



Happy Spring to all of you!

I hope you were able to rest, relax, and enjoy Spring Break! I know everyone here at F.U.M.P.S. had a great time and we are refreshed and ready to go again!

Springtime is a time of growth and renewal. We see it outdoors as trees come to life with buds, flowers, and beautiful bright green leaves. Our hillsides and mountains look to be covered with the softest green velvet, and the birds seem to sing with such exuberance! So much growth and renewal outside can't help but reflect in us and help us to grow inside and renew our spirits.

Be sure to mark your calendars! Our Open House will be Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7:00pm. We hope to make it a fun and enjoyable evening for you and your family!

Take good care of each other,

Karen Wilson



### Spring is in the air!

All around our classrooms new life is springing up. As part of our spring curriculum we have butterfly larvae in each classroom so we can watch and learn about the life cycle. As the butterflies emerge we then release them into our gardens so that they can get to work pollinating and protecting our gardens. Our Brave Bears, Lucky Lions, and Happy Hummingbirds classrooms are sowing wild flower seeds, planting flowers, and observing the development of root systems by planting lima bean seeds in clear plastic cups.

### Scholarship Fund Drive

April 3<sup>rd</sup> we begin our Scholarship Fund Drive. With your kind and generous donations we are able to offer scholarships to our four year olds who otherwise would not be able to attend preschool before they enter kindergarten. If you would like to give to our Scholarship Fund please make a notation on your check so we can make sure it goes to the right place. Thank you for your support!



### The writing stuff

Long before a child learns to form letters with a pencil or marker, she has taken many steps toward learning to write. Children must have many opportunities to use their hands to do various things before they can successfully print letters. Molding with playdough, using large and small Legos, picking up beads, and playing with knobbed puzzles all prepare fingers and hands for writing. Scribbling with markers and crayons, controlling a pencil for use with a stencil, using chalk on the sidewalk, and painting with fingers and large brushes are a few of the ways children practice for later writing.

We offer plenty of opportunities for the children to work with different kinds of paper, pencils, markers, crayons, and scissors, because you never know when they may want to "write" a note to friends or a message to their teacher or family.

As children experiment, developmental stages of writing become evident. Children move from random scribbling to controlled scribbles, to random alphabet letters, to consonants that represent words. Only with lots of opportunities to practice can children move through these stages. If your child does not have proper pencil grip, can't purposefully manipulate a crayon, or simply shows no interest in learning to write, he or she is probably not ready to do so. Take care not to push. Children enjoy learning a new skill only when they are ready for it. Getting ready is just as important as mastering the skill.



Thank you to everyone who participated in our See's Fundraiser! It was a great success and really helped to keep our program going strong.

Thank you to Baraka's (BB) parents for the napkins and two boxes of trash bags, cuties, Tootsie Roll eggs, 2 bags of Easter eggs, and variety of candy; Abigail's (BB) parents for a box of Goldfish, 2 bags of Easter Lollipops; Daniel and Aron's (HH, BB) parent's for a box of wipes; Camila's (BB) parents for fruit by the foot, Starburst, Stickers, Sour Patch, and Skittles, 2 bags of Easter eggs with candy; Bea & Sonora's (BB) parents for Dress up dresses & wooden Noah's Ark toy; Elias's (BB) parents for 48 piece Easter Eggs

Thank you to All who donated St. Patrick's Day & Easter Egg Hunt & Parties!



### Happy April Birthdays to...

#### Brave Bears

Danny Lariviere 4/3  
Jack Waggoner 4/27

#### Lucky Lions

Dale Wilczynski 4/9  
Faith Wall 4/12

#### Happy Hummingbirds

Lucas Phillips 4/14



**BIG congratulations to Ruben in our Happy Hummingbird class! He is a proud big brother to Mateo Ignacio Lina, born February 19, 2024 at 10:08pm. Mateo came into the world weighing 7lbs 14oz and 19 ¼ inches long!**



*"Although we should strive to read high-quality literature with children, the focus is not just on the content contained within the pages. What is also important is the conversation adults have with the child (children) about the story and illustrations before, during, and after the reading. This is because authentic learning occurs when it is connected to meaningful experiences that are mediated with a caring adult. Books are a catalyst for sharing memories, values, and beliefs, as well as bridges to prior learning that help to support children's burgeoning understanding of their day-to-day lives" –Jennifer Berke*



- 1           Preschool Closed
- 2           Preschool Resumes 9AM
- 3           Scholarship Fundraiser begins
- 16/17      Field Days
- 22          Earth Day
- 22-26     Teacher Appreciation Week-  
**NO Lunch Bunch ALL Week**
- 26          Open House 5:30-7:00pm

Dear FUMPS Families,

I've come to a Fork in the Road and I'm going to follow the sign that says "Retirement, Fun & Adventure This Way!"

I cannot begin to tell you how much happiness & joy being at FUMPS has brought to my life. It has been a wonderful 20 years, I have really enjoyed meeting all the children & families that have passed through FUMPS during my time here.

A lot has changed in the world in 20 years but the light in a child's eyes when they make new friends, discover they have the ability to master a new task or accomplish a new goal hasn't changed. That light burns as bright as ever no matter how much time passes.

I would like to thank all the women that I have had the pleasure of working with & that have supported my vision of wholesomeness. I admire your hard work & dedication to the children that are our future.

Thank you to the Preschool Board who have helped guide me through some tough times & tough decisions. We have also been so fortunate to have gone through a lot of wonderful times, and so this would not be complete without a thank you to you for sharing your most special treasures with me. It has been an honor & a privilege beyond compare.

I wish you and your families happiness, peace & lots of love. I hope I'll see you around! Take good care of each other.

With love,

Karen Wilson