



Dear CCNS Families,

It doesn't seem possible, but we only have about a month and a half left of school this year. The year-end activities are fast approaching: the Wingaersheek Beach trip, the family picnic and final Corporation Meeting, and of course the sprinkler parties for the very last days. Hopefully the weather will hold up for all these events. Be watching for the notices about Lunch Bunch, which will take place after the close of school this year. The teachers are offering this

fun play time for our children through to the end of the month of June.

There is a lot of behind-the-scenes planning for our new space. We have families who are helping to map out the new classroom space as well as the new playground at St Paul's Church. I am so impressed with the energy of next year's Executive Board. Jenn Adler-Quirk, your president-elect, has been actively working with next year's families to begin planning for the next school year while the current Board puts the finishing touches on this school year.

In the next two months the Board will:

- finalize our contract with St. Paul's Church,
- begin work on the playground and other outside preparations for next year,
- fill most vacancies in the school for 2005-2006, including our new two-day program, and
- make final preparations for the transition to our new Executive Board.

Each Friday the teachers are packing the bins that many families have donated. Meanwhile, our children will continue to delight in their school experience, blissfully ignorant of all that is happening around them in preparation for the end of the year and for the start of next year. What a gift we give our children!

We are working on our new website: www.communitycooperativepreschool.org. It is not up and running yet, but we are making progress and hope to begin using it in June to keep everyone informed. Stay tuned! Lend a hand when you can! Most Important, enjoy these last few weeks of school.

Warmly,

Steve Hylan and Lise Knakkegaard, co-presidents

978-794-3331



From the Teachers...

Dear Families,

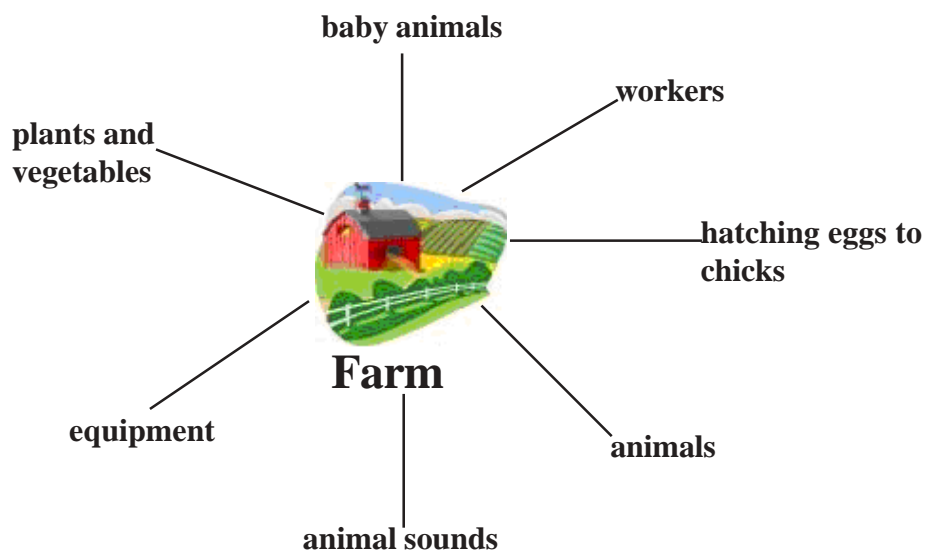
As we return from a week of beautiful spring days over April vacation, we look ahead to the many exciting events that mark the end of our school year. Please read this newsletter carefully and keep informed in the hallway and the wipe-off board. Ask the teachers if you have any questions.

The coming of spring has been celebrated throughout the classroom. Art activities, planting seeds, and stories about gardening prepared the children for our trip to the Stevens-Coolidge Gardens. The children observed the greenhouses and explored blooming flowers and bulbs. We enjoyed a picnic snack and an outdoor game. The afternoon class worked in pairs to go on a scavenger hunt to find different colors in the garden. What a hit!

The teachers will be offering extended outdoor time to the children as the weather continues to get warmer. Appropriate play clothes will enable the children to enjoy this outdoor time.

—Karen, LouAnn, and Mrs. C

May Farm Unit



Egg/Chick Hatching

We will be incubating eggs in the science room in conjunction with our farm unit. Please be aware that incubation is a delicate process. It is crucial that the incubator is not bumped during this study. Also, we are looking for a volunteer to pick up our fertilized eggs at Hardy's Hatchery in Essex, MA. Please see Karen if you can help.

Updates and News

Father's Night

Father's Night is an optional evening event that's always a hit with the children. You bring your child to school in the evening, get a quick tour of the classrooms, and make ice cream sundaes with friends. Dad should choose which night is best for him: Wednesday, May 11, or Thursday, May 12, from 7 to 8 p.m. Since some dads may be busy on these evenings, we do not discuss this event in school. Please sign up in the hallway to reserve your spot.

Jen's Last Day

Our student teacher is graduating! Her last day with us will be Monday, May 9th. Children are invited to make a card for Jen and bring it in on her last day. We will have a little ceremony with each group to say goodbye.

Packing for the Big Move

The end of the year is fast approaching. Please be aware that the teachers have begun packing up supplies and materials that we have finished using. Friday mornings have been designated as packing hours for one of the teachers. The teachers will also be taking advantage of any additional "quiet" classes as we see fit to get some packing done. To date, our Donate-a-Bin Drive has yielded 40 quality bins (\$261 total). Thank you so much for participating. And there's still time to donate if you haven't done so already! Call Karen Lunny for more information: 978-682-1583.

Lunch Bunch Playground Camp

We hope to have the official word soon on our annual outdoor camp for the weeks of June 13-17, June 20-24, and June 27-30 (depending on how many children sign up for the last 4 days of June). Camp runs from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and is \$20 per day. See the bulletin board for more information. If we do have the camp, please make payment in full before Friday, May 20th. See Karen Walsh with any questions.

Progress Reports

Each family will receive an end-of-the-year progress report outlining your child's growth and development over the course of the school year. 4-day morning and afternoon families receive reports on May 19th. All 3-day AM families receive reports on May 20th.

Summer Birthday Celebrations

If your child has a summer birthday, the teachers will choose a day between now and the end of school to celebrate it in the classroom.

Favorite April Stories

Everything Grows by Raffi
The Carrot Seed by Ruth Krauss
Nuts to You by Lois Ehlert

Got news? Want news?

Newsletter and website information is due 7 days before the 1st of each month to John and Karen Lunny, klunny@comcast.net. Please note there will be newsletters and website updates throughout this summer to keep everyone informed!

Calendar May/June 2005

- **Monday, May 2, 6:30 p.m.** Hospitality Committee planning meeting for the Family Picnic followed by Mom's Night Out at 7 p.m. at the Mango Grille
- **Tuesday, May 3, 7 p.m.** Executive Board meeting
- **Wednesday, May 4,** Fit 4 Fun, AM classes
- **Thursday, May 5,** Show and Tell, AM and PM classes
- **Friday, May 6,** Show and Tell, AM and PM classes
- **Tuesday, May 10, 7 p.m.** Higher Board meeting
- **Wednesday, May 11, 7 to 8 p.m.** Father's Night/ Ice Cream Social
- **Thursday, May 12, 7 to 8 p.m.** Father's Night/ Ice Cream Social
- **Thursday, May 19,** Show and Tell, AM and PM classes
- **Friday, May 20,** Show and Tell, AM classes
- **Thursday, May 26,** Fit 4 Fun, AM and PM classes
- **Monday, May 30** No School, Memorial Day holiday
- **Friday, June 3, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.** Wingersheek Beach trip (see description below)
- **Wednesday, June 8, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.** Sprinkler Party for 4-day and MWF AM classes (last day of school for those classes)
- **Thursday, June 9** No morning classes/Sprinkler Party for PM class 12:45 to 3:30 p.m. (last day of school for PM class)
- **Friday, June 10, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.** Sprinkler Party for 4-day AM and TThF AM classes (last day of school for those classes)
- **Friday, June 10, 5 to 8 p.m.** Family Picnic and final Corporation Meeting
- **Saturday, June 11** Tentative clean-up and pack-up day: More information to come in the next few weeks.
- **Lunch Bunch Playground Camp:** More information to come next week. See the bulletin board.



Beach Trip: Friday, June 3, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

It's almost time for our annual beach trip! This is the bus field trip to Wingersheek Beach near Gloucester for tidepooling and beach exploration. If it rains, we will explore the Seacoast Science Center in Rye, New Hampshire. *Each child *must* be accompanied by one parent for the trip.* We ask that each family pay a \$4 entrance fee for the science center if it should rain. You will receive an extensive information sheet via shoe pocket 2 weeks prior to the beach trip. In addition, a sign-up poster will soon be hung for all of the beach "essentials" we will need to bring.

Sprinkler Parties

Celebrate the closing of a fabulous school year! We are looking for 3 families to host our end-of-the-year parties. You provide the location and a sprinkler. Teachers and parent assists provide the rest. Party days are as follows:

Wed., June 8, 9:30 to 11:30 4-day AM and MWF AM

Thursday, June 9, 12:45 to 3:30 PM class

Friday, June 10, 9:30 to 11:30 4-day AM and TThF AM

Note: There will be no school on Thursday morning, June 9th. Also, the 4-day AM group is invited to both parties (choose one/both).