



# WOODCREST PRESCHOOL

**Tarzana In The News..**

**May 2012**

## **Miss Melody-Director**

April showers bring May flowers, and as you can see, Woodcrest Preschool is blooming all over. And during May, we will be explaining and watching the life cycle of the butterflies.

The elementary school is having their Spring Fling on May 24<sup>th</sup>. Please mark this date on your calendar as parking will be more difficult that morning. Another important date to mark on your calendar is May 28<sup>th</sup>. We will be closed on Monday, May 28<sup>th</sup> in observance of Memorial Day.

On May 13<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate a very special day, Mothers Day. Thank you Moms for all you hard work, ENJOY YOUR DAY!!

A special hamburger party goes to the winning classroom of the Candy Sale. The top seller was Landon Davis from Miss Aysha and Miss Laura's class. He sold 16 boxes. Great Job.

Speaking of hamburgers, our McDonalds night was a big success. There was food and fun for all. I think Miss Colleen and Miss Linda had the most fun for the evening. In every picture taken, they were seen selling their cookies and ice cream along with laughter and the biggest smiles ever.

This month we will be explaining the different cultures of the world. Any family, who would like to share their culture with us, please let the office or your teachers know. On May 4<sup>th</sup>, we will be celebrating Cinco de Mayo with festive music and most delicious pot luck. Don't forget to dress for the party and bring your sombreros.

In May, we will also celebrate Teachers Appreciation Day. Please stop by the office for the updated information. Our teachers work very hard and we would like to make this day as special as possible for them.

Congratulations go out to our graduates. The graduating class of 2012 need to bring their smiles to school on Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> for the picture event of the year.

As they say, time flies. Before you know it, summer will be here. Please make sure and get your early bird registration in. You don't want to be left out by waiting to the last minute. The Woodcrest staff is looking forward to sharing our interesting and eventful summer with you.

**A FEW SPOTS ARE STILL AVAILABLE FOR KINDERGARTEN  
CALL JOHN KHOURI @ 818-345-3002 TO SET UP A PRIVATE TOUR**

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## Bear Gazette-Miss Linda & Miss Rosadah

April was so much fun. We rang in spring with planting flowers, celebrated Easter with an egg hunt and learned about Passover. The children had fun making Matzah pizzas one day then marching in the Easter parade with ice cream sundaes the next! The month ended with all of the children learning about recycling by creating art projects using recycled materials and learned about taking care of Mother Earth by celebrated Earth Day.

In May, the children will enjoy celebrating Cinco de Mayo with food and music. The children will also be working on very special surprise projects for all of our Super Star Moms in celebration of Mothersday! Throughout the month, the children will continue to work on their academics and do many art activities to go along with the week's theme.

Just a reminder to continue to check you child's mailbox on a daily basis and to make sure that your child's extra clothes in their cubby is suitable with the weather.

We will be closed for Memorial Day on Monday, May 28<sup>th</sup>.

Want to wish Mia K. and Alyssa a very happy birthday.



## Winning Circle-Miss Ayesha and Miss Laura

Marvelous May is here. It looks like April showers really do bring May flowers. We have flowers blooming in the garden and children blooming in the classroom. Their little minds soak up knowledge like the roots of a plant soak up water.

May is a month filled with lots of fun activities. It is a very busy month in which we will be doing some new things. We kick off May with the start of our cultures unit in which we will be taking a trip around the world. Our first stop is Mexico, where we will have a traditional fiesta and learn how to dance. Each week we will visit a different country.

From now on we start working on names. Please parents encourage your kids to write the first letter of their name upper case and rest lower case. Before ending my letter, I love to share a cute request.

Dalia said, “Ms. Ayesha can David be a line leader today?” Ms Ayesha answered, “Today is a girls turn to be line leader (we have line leaders everyday). Dalia said, “But he looks very handsome in his new hair cut”.

Happy birthday to Landon. Landon Davis is also top candy seller with 16 boxes being sold, not including the Easter order. Our class wins the Hamburger Party. Thank you Landon!!!

I also want to wish a Happy Mother’s Day to all our moms.



## The Very Hungry Caterpillar-Miss Gloria and Miss Fathima

Oh my, Oh my, we are going for a ride this year. I can't believe that April is all gone and May has arrived with a bang. First I would like to say welcome Layla and Suvir to our class it's a pleasure to have both of you here.

In the month of May we will continue our letters of the alphabet and numbers. We will also be learning different cultures from around the world. Also mark your calendar for May 4th or I should say "Cinco de Mayo" we will be having a potluck. Another important day to mark is Mothers day on May 11<sup>th</sup>.

We at Woodcrest Preschool wish all the mommies the best day ever. Also on Monday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, School will be closed for Memorial Day. Have a great day off with your families.

All the children's progress has been improving day by day thanks to you the parents who are a great support and great role models. Congratulations to Charlie, Sydney, Steven, Maxwell and Olivia for going potty all by themselves. Yeah you did it! True story: After our afternoon recess we ask the children to take off their jackets hang them up, wash hands and get a chair to get snack. Well Ayush and Jordyn where playing outside like best friends and when it was time to come in they both walk together side by side straight to the cubbies. Jordyn had a hard time taking off her jacket so Ayush helped her take it off and hung it up for her. Then they both washed there hands and sat next to each other, after waiting for there snack Ayush pretended to feed Jordyn. This was a priceless moment.

Happy Birthday to Ava we wish you the best in your special day.

Reminder to everyone that summer is around the corner, so don't forget to sign up early and get that early bird special. There is going to be great shows, arts & crafts, and lots of FUN. So don't let your child miss out.



## Furry Monsters-Ms. Colleen

Bon Voyage! The children are about to embark on a fantastic adventure in which they will experience different countries, cultures, and customs. Children love learning about different children and the countries in which they live. We will gain a wealth of information and maybe sample some international foods and learn to speak a few simple phrases of a native language.

What a better way to kick off a month of international flavors than Cinco de Mayo. Yes, it's all about our neighbor, Mexico so wear your sombrero-we're having a fiesta. Gather with our "amigos" and taste churros and guacamole with chips. We'll even learn to count to 10 in Spanish.

Our planting day was a huge success. We dug in soil and we watered and took care of our many plants. Thank you parents for our fabulous Easter Party. The children were so excited to find the hidden eggs the bunny left in our classroom and they loved their baskets. Thank you also for supporting our chocolate candy fundraiser.

Happy Birthday to Katelyn, Nicolas and Andrew. You are getting so big now!

We have new furry monsters to welcome. Hello to Gabriel, Andrew and Eden. Happy Mother's Day to all our fabulous mommies. May is also our butterfly unit. The children will watch painted lady's grow right before their eyes-then we will let them go, so look out for our butterfly cage in our classroom. Please do not touch the cage while they are sleeping in their cocoons.

As the school year quickly comes to an end, I want to say how wonderful the children have progressed. I'm so proud of them. I know they are proud of themselves too.

Best wishes for a happy and safe Memorial Day weekend.



## Monkey Room-Ms Liz and Ms Dina

It is May. The fruits are growing in the trees, hear the busy bumblebees, and feel the warm and gentle breeze. Summer is soon approaching us. This month we will be learning about different cultures around the world. If any parent wants to come speak or show us things from their culture, you are more than welcome.

We will also be working on our Mother's Day gifts and cards. The school will be closed on May 28<sup>th</sup> for Memorial Day.

The month of April was a lot of fun with all of the spring planting that we did and learning how to take care of the Earth.

Come visit our Facebook web page to see photographs of KitFit and other fun activities that are going on at our school.

Happy Birthday to Evren and Isabel. May all your wishes come true when blowing on your candles.

Keep up the good work practicing letters and numbers at home.



# Helping Children Learn

Tips Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School



May 2012

Woodcrest School  
Imagination Plus

## School may have a break, but learning happens all year long

You probably already know that continuing to read with your child is your first priority for summer learning. Try a few other simple activities, too, to keep him engaged and motivated. Then, when school begins, your child will be ready.

Here are a few learning ideas to consider:

- **Search for shapes.** Knowing shapes is a skill your child will need throughout his school career. Look for objects shaped like circles, squares and triangles. If these are easy, go on to octagons (stop signs) or pentagons (the black shapes on many soccer balls).
- **Practice personal information.** Does your child know his phone number and address? If not, come up with a rhyme or silly story to help him memorize them.
- **Get more from a trip to the store.** More knowledge, that is. Have your child help you look for the items you need. Read the word on the label and ask him to point to the word and repeat it back to you. Show him the price and explain that this tells us how much money we will need to buy the item.
- **Be scrappy.** Help your child put together a scrapbook of summer memories. He can paste in photos or draw pictures, and then "write" (according to his ability) about them underneath. You can write a caption underneath his "writing" to further explain the illustration.



Source: "Literacy Activities for Ages 4-8," ReadWriteThink.



## Spark a love of reading this summer

In kindergarten, your child will begin to learn to read. You can help create a good foundation this summer by teaching your child to love books. You can:

- **Play silly games** that reinforce what your child already knows about reading. Turn the book upside down and pretend to read, for example. Your child will have fun correcting you!
- **Promote word recognition.** Teach your child short, common words, such as *the*, *stop* and *dog*. Point out words that rhyme. "Look, Jenny. *Cat* and *hat*. That's a rhyme! Can you think of another rhyme?"  
No matter what reading activities you do with your child, avoid making reading seem like work. The most important thing you can do is to make reading fun.
- **Expand her vocabulary.** Introduce new words and practice using familiar ones. Make a point of using new words when you talk together.

## Track summer screen time

Your child may have more free time when school's out for the summer, but that doesn't mean her good TV-watching habits should be "on vacation," too! Keep in mind the American Academy of Pediatrics guidelines: No more than one to two hours of quality programming per day, and no TV at all for children younger than two years.

## Arranging items in order builds math & science skills

Learning to put things in a certain order—or *sequencing*—is a necessary skill to learn before children can do math problems in school. To teach sequencing:

- **Sort blocks by size.** Pick blocks of varying sizes and show your child how to line them up from the smallest to the largest. Then mix them up and ask him to try.
- **Cook together.** Read the steps of a recipe out loud. Let your child help you in some way with each step of the recipe. Talk about why it's so important to complete the steps in order.



## Bring the beach home!

Playing with water and sand is a great source of pleasure for most children—and you don't have to trek all the way to the beach to try it out!

A small tub of water and another of sand make wonderful learning laboratories, too. Putting different objects in the water teaches about sinking and floating. Working with sand helps fine motor skills and sharpens your child's love of creating. Just be sure to watch your child closely at all times whenever she is near any amount of water.

