

A Fly on the Wall...

PE with Mrs. Craig

We have been working on body motion and spatial awareness with some fun PE activities. We have played Stick Figure Statue Freeze dance where I held up a picture of a stick figure when the music stopped, and the children had to imitate the pose. For Earth Day, PE class featured a Yoga Flow to celebrate our beautiful world with mountain, tree, and other challenging poses. The children have also enjoyed using sensory scarves to take turns leading the class in movements and positions. The scarves are great for the little ones who are learning to catch and throw. When the scarves are thrown into the air, they float down slowly enough for the children to track and catch!



The 3s with Mrs. Blair, Miss Ball, Mrs. Hobson & Mrs. Schroeder

The Three classes are feeling spring fever! We finished up a flowers/spring unit. It has been enjoyable to use all the campus to walk around and look for different types of flowers blooming. We have been talking about the many signs of spring and how strange the weather can be. It was really exciting to see the snowflakes falling days after the warm, sunny days. The threes will be focusing on a counting book featuring ocean life. This is traditionally one of their favorite units, so we hope they come home sharing all sorts of facts. This will come home as a completed book closer to the end of the year. We are also finishing up our journey through the alphabet and will continue to review letters with different activities, drawing letters with chalk, jumping on the letters, digging in the sand for buried letters, are just some of the ways we are reviewing. We are working on Humpty Dumpty and will begin Mary, Mary, Quite Contrary. The classes participated in a school wide Earth Day celebration. We explored the many ways you can build and create with recycled materials. It was fun to see their creative minds at work! We also were visited by Team Marvel in Chapel to teach us how to recycle. It is always exciting when Team Marvel makes an appearance. All the classes are starting to get excited for the Pedal for Pediatrics event Friday! Please remember that with these fluctuating temperatures, layers are always best. This is also a good time to send a change of warmer weather clothing.



The 2s with Mrs. Wyatt & Mrs. Zuidema

The Twos have had another fabulous month. During April, we concentrated on insects, spring, the color purple and ovals. We enjoyed a wonderful egg hunt and used our bunny bags to collect eggs. We worked on an AB pattern with our hungry caterpillars, and we learned that caterpillars turn into beautiful butterflies. In celebration of Earth Day, we planted grass seed, and we have some sprouts making their way through the dirt! We also painted with "worms" (yarn). We ended the month with the Twos' very first Pedal for Pediatrics. We were awesome! Next month, we will concentrate on Mother's Day, summer fun, diamonds, and the color yellow. Please remember to send in a new change of clothing for the warmer weather. As always, we thank you for sharing your children with us.



Lunch Bunch with Miss Ball, Mrs. Schroeder, Mrs. Knott, Mrs. Zuidema & Mrs. Wyatt

Lunch Bunch is out and about! We have been taking as many of our projects and activities as we can outside so that we can better enjoy the lovely spring afternoons. Some of our activities have included process art focused on smudging, creating recycled egg carton flowers on Earth Day, playing outdoor games while learning some Spanish vocabulary, Spring Yoga, and playing traditional games like Chutes and Ladders and Balloon Tennis. Since the only thing predictable about our Baltimore weather is its ability to change on a dime please remember to dress your children in layers that they could add or subtract and apply sunscreen. As always thank you for sharing your children with us in Lunch Bunch it has been so much fun watching them grow!

Library & Literacy with Mrs. Cummings

Springtime Greetings From Library,

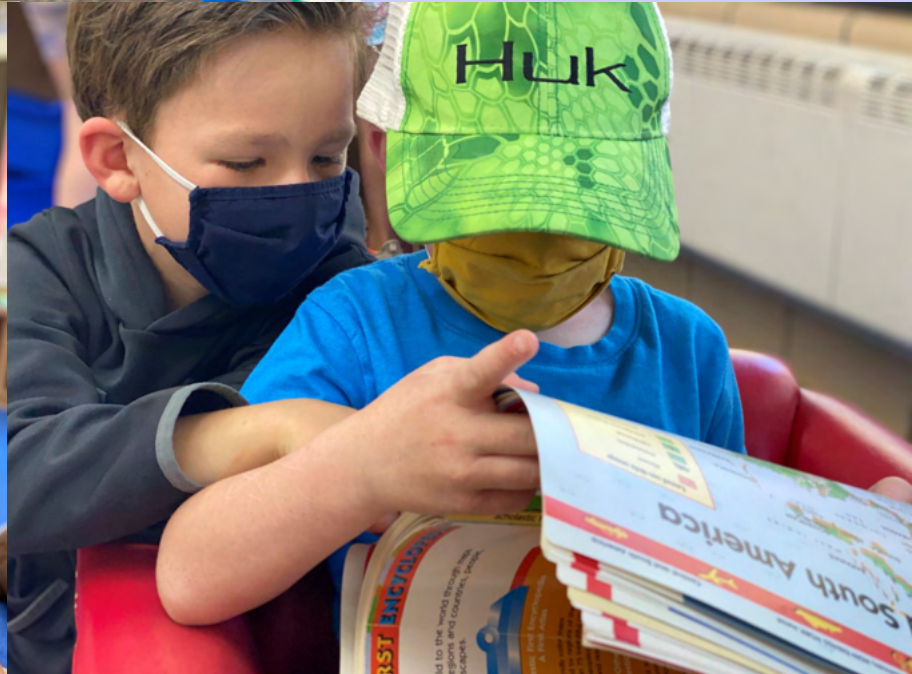
We have been focusing on the similarities and differences between Fairytales and Folktales. Your children have been enjoying many of the classic tales that include knowledge or wisdom we can all learn from. Looking ahead we will be exploring fables, what they are, and the morals they provide.

Suggested book titles you can enjoy are below. Happy Reading!

Itching and Twitching by Patricia McKissack
(A Nigerian Folktale)

Lon Po Po by Ed Young
(A Red-Riding Hood Story From China)

The Little Red Ant and the Great Big Crumb
Retold by Shirley Climo
(A Mexican Fable)



Spanish with Mrs. Wyatt

¡Hola! We have been having a wonderful time in Spanish class. We learned about facial features, articles of clothing, the alphabet, days of the week, and all of the foods eaten by the very hungry caterpillar. We celebrated Carnival by making masks and Easter by making cascarones. We learned some new games. ¿Lobo esta? and 1,2,3, Momia es were some of our favorites. We are looking forward to el Cinco de Mayo and all of the other fun activities May will bring.



Pre-first with Mrs. Barta

The Pre-first children have begun learning all about the country we live in. We have been learning about different kinds of maps and what they can tell us. We know that a map is a flat representation and can tell us cardinal directions. We will focus on the 50 states, especially Maryland, and some important symbols that represent America such as the American flag, the bald eagle, the Statue of Liberty, and the Liberty Bell. We will also learn about where we belong on the map, beginning with the earth, then our country, our state, our town, our neighborhood, our school and our home. The pre-first children are excited to explore our country. In language arts, we will be learning about long vowels and magic e words. Our reading and writing continue to develop and get stronger every day. In Math, we are practicing telling time to the quarter, half and whole hour. We also have been practicing our skip counting skills by 2s, 5s and 10s. In May, we will spend some time writing stories that have a main character, setting, problem and solution. I look forward to reading the final stories from each student.



Enrichment with Mrs. Craig

We have been busy exploring flowers this week! Pre-K observed, then painted live flowers in vases. The next day we took those same flowers and dissected them to learn about their parts and functions. Kindergarten and Pre-First learned how stems act as straws by observing what happened to white daisies when we added food coloring to their water. They also tried to extract the color pigments from other flowers by hammering them between sheets of paper. The 3s classes made beautiful watercolor butterflies that we turned into wing flapping puppets and also explored making prints with markers and foam plates.

Pre-k with Mrs. Arrup, Mrs. Baker & Mrs. Knott

WOW - That is our 'W' word for all the amazing things that have been happening in Pre-K! We are working our way through the letter W this week with whales, weather, water, spring flowers that contain a hidden w and wondering how many seeds are in our watermelon slices! Over the past few weeks we mastered the letters U and V and we continue to review our numbers and work on one to one correspondence with counting. Last Thursday, we planted some seed bombs that the children made in science class. We will be trying to remember that every day is earth day! We continue to use our "outdoor" classroom as much as possible and love it when they find pinecones, dandelions, sticks and rocks to create new and messy things to play with. Apparently, the cicadas are coming....stay tuned. As we move towards the end of the year, we are excited to focus on all the growing and changing that takes place all around us. The life cycle of a butterfly and growing plants from a seed are wonderful visual units that the kids will enjoy. Hope to see some of you at the Pedal for Pediatrics ride. We are finishing this year so strong - and we thank you for all your support.



Kindergarten with Mrs. Smith & Mrs. Vandenberg

We can't believe it's the last month of school! This month in kindergarten we have been continuing to work on our word families (ig, ab, ot, ad, etc). We have been doing creative art projects while incorporating practice with these word endings and more. We just wrapped up with addition and are starting a new unit on subtraction. We are currently learning about the rainforest and will be wrapping up next week with the final animals and plants for our book! In May we will be starting a unit of exploring insects and spiders (just in time for cicadas)! We will also be publishing our books for the highly anticipated publishing party!