

Spring Break Edition

From the Head of School

Hellos and Goodbyes

Working at in a school creates a work life unlike any other. The demands of the job tend to be feast or famine. The months are short, but the days can be long. The never ending demands are exhausting. The reward of watching children grow into the people they will become is priceless. No one can deny the appeal of a job where you get to embrace who you are, nor the frustration of having the same conversation over and over and over again! Fueled by creativity, teachers are welcome to explore a variety ways to entice children into following their hearts and their passions. This can be exhilarating and challenging at once. Unfortunately, there is also a component of tedium, as each year is marked with the same lessons, brought to life with only minor twists and differences. Using the Golden Beads to count from 1 to 9000 can be amazing, or painful, depending on the day, the mood, and the child.

As teachers and staff members, we know that every year is different. Each class is different from the one before and the one after, despite the overlapping of children from year to year. Each fall is marked with new faces and new families, and every spring is marked with more goodbyes than any of us would like. Much as we wish it was not the case, we must watch children and families leave to pursue their lives in other places, knowing they will all outgrow us in one way or another. Unfortunately, these partings are not limited to families and children. Each staff member grows in her own way, and sometimes that means saying goodbye to our colleagues and friends.

As I mentioned last month, Spring is when we start looking to the future, even as we continue to immerse ourselves in the present. This is often the time when employees look forward to the next year, and decide what changes they might need to make to their schedules. After much consideration and thought, two of our beloved staff will be leaving us at the end of this year to pursue other things. After many years of dedicated service and amazing work, Rose Henson and Beverly Jackson will be leaving Children's Garden Montessori School. Words fail me when I try to communicate this news. As a staff, we are saddened to see them go, even as we understand that they have each

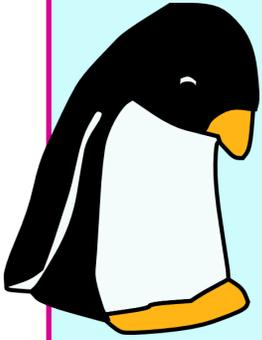
APRIL 2016

Dates to Remember

- 4/4 NO SCHOOL
Teacher Work Day
- 4/5 Students Return
- 4/10 Unbirthday Party
11 am—1 pm
- 4/22 NO SCHOOL
Parent/Teacher
Conferences
- 4/25 NO SCHOOL
Parent/Teacher
Conferences



made choices in their best interests. I know this news will sadden you as well, and I trust that each of you will find ways to let these talented, amazing women know what a difference they have made in your and your children's lives.



Please give yourselves the space that you need to grieve. As a staff, we have taken our own space and know that goodbyes come with sadness and flooded feelings, even when we understand the whys behind them. Beverly and Rose have been important members of our team for a long time now, and we do not take their leaving lightly. However, we also know that change is inevitable, especially when it comes to teaching. Trust that I am looking for new employees, even as I write, and that I will continue to search for the best matches for our school. Also, know that consistency and tradition are values that we have as a school, and I will strive to make sure that the staff transition into the next year is as smooth as possible. Be aware that it will take time, and I will update you to the results when I am able.

In the meantime, enjoy the rest of the time that we have with these amazing women. Celebrate the present and let your children enjoy the now. The little moments add up to

Annual Unbirthday Party

Sunday, April 10th
11:00 am - 1:00 pm



Be sure to join us for the Annual Children's Garden Unbirthday Party. In addition to time in the gym, there will be **entertainment, food**, and of course, **cake!**

This family event is held at Dardano's School of Gymnastics, 2250 Kearney Street. You will be receiving an electronic invitation soon.

Contracts for 2016-17 will be mailed or emailed at the end of April and must be returned, along with the 2nd tuition deposit, by **May 15th**.



Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parent/Teacher conferences are **Friday, April 22th and Monday, April 25th**. The schedule will be emailed just after Spring Break and a copy of the written conference will be mailed mid month. Please read the report and jot down any questions or concerns you have so you remember them during your meeting with the teacher.



Important
DATE!



Thank
you

We would like to thank all of you who have so generously contributed food for the ongoing cooking projects in the studio - we hope your children have shared what they are learning about foods of other countries. A very special thanks to **Afsaneh Noori** for sharing how her family observes Nowruz, the Persian New Year, with the traditional table setting and food of this 10-day holiday. Thank you to **Candace Wickstrom** for the beautiful hyacinths that are typical of the celebration.

We are heading into the **Home Stretch** to the end of school and things are getting busy.

Thursday, May 12th - Culminating Arts Show 5-7 pm

Wednesday, May 18th - Parent Orientation 6-7:30 pm

Saturday, May 14th - Earth Day at Children's Garden 9 am - 12 noon

Thursday, June 2nd - Last Day of School & End of School Picnic 5-7 pm

(This does not include school closures.)



PUT THIS
on YOUR
CALENDAR!