

Monthly Newsletter

Inside this Edition

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| TLC Registration | 2 |
| Teacher Appreciation | 2 |
| What are we learning? | 3 |
| Out of the mouths..... | 3 |
| Field Trip | 3 |
| Afternoon Enrichment | 4 |
| Fundraisers | 5 |
| Fundraisers | 6 |
| Birthdays | 6 |

Summer Programming

TLC is offering a variety of programs this summer for children ages 3 to 9. Below is a list of the programs being offered. Registration forms are available and should be returned by May 25th.

Summer Camps

- Week 1: June 4th—June 7th
- Week 2: June 11th—June 14th
- Week 3: July 30th—Aug 2nd
- Week 4: Aug 6th—Aug 9th

4 day camps Mon– Thursday 9am –11am: \$80 / 2nd child \$60
 3 day camps Tu/Wed/Th 11:30am—1:30pm: \$60 / 2nd child \$45
 4 day + 3 day camps including lunch bunch: \$120 / 2nd child \$100

A variety of summer camp themes will be offered (see registration brochure for descriptions): Drama, Disney Adventure, Man Camp/ Princess Prep, Monet’s Garden, Space is the Place for Me, If you give a Mouse a Cookie, Eric Carle Favorites, Sports/Outdoor games, Everyday is a Birthday, Season Celebrations
 On Wednesday afternoons, Mrs. Greenberg will be with us to do science inspired by the camp theme.

Stay and Play Wednesdays

June 20th to August 8th, Wednesdays—9am –12pm; \$25/day
 A weekly play date for your child with free time for Mom!
 Please enroll a minimum of 3 days. Additional days may be added with 48hrs notice. Less than 24 hrs notice will cost \$30.

Super Summer Skills

June 19th to July 26th Tu/Th—9am—11:30am \$60/week
 Maintain the Gain—Keep those skills we worked hard to hone over the school year and go beyond! Be as “ready” as possible for Kindergarten!

Welcome to School

Wed Aug 29th for M/W/F students, Thurs Aug 30th for T/Th students
 9:30am—11am; \$25
 A special day for your child to prep for return to school.

Dates to Remember:

- * May 24th: Last Day Tu/Th classes
- * May 25th: TLC Field Trip
- * May 25th: Chunky’s Fund-raiser Deadline
- * May 28th: Memorial Day/ No School
- * May 30th: All School End of Year Celebration
- * June 1st: Last Day M/W/F classes

Now Registering For Fall 2012

The Learning Cooperative is now registering for the 2012-2013 school year.

Join other families and our NH certified and credentialed teachers as we provide positive learning experiences in these important early years to build a strong foundation for success in school.

The Learning Cooperative is the perfect choice for parents who prefer a hands on approach to their child's education. By coping in the child's classroom parents are able to better understand what and how their children are learning and to be involved in that process in a very special way.

Programs include Morning Preschool for 2.9—5 year olds, Extended day options, and Enrichment Programs for preschool and kindergarten students.

If you know of anyone who has a child who will be entering preschool in the fall or looking for a fantastic afternoon program to supplement their kindergarten experience, be sure to mention The Learning Cooperative.

Those who are interested are welcome to visit TLC, check out our classroom and meet our wonderful teachers.

For more information and new registration packets please contact Ms. Jury.

Limited openings are available so be sure to register early!

Teacher Appreciation Week

May 7th—11th is National Teacher Appreciation Week and boy do we have some absolutely fantastic reasons to celebrate.

Ms. Jury and Mrs. Fichera are the most dedicated, enthusiastic, patient, and loving teachers, and as parents we couldn't ask for more. They have given everything they have to our school and our children and because of that our children have made amazing strides this year both educationally and socially. They expose our children to a world of knowledge and make it so much fun that the children don't even realize how much they are learning. We couldn't be more grateful for the kindness, love and encouragement they show each of our children everyday.

We have also been very fortunate to have Mrs. Greenberg and Mrs. D'Agostino who expose many of our children to the wonderful worlds of art and science. Our children have come to love their weekly explorations and we greatly appreciate how they have encouraged our children to be inquisitive, creative and interested in the world around them.

We are thankful too for Mrs. Medeiros and Mrs. Jones who work tirelessly with our parenting and play groups to give the littler children a wonderful and fun start to their educational experience.

A special thank you to all of you who spend your days working hard to make sure that all of our children have a happy and loving environment for learning. You are all amazing teachers!



What are we learning?

As we make our way towards the end of the year we are working very hard to get as much learning as possible in before the fun, relaxing days of summer.

The First Years have been focused on "Farm" with animals and the traditional tales (and "tails"!) including 3 Little Pigs and 3 Billy Goats Gruff. Counting activities with eggs and chicks were inspired by our farm theme and we had lots of fun with cows and home-made stick horses.



The Early Learners took advantage of the farm materials as well, expanding with our on-going letter/sound work, number work and theatrics that included Jack and the Beanstalk. Early Learners are working hard to hone the skills needed for their big step into kindergarten this fall.



Out of the mouths.....

As you would imagine, you are sure to hear some of the most interesting things when surrounded by 3, 4 and 5 year olds. This year was no exception. Here are a few of our favorites.

While doing a "Hey Diddle Diddle" sequencing activity, Avery got a confused look on her face after easily placing the cat, fiddle, cow, moon, and little dog. Ms. Jury asked her what came next and Avery replied, "I'm looking for the 'toseesuchasport' to put before the dish and the spoon!"

Ms. Jury asked Sophia what she made for a second print during Mrs. D'Agostino's printmaking class. Sophia replied, "One of those dot-to-dots in the sky...." After a second of thinking she said, "a constellation!"

Kelsie and her mom were walking from the Barron school back to the van. Kelsie stopped to pick up some black rubbery thing off the ground. Her mom said, "Put that down, it's yucky!" Kelsie responded very matter of factly, "things in science can be yucky", as if to say "so what's the problem, Mom?"

Danny was listening in as Ms. Jury was working with Sophia on "word families" (an, at, etc to which you add a first letter/sound to make words). They were working on the "it" word family and Sophia sometimes confuses a lower case h as the "sh" sound....

Yup, Danny heard the "it" family and Sophia's first guess at adding the h sound (as Ms. Jury quickly stopped her!) and under his breath Ms. Jury heard Danny expertly put the sounds together....then he said it again; loud and proud!



Field Trip

TLC is taking a field trip to the Home Depot and Jim's Ice Cream Barn! Both the First Years and Early Learners classes will be getting together on May 25th for a fun day out of the classroom. First we'll stop in to Home Depot where the children will don their safety goggles and build their own wooden craft to take home. Afterwards, we'll head over to Jim's Ice Cream Barn for the children to share a delicious ice cream treat with their friends. Look for more information coming home soon!

Afternoon Enrichment

Science with Mrs. Greenberg

This month in our science workshops, we explored the importance of recycling and even made our own paper. The scientists ripped up pieces of wrapping paper, tissue paper, phone books, and even toilet paper tubes to make lovely homemade cardstock. The paper was used to create our own book.

We also looked at a variety of seeds, learning about their various parts. We found that seeds can be surprisingly big and small and an interesting home for a baby plant. Students brought home a pea seed to continue their observations.

On our extra Tuesday of science, we experimented with the bouncing of balls. We discovered that if two balls are dropped at the same time, the energy from the first ball will be transferred into the second ball and cause it to bounce very high. Following up on our regular Wednesday class, we continued our exploration by making our own bouncing balls. We also learned from Newton's cradle that to every action there is an equal and opposite reaction.

Finally, during our Wednesday before vacation, we studied a variety of crystals. We learned about their shapes and even made a crystal garden to take home. This very fragile experiment can easily be repeated at home by following these directions.

Crystal Garden:

- 1 piece of brick, sponge or charcoal
- 4 tbsp. liquid bluing (Mrs. Stewart's Bluing can be found in the laundry aisle of the grocery store)
- 4 tbsp. salt (no iodine)
- 1 tbsp. ammonia
- 4 tbsp. water
- Food coloring
- 1 bowl

Break porous material into chunks and place in bowl

Mix salt, bluing, water and ammonia and pour over porous material

Add a few drops of food coloring

Let sit undisturbed

Caution: the crystals formed due to the chemical reaction from the materials added to the bowl are very fragile

Cultures and Cooking with Ms. Jury

This month we travelled to France, beginning with the wildly popular "Poisson d'Avril" which is the French April Fish/ April Fools tradition. We studied the wonderful art to come out of France from the impressionism of Renoir and Monet to the sculpture of Rodin and the pointillism of Seurat. Mrs. Jury introduced the children to her favorite Chateau, Gargoyles and of course, food! From Fromage (cheese) to our own delicious Chocolate mousse (being enjoyed by the children in the picture below), and strawberry crepes, it was all Très Magnifique!

In May, we will move on to cave paintings à la Lascaux and continuing to learn colors and numbers en français!



Fun with Fine Arts with Mrs. D'Agostino

This month, we explored different methods of print making through the illustrations and text in books. Next we explored the materials used to create those books. The children had a chance to examine wood blocks, type set letters, linoleum mats as well as prints made from carved erasers, foam fruit trays and spools. All agreed that it would take printers a very long time to put all the letters in a tray to make a book. They also agree that small chisels used for the wood blocks and linoleum should only be used by adults. The children then drew a picture and transferred it to a foam fruit tray. Using a roller, paint was applied to their foam and then pressed onto paper. This is an easy and fun activity to do at home. Each design can be used multiple times by just reapplying paint.

A couple of our activities related to the reaction between two materials. Water color over wax and masking tape created our night time scene and an oil paint and water mix created a mother's day surprise. You'll have to wait and see the result.

Finally, we took advantage of the spring season to learn a bit about plants. We explored plants grown from cuttings, seeds, and roots. The year is flying by but there is still time to get in a few more fun activities.

Chunky's Cinema Pub Fundraiser

If you have been to a Chunky's before, you know how unique the concept is, as they offer newly released movies, a great menu, and a cozy Lincoln Continental car chair to relax in all at the same time. Chunky's is a family favorite and ticket sales is a perfect fundraising event for our school.

This fundraising event focuses on selling Chunky's prepaid admission tickets. Here's how it works:

The Chunky's movie tickets are sold for \$6.00 each and part of the proceeds will go towards The Learning Cooperative. Record your sales on the ticket sales form, collect the money from the sales and return it to TLC by May 25, 2012. Once the fundraiser closes, the tickets will be mailed to the school and dispersed to those who purchased them.

Here are the ticket details:

-Tickets are good for any Chunky's location (Haverhill, Nashua, and Pelham)

-Tickets are good for any movie*, any time (Monday—Thursday)

-Tickets have no black-out dates

-Tickets have a 1 year expiration date

-Ticket Selling Price is \$6

*\$3.00 surcharge will be added at the ticket counter when pre-paid fundraising admission is redeemed for a 3D film.

If you have any questions, please contact the fundraising leader, Maria Kench at mariakench@yahoo.com.

Thank you as always for all your fundraising efforts. The money raised from these events goes a long way to helping our school obtain resources for our children's classroom.

Stamp Out Hunger

The National Association of Letter Carriers Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive, the nation's largest single-day food drive, is Saturday May 12th.

The Learning Cooperative and Salem Family Resources would like to participate by collecting non-perishable food items, which can be dropped off at playgroup or school by Friday, May 11th. Not only will we be helping our community, and helping to fill the food pantry at the Triumphant Cross Lutheran Church, but our school will earn additional Labels for Education points.

March of Dimes

Thank you to the children from TLC and Parenting & Play Groups who gave generously of their own dimes and more to the March for Babies March of Dimes Walk. The money raised in March for Babies funds important research and programs that help babies begin healthy lives. TLC's own Wasserman family, who walk in honor of the babies who have survived and thrived and in memory of those babies lost too soon, collected the donations and participated in Manchester on April 29th.



Tot-to-Teen Fashion Show

Thanks to all who helped make our Tot to Teen Fashion Show and Tea Fundraiser a success! The elegant tent at Searles Castle was packed as attendance was doubled over years passed. The models, from the littlest tot to our gorgeous glam grams were fabulous and the clothes were beautiful. Dick O'Shaughnessy presented our 2012 Children's Champion Award to Don Bohnwagner Sr., who continues his dedicated work with the Scouts which began in 1970.



Box Tops for Education, Scholastic Books, and Labels for Education

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Box Tops for Education, Scholastic Books, and Labels for Education for helping to make our efforts during this first year a success. A special thanks goes to Marie Turner for organizing these programs in our school. Here's how we did this year:

Box Tops for Education

All of the Box Tops collected from our school were donated to the North Salem Elementary School where they were redeemed for cash which was used to purchase supplies for the children.

Scholastic Book Club

Throughout the school year many families purchased books through the Scholastic Book Club which earned us 9,640 points that Ms. Jury will be able to redeem for books and/or other items for our classroom.

Labels for Education

This year our school earned 2,730 points in the Labels for Education Program.....not a bad start for our first year! TLC has registered early for next year earning us an additional 500 points! We can earn an extra 500 points this year by giving back to our community. To do this, our school is participating in the Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive. See this newsletter for more information about the food drive.

The last day to hand in box tops and labels for education is May 25th but please continue to collect them throughout the summer. If we can increase our collection by 10% for next year we'll earn extra points for the school!

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

★ **Look Who Celebrated a** ★

★ **Birthday in April...** ★

★ **Gianna!** ★

★ **Happy Birthday!!** ★

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★