

# The ExCEPtional Times

April 2017

Dear CEP Parents,

I cannot believe that there is only 4 weeks of school left! This year has moved very quickly to say the least. May is probably going to zoom by too since it is full of fun activities! We have chapel, Mom's Brunch, Teacher Appreciation week, our famous Outdoor Rainbow Days, and Graduation for the 4 year olds. Wow! The Shining Stars and Comets are also going to Hidden Pond. So many things, so little time.

Our Lunch Bunch in April was fantastic! Thank you Families, for coming and letting your children show you around the school. I hope everyone enjoyed the Scavenger Hunt! We couldn't have asked for better weather!

Our Mother's Day Brunch will be on May 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> (except for the Monkeys and Comets- your brunch will be on May 15<sup>th</sup>). It will happen right at drop off and should last about 20 minutes or so. There will be bagels, cream cheese and juice to enjoy and the children will be singing some awesome songs. I hope all the moms can come. It really is a memorable time. You might even need some tissues.

Our last Rainbow Days will be on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. This is my favorite since it is held outside and everyone gets wet and dirty. There will be a trike wash, painting, digging and many more things to do. Please make sure to pack extra clothes or bring them in their bathing suit. Don't forget the sunscreen.

Graduations for the 4 year olds will be held at Burke Lake on Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup> starting around 1045 a.m. I will be sending more information out to each class. Keep an eye out for the email!

For the families returning next year, the first tuition payment is due by May 10<sup>th</sup>. Packets with all of the paperwork for next year will be available for pick up at the time of payment. Make sure to keep them in a safe place over the summer!

As always, if you have any questions, please to not hesitate to ask...

Elees and Julie


Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

1 <b>TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK</b> 	2	3 4's to Hidden Pond 10am 	4 <i>Chapel</i>	5 <i>Chapel</i>
8	9	10	11 <i>Mother's Day Brunch 10am</i> Bears, Caterpillars, Elephants	12 <i>Mother's Day Brunch 10am</i> Frogs, Owls, Shining Stars
15 <i>Mother's Day Brunch 10am</i> Monkey's and Comets	16	17	18 <i>Rainbow Days Outdoors...Dress for Mess!</i>	19 <i>Rainbow Days Outdoors...Dress for Mess!</i>  (4/20 Ms. Debbie A B'day)
22	23	24	25 4 year old Graduation Burke Lake Park 1045am	26 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL CEP closes at 12pm
29 <i>Memorial Day</i> CEP CLOSED 	30 Teacher Clean-up Day	31		 Have an awesome Summer!

Music Plan  
Early May 2017

1. Five Little Ducks

Five little ducks went out one day. Over the hills and far away  
Mother duck said, "Quack, quack, quack, quack, But only four little ducks came back.

2. Chiapanecas

Down in Mexico, there's a dance they know, Round a sombrero, Chiapanecas.  
They will form a ring, while they dance and sing, Doesn't mean a thing, Chiapanecas.  
4x Sing Chiapanecas, Ay,ay, Ay, ay (clap hands)

3. Down by the Station

Down by the station, early in the morning, See the little pufferbellies all in a row  
See the station master turn the little handle. Puff, puff, choo, choo, off we go.

4. I'm a Little Frog

I'm a little frog and my daddy loves me, I'm a little frog and my mommy loves me  
And when they tuck me in to say goodnight, they say, "Ribbit, ribbit, ribbit, goodnight  
Good night, goodnight, goodnight little frog, goodnight,  
Good night, goodnight, ribbit, ribbit, ribbit, goodnight!

5. The Bugs in the Garden (to the Wheels on the Bus)

The (bees) in the garden go (buzz, buzz, buzz) .... All day long

6. Goldilocks and the Three Bears


When Goldilocks went to the house of the bears  
Oh what did her blue eyes see?  
A bowl that was huge and a bowl that was small  
And a bowl that was tiny and that was all and  
She counted them one, two, three.

When Goldilocks went to the house of the bears  
Oh, what did her blue eyes see?  
A chair that was huge and a chair that was small  
And a chair that was tiny and that was all  
And she counted them one, two, three.

When Goldilocks went to the house of the bears  
Oh, what did her blue eyes see?  
A bed that was huge and a bed that was small  
And a bed that was tiny and that was all  
And she counted them one, two, three.

When Goldilocks went to the house of the bears  
Oh, what did her blue eyes see?  
A bear that was huge and a bear that was small  
And a bear that was tiny and that was all  
And they roared at her Roar, roar, roar!

Thanks, Linda Cooper



## NEWS FROM THE SHINING STARS

### Four-Year-Olds

It is amazing how fast our year has flown by. In a few more weeks, our little ones will be finished at CEP and ready to head out to the big world!!

The last few weeks have been very busy and full of activities. During "Q" week, we talked about quails and quilts and made our own paper quilt.

We talked and read about raccoons, robots, rainbows, rabbits, and rainbow fish during "R" week. We made rectangular robot pictures, decorated rainbow fish, and had a radish relay race.

For letter "S," we had a class pet show after reading *The Sesame Street Pet Show* and we met Stomper bird who made mashed potatoes with his big feet. We also did an experiment with sponges, graphed the type of shoes that we were wearing, and had a "sandwich" relay.

During letter "T" week, we talked about teeth and going to the dentist. We read about a turtle going to a tea party and had a teapot on a tray relay. We also read and talked about turtles. (Did you know male box turtles have red eyes and females have yellow eyes?)

We read and learned about the umbrellabird during "U" week. Yes, there really is such a bird! We also made our uniform collage. We talked about why people wear uniforms, and we found out that there are many different types of uniforms.

We still have a lot of activities, fun, and learning to do before the end of the year. We need to finish the alphabet and celebrate the final outdoor Rainbow Days, Mother's Day, Unbirthdays (summer birthdays), and graduation.

Mark your calendars for the field trip to Hidden Pond on Wednesday, May 3 and our Mother's Day Brunch on Friday, May 12. Graduation is on Thursday, May 25 at Burke Lake Park and our final day is Friday, May 26.

Debbie and Val



## COMETS NEWSLETTER APRIL

Dear Parents,

We hope you enjoyed your spring break! It was great to see all the kids when we got back. Thanks, also, for joining us for Lunch Bunch. Your kids were so excited to show you around school during the Scavenger Hunt!

The weather has been agreeable in April, so it is nice being able to get outside more consistently at school. Thank you for remembering to send your child in sneakers and a jacket.

This month, we made pinwheels for the children to use at home on a nice day. We made spring flowers, "worm tunnels", and cherry blossom trees. We also enjoyed playing a musical chairs with Easter baskets and decorating Easter eggs! We have been busy learning about the letters T and U. We made umbrellas for the hall bulletin board, and read the books "Raindrop, Plop" by Wendy Lewison and "Ten Little Caterpillars" by Bill Martin Jr. We also played a hide and seek game with U letters and words. We will hopefully be observing live caterpillars right in our classroom! We are looking forward to our field trip to Hidden Pond. Thanks for the quick responses for chaperones!

You are invited to a Mother's Day Brunch at 10 on Monday, May 15th.

Thank you for sharing your children with us!

Ms. Angela and Mrs. Kawamoto

## THE ELEPHANTS

Tuesday/Thursday 3 year old class

Miss Katie and Miss Debbie

We had such a good time in the Elephant Room this April. Our week before Spring Break, we painted Easter Bags that later got filled with our colored hardboiled egg AND candy filled eggs! Yum!!

We also went on our class Field Trip to the Barcroft Gym. The children had a fantastic time there, climbing, tumbling, swinging on ropes, and jumping in the foam pit...thank you again to all our drivers/chaperones!

Wow...Spring Break happened in the middle of April this year....hope everyone had a wonderful, healthy, and safe holiday.

When we returned from Spring Break, we started our Insect/Bugs Theme. We made caterpillars and fireflies at the art table. We read about a very hungry caterpillar and a lonely firefly....don't worry, they both got their happy endings.

At Chapel, Miss Katie told us the story of Zacchaeus...he was a wee little man, but he learned a very BIG lesson from Jesus...even if you have done bad things, Jesus will forgive you and be your friend...and His friendship will change your heart.

In Music with Mrs. Cooper we performed another Musical Theater...The 3 Bears! We really get to use our acting chops for this one, especially when Goldilocks realizes it's time to Exit: Stage Left ☺ Ask your child to sing to you what happens when "Goldilocks went to the house of the bears, oh what did her blue eyes see?"



April 27<sup>th</sup>, at 12:30, is Lunch Bunch...family members of the children bring a blanket and picnic lunch and enjoy spending the afternoon at CEP. There will be a Scavenger Hunt so that your child can lead you on a tour of the church. The play ground and the Big Room will be open as well. We hope to see you all there!!

Thank you for remembering to encourage your children to wear the appropriate footwear at school...again, sandals, crocks or any open type shoe does NOT work here!!

One more month of school and it's going to be fabulous....Mother's Day Program...Outdoor Rainbow Day, and plenty of "Best Of or Favorites" for the children to play.

Hopefully, all of the rain has washed away the pollen now and we can spend a lot of time outside in May!

HAPPY MAY!!!!!!

Miss Katie, Miss Debbie







This month started with some epic fun a field trip. THANK YOU for the parents who were able to volunteer and drive the kids to Barcroft Gymnastics. We couldn't have gone without your help.

The gymnastics coach taught them how to do some gymnastics moves that help strengthen their bodies while going through 3 different obstacle courses. They got to hang from bars, summersault, jump on the trampoline, climb a wall, swing from ropes, hand stands, and jump into the foam pit. Everyone had a great time.



Next we celebrated Easter. We tried a new egg dyeing technique.

We put the dye in spray bottles and the kids got to spray the eggs with different colors. At home try having them spray your plants.

They loved using the sprayer and it help with hand strength for hand writing. We made some baskets which we had to fill so we went on an egg hunt. Everyone found their eggs and came back to the class ready to find out what was in the eggs.



Finally, the Frog class has been jumping into spring and all the different aspects of the changing season. We are talking about how the flowers are coming up, the trees are getting leaves, and bugs are coming out. The children loved having the bugs hidden in the beans at the sensory table. They also really loved the bug puppets. They were

buzzing around the room pretending to be bees, lady bugs, and butterflies. Another highlight of this month was using the parachute. We pretended to be like the rain and move like a sprinkle, rain, and then a big storm. Each child got to sit in the middle while we fluffed the parachute around them and then did ring around the rosies around them. Another game we have played as a class is hot potato. The Frog kids have been having more and more fun together as a class and making more group games up in the playground.

Thanks for coming to lunch bunch. Don't forget the Mother's day Celebration on Friday May 12 right after drop off. Hope to see you all there.

-Ms. Wendi and Ms. Cristina



# Owl News



2 Year Old Class W/F  
Ms. Louise and

ES2

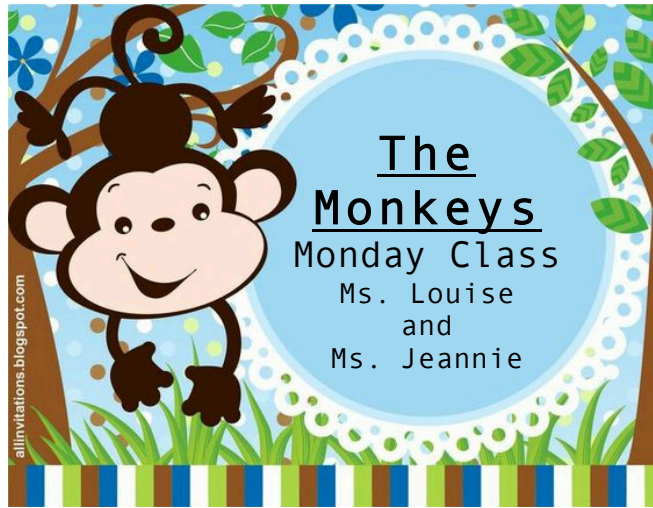
*We had an exciting time in April playing and learning all about dinosaurs.*

*Our class had dinosaurs in our water table to play with and also had fun doing many different dinosaur puzzles and playing with lots of dinosaur toys.*

*We also painted with dinosaur toys to make footprints on our papers! We marched around our music classroom with our music teacher, Mrs. Cooper, singing "We are the dinosaurs" song and had so much fun pretending we were dinosaurs!*

*This coming month will have us learning about flowers, pond life, bugs and birds. Our class will even have our own real caterpillars. We will wait*

*-Ms. Louise and  
Ms. Theresa-*



*We had an exciting time in April playing and learning all about dinosaurs. We marched around our classroom singing "We are the dinosaurs" song and had so much fun pretending we were dinosaurs!*

*This coming month will have us learning about flowers, pond life, bugs and birds. Our class will even have our own real caterpillars.*

*We will wait and watch to see them grow, disappear into their cocoon, and turn into butterflies. We will also get to release them*

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**Ms. Jeannie and Ms. Louise**



Spring has sprung and our Bears have been growing and learning and most importantly having tons of fun! We really enjoyed dissecting fruits and vegetables to find the seeds inside and planting our very own bean seeds. I hope your bean plants are still growing and some of you will be able to get some beans. Learning about Easter and Jesus' love was the next focus of our class and we also enjoyed all the egg activities including dying eggs with rice and egg races down a ramp. After spring break, our Bears started learning what weather is and enjoying some rain activities including rain art, making rain sticks and making yummy blue sky jello with whipped cream clouds.

May will be a fun time of learning about bugs, pond animals and doing outside activities. We look forward to having our Mommies at school for Breakfast and sharing a special song with them. Our Bears are great singers!

As the weather gets hotter make sure that our kiddos are still wearing close toed shoes with socks. We have a ton of mulch and sand on the playground and it's no fun spending your whole recess dumping sand and mulch out of your shoes. Also, as some of our sweet Bears are potty training we ask that you make sure, if they are in pull-ups, you buy a brand with Velcro sides. If those accidents happen it is easier to change them without having to take off shoes and pants all the way let alone being very difficult to change messes without break away sides. Also, shorts with elastic are easier for your kiddos to learn to pull down when they go potty as well as being easier for us to change them. As you can imagine, changing 8 kiddos takes a lot of time so anything to help ease the process just means more time to have fun.

Thank you so much for sharing your kiddos with us each week! Their sweet smiles and funny antics are such a blessing to us!

-Kristy and Jeannie

# Caterpillars' Newsletter

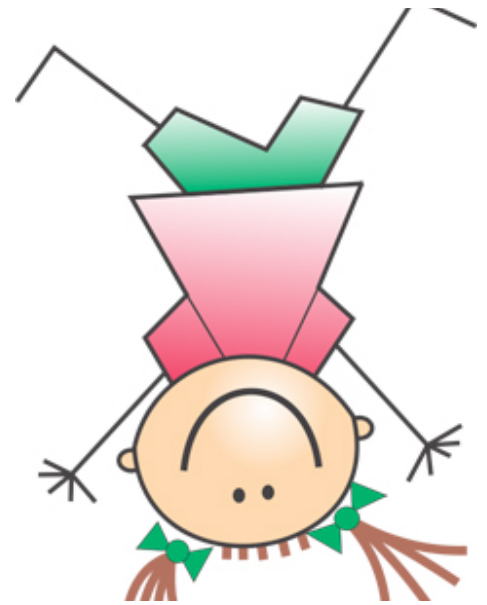
## Friendly Reminders:

Hello Caterpillar Families,

Ms. Jodi and I hope that you all are doing well, and staying well with all the allergy issues right now. HAHA!

For May, it will be a full and busy month. We will have Chapel on Friday May 5<sup>th</sup>. Next will be our Mothers Day Bruch on May 11<sup>th</sup>, at drop off. We will have our last Rainbow Day on May 18<sup>th</sup>. Our last day of school is May 25<sup>th</sup>. Jodi and I have had a blast with your little ones this school year! Thank you for letting us spend our Tuesday and Thursday with them!! We hope you all have a great and safe summer. We would love to keep in touch with everyone over the summer and the years coming up.

As many of you know, we are moving to SC this summer as Ryan is taking a job at Furman University in Greenville. He will be over the ROTC program. Thank you all for the love and support we have received this school year!!! I will miss you and your little Caterpillar!



## Calendar of Events for April:

**May 5<sup>th</sup>: Chapel**

**May 11<sup>th</sup>: Mothers Day Brunch**

**May 18<sup>th</sup>: Rainbow Day**

**May 25<sup>th</sup>: Last Day of School**