips of the summer include Yellow River Game Ranch, Kangazoom, and Just Kiln Time where we will make our own pottery piece.

Mrs. Lyla and Ms. Rene



Here's Club Adventure 1 on their field trip to Zoo Atlanta.

While everyone enjoyed the Panda Bears- the children really loved the petting farm!

Curriculum Night

8/24 @ 6pm

(Childcare is Available)

We want to encourage all of our parents (from Infants through 2nd Grade) to attend the Curriculum Night to learn more about how the lesson plan you see is actually implemented with the children.

The private school will have demonstrations of math, phonics, science, social studies, etc.

The Infant rooms will highlight their developmental checklist and the types of activities that are provided for that age group.

The Toddler and Jr. Pre-School will demonstrate through circle time and sensory activities how they execute their lesson plan.

The Sr. Pre-School will demonstrate how they execute their Saxon Early Learning curriculum.

*Please leave your child in his/her classroom and join the designated area (look for the signs) for your classroom.