



Kiddie Academy of Greenlawn

First Quarter 2006 Newsletter



Volume 3

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January 3, 2006

DIRECTORS CORNER

New Component to Infant and Toddler Curriculum

Happy New Year Everyone! I wanted to tell you about an exciting new language development skill which we'll be adding to our Curriculum in the Infant and Toddler Classrooms; ASL (American Sign Language). This preverbal communication is wonderful for reducing the stress between baby and parent as well as baby and educator. Just because Infants and Toddlers cannot speak, does not mean they do not know what it is they want, (milk, blankie, diaper change, etc.) Learning a second language early in life pre-wires the brain to learn additional languages easier. Additionally, ASL enhances fine motor skills, making your child less clumsy - they will actually spill less milk at your table. There are many benefits to signing with children:



- ⇒ ASL makes learning easier by stimulating two-sided brain activity, which increases brain function.
- ⇒ It raises communication awareness and abilities for children who cannot yet verbally communicate.
- ⇒ Sign language is easier for children to learn than spoken words.
- ⇒ It's fun for children, parents and educators.
- ⇒ It enhances children's vocabulary and literacy.
- ⇒ It can create higher IQ levels in children.
- ⇒ It enhances a child's confidence and self esteem.
- ⇒ It enhances language acquisition.

If you start signing with your child as a newborn, they will begin showing their ability to master a few signs around 7-8 months. They will clearly understand others you make and from around 11+ months on will begin signing everything they've been taught.

Teaching sign language at an early age will enhance your child's ability to acquire verbal language. When you sign with young children you enhance their vocabulary and understanding of concepts. It also speeds up the learning process by the utilization of multiple methods of recall. Children will learn more concepts, at an accelerated rate. With this broadened understanding of concepts will come enhanced verbal communication. For example, if you teach a child to sign from birth, you teach him/her concepts early on you would have otherwise waited until he/she could speak to instruct him/her in. When

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Birthday Babies

Let's all wish our Birthday Babies a very Happy Birthday!



Sea Stars

- 1/22 Paige T.
- 2/20 Maya M.

Clown Fish I

- 1/21 Abigail M.
- 1/30 Charlie K.
- 2/2 Olivia M.
- 2/5 Jacob R.
- 3/7 Michael Z.
- 3/29 Grayson F.

Harp Seals II

- 1/4 Miss Cori
- 2/26 Steven C.

Manatees I

- 1/30 Paul R.
- 3/2 Patrick B.

Manatees II

- 1/3 Caroline P.
- 1/30 Lila T.

Dolphins I

- 1/13 Jeremy T.
- 1/26 Nicholas H.
- 2/25 Austin B.
- 3/10 Michael G.

Sharks

- 1/16 Michael P.

Admin/Floaters

- 3/20 Miss Angela
- 3/25 Miss Lisa



Toy Drive

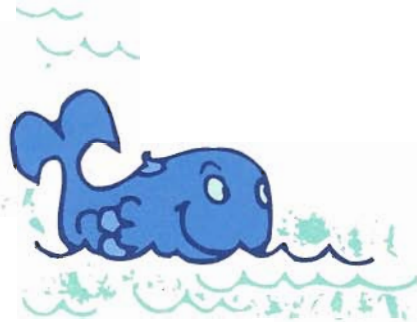
Thanks to all our parents who so generously donated toys for such a noble and worthy cause!

Directors Corner cont.

his/her vocal ability develops he/she will speak much more as he/she has a broader concept knowledge base to draw from. He/She will be a little chatterbox, compared to his/her non-signing peers.

I came up with this idea a while ago from conversations with my friend, who works for Cleary School for the Deaf. She has graciously offered to hold a couple of classes at our center. We will be having several training sessions after hours for our Infant and Toddler Staff and will also open these sessions up for our parents who have children in these classrooms. Although we will not be masters of ASL, (the signs we'll be learning are mostly "the basics") we are very excited about this new addition to our curriculum as we hope you are as well. We are continually striving to offer the best childcare to our children and we believe that adding this component will be another great asset to our center which will be exclusive to Kiddie Academy of Greenlawn. Please keep a look out for more information to follow.

Kind Regards,
Karen



Holiday Activities



Please keep an eye out for special events taking place in individual classrooms around the holidays. Check with your child's teacher for dates and times for your child's class, as you may want to set the day aside to join us at the center. Also, anytime you would like to do a special activity with your child's class, please let his/her teacher know so that he/she can plan for it and include it as part of the week's lesson plan.

Parent Referral Bonus



Don't forget about our Parent Referral Bonus! If you refer a child to our center, you will receive a FREE WEEK after 90 days of their enrollment, full or part time, equivalent to that child's tuition rate. Thank you to all who have already referred new clients!

Best of Long Island

Special thanks go out to our parents who voted for us in December's Issue of the Long Island Press. It was quite a surprise! Below is the excerpt from that paper.

The Best of Long Island - 2005 You Voted on It—Now Here It Is
12/22/2005 1:09 am

In the *Long Island Press*' first-ever "Best of Long Island" readers' poll, we asked you for your picks for the best of what Long Island has to offer, covering food and drink, sports and recreation, arts & entertainment, politics, business, sights, people, health care and much, much more. What follows are the results, as voted upon by you, our readers, along with some of our own special picks for certain categories. Hey, you didn't expect us to not throw our weight around a *little*, did you?

The winners are listed in no particular order.

BEST DAY CARE

Few things are more important to parents than the care and education of their children. While LI has hundreds of excellent daycare centers, readers pointed to these three as top-of-the-line.

Kiddie Academy, Greenlawn, 631-261-2220

Harbor Childcare, Multiple Locations, www.harborchildcare.com

Kinder Care Learning Centers, Multiple Locations,
www.kindercare.com

EDITORS' CHOICE

North Shore Day Camp, Glen Cove, 516-676-0904



www.kiddieacademyofgreenlawn.com



Please visit our Parent Resource Center page on our website for any forms that you may need to update now and then, such as Infant Toddler Reports, Child History, Medication Administration Forms, etc. We also have copies of our archived newsletters in pdf format for your review. There are some helpful articles for newly enrolled parents.

Announcements

Miss Alissa will be rejoining us on January 30th - Hurray!!!!



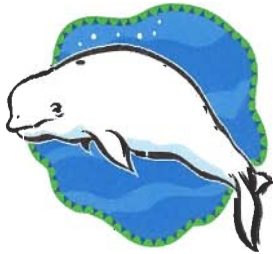
Miss Lisa will be leaving us on January 27th to further pursue her education. Her coursework will be such that she will not be able to go to school and work at the center. Please don't forget to say good-bye. Miss Lisa, you will be sorely missed!



Parents and staff, we would love to post family news in our newsletter, such as arrivals of new babies, weddings, etc. If you have some news you would like included in our next issue, please give all the particulars to Karen, in writing and we will include it!

Full Day Kindergarten & Kindergarten Enrichment

Kiddie Academy of Greenlawn will be offering Full Day Kindergarten starting September 2006. We will also continue to offer our Kindergarten Enrichment



Program for children who attend Half Day Kindergarten elsewhere. Bus transportation for the Enrichment Program is only available for Harborfields School District students.

Students from other districts are welcome, but would need to provide their own transportation. However, bus transportation is available through some other districts for the Full Day Kindergarten Program. You will need to check with your districts transportation department to ensure that your district offers that service.



Even though it's winter time, the children still enjoy going outside when it's not below freezing. Please remember to send your child into school with a hat and gloves just for this purpose. Also, please remember to always have a change of clothes, including underwear in your child's cubby. If your child is potty training or is recently trained, it's a good idea to keep spare socks and an extra pair of footwear, in case he/she has an accident. If your child is not potty training, please do not send them in with pull ups. Pull ups are not a substitute for diapers, they do not promote potty training and should only be used if your child is potty training.

Curriculum Corner

January's Theme is "Winter Wonderland". The children will be learning about what is associated with winter, such as snow, warm clothes and igloos. They will also be learning about what animals do during the winter time, such as put on heavier coats or in some cases hibernating. They will also be talking about some animals who spend the entire year in cold weather. Children will be learning about the importance of dressing warm in winter, so make sure they bring their hats and mittens.

February's Theme is "All About Safety". The children will learn about tools, measurements and safe practices, while exploring building structures. They will also learn about how to be safe at home. We will celebrate Valentine's Day, President's Day and Dental Health month. We will be talking to the children about why and how we keep our teeth and bodies healthy.

March's Theme is "You Are What You Eat". This month we will be discussing our senses, St. Patrick's Day, good habits and nutrition. We will be eating great food, exploring how it affects our senses and practicing good habits. We will use our senses to learn about the environment. We will learn what types of foods are good for our body and what kinds of foods we should eat.

Our Character Education Themes for these three months are "Patience, Respect/Tolerance and Responsibility". Please check out our Shark's display of these Character Education topics in the Reception area.

Weather Related Closings

Any weather related closings will be broadcast on WBLI, WBAB and News 12. Additionally, we will also post it on our website. We do not anticipate closing the center unless conditions are severe.



Extra Clothing



Things To Do, cont.

Now enrolling for Kamp Adventure! Summer Camp for children ages 5 - 12! We had a great time last year and we're looking forward to another great summer. It will be packed with themed weekly activities and field trips. Check our website in the upcoming weeks for updated information on the summer camp program and daily activities! Please tell a friend!

Re-Enrollment

We will be sending out re-enrollment information, for any parents whose child will not be attending our summer program, but would like to return in September. Please be on the look out for these forms!



Parent/Teacher Conferences

If you have not already done so, please sign up for your conference. This is a good opportunity to sit down with your child's teacher one on one. Please do not sign up if your child was enrolled after 11/1/05. You will catch the next conference in June. Sign up sheets are in the Sign In/Out Book.

Things To Do

Jan 17 - Jan 22

Nassau Coliseum Disney Stars on Ice Princess Classics

Feb 19 1 & 6pm

Nassau Coliseum Harlem Globetrotters

Feb. 20 1-2pm

Old Westbury Gardens Winter Woodland Walk
The kids are home from school and have been indoors all winter. Take them out for a brisk stroll with docent Ed Nolan and view the Gardens in its winter glory. Afterwards, warm up with refreshments on the West Porch. Weather Permitting.
(516) 333-0048

Feb 21 3:30-5:30pm

Long Island Puppet Theatre and Museum Magical Tea Time
All young ladies and gentlemen are invited to make their debut at the Elegant Tea Table. Glamour & Story Time, Dance Time, Etiquette, Special Food for the children and adults. Tea Time complete with "The Butler", "Cinderella" and "Mr. Manners". Come dressed for the occasion in your favorite fairytale costume, formal clothes, no jeans and sneakers. Children ages 3 - 7. Tickets must be purchased in advance. Hicksville.
(516) 932-5469 www.lipuppet.com

Feb 21 - Feb 24, 10am to noon

Long Island Museum in Stony Brook Around the World of Art
Join for a day to create Japanese lanterns, Tiffany style stained glass designs, Navajo Sand Painting and unique window frames, contact the museum for ages
(631) 751-0066 x212

Feb 25

Old Westbury Gardens Drop In Craft Activity
Children are invited to create a craft activity about trees.
(516) 333-0048

Mar 11

Nassau Coliseum Smucker's Stars on Ice 20th Anniversary Tour

Mar 14 - Mar 19

Nassau Coliseum Ringling Brothers Barnum & Bailey Circus

Local Ice Skating Rinks:

Dix Hills Ice Rink, 575 Vanderbilt Pkwy, Dix Hills, NY 11746
(631) 462-5883

Superior Ice Rink, 270 Indian Head Road, Kings Park, NY 11754
(631) 269-3900

Other Things that are Always Fun to Do:

Long Island Children's Museum
Uniondale

New York Aquarium
Brooklyn

Atlantis Marineworld
Riverhead

The Bronz Zoo
Bronx

Museum of Natural History and Hayden Planetarium
New York

