

2023



Park's Edge Preschool

Put a little PEP in your life!

A Letter from the Director...

Dear Park's Edge Preschool Families:

I am excited about the start of the new school year in welcoming many new friends, but sad to say good-bye to our departing families and college bound staff-Ms. Bella and Ms. Alex. A round of applause to Mr. Cody, Ms. Jenele, and Ms. Melinda for planning another awesome summer for our school-age children. Another happy ending in celebration of summer with a pizza party, pajamas and movie day all rolled into one on Thursday, August 24! Please hurry back summer!

Saying good-bye is never easy and this year we say 'sad farewell' to Ms. Jenele, one of our long-time dedicated staff. Jenele has landed a position as Director for Wauwatosa Day Care and Learning Centers at their Mt. Mary Campus. The very best to Jenele and her family as she embarks on a new career opportunity and benefiting her family.

All good things must come to an end...and with the end of summer coming that means Thursday afternoons just won't be the same at PEP. Both staff and children enjoy summer ice cream treats served every Thursday afternoon by 'Granny's Treats'. It is hard to say good-bye to Thursdays...and summer...and Granny's treats! Our last serving this summer will be on a Thursday, August 31st! We are going to miss Granny's Treats...and summer! Learning at PEP is year 'round and fun for all ages...including the staff! We appreciate parents' support of PEP's professional career

development for staff. The Professional Day was scheduled on Friday, August 25th, for staff training, curriculum planning, and classroom preparation for the new school year. The PEP staff are excited about looking forward to another busy and safe school year at Park's Edge Preschool. Please pray for our staff and all teachers this school year. Thank you.

PEP's Professional Day included 2 workshop sessions. Gina Hobbs and Mildred Starks, from the Wisconsin Early Childhood Association (WECA) came to discuss individual career development, the T.E.A.C.H. Scholarship, and REWARD Stipend Programs that are available to eligible staff in Wisconsin. Denise Brehm, PEP's PayChex HR Specialist, and Julia Herman, Financial Advisor through Edward Jones, presented information on PEP's 401-k and Employee Assistance Program. These are just two of the many benefits offered at PEP. PEP's 401-k offers a discretionary match at the end of the year, which is a great way to support and encourage staff at PEP. Investing in PEP staff is key to investing in our children's future.

We are looking forward to PEP's Annual Open House scheduled for Thursday, September 7th from 5 to 7pm. PEP families are invited to come and meet and greet the new leaders of Park's Edge Preschool and Emanuel Church. We are pleased to have this opportunity to introduce Haley Bigger and Pastor Joshua Simon to the PEP families at our Open House. Families will also be

treated to meeting the PEP staff, tour the classrooms, meet other families and their child's playmates too. Families will receive a Staff Directory with all the staff bios in it to get to know our teaching staff better.

Classroom Staffing-Love bugs: Terri, Ruslana, & Octavia; Beautiful Butterflies: Julie & Holli; Darling Dragonflies: Nicole & Jacque; Busy Bees: Emily, Jacinda & Linda; Sunshine Room: Mariah & Kasey; Fantastic Frogs: Sandra & Jenni; Shining Stars: Melinda & Maria/ Sammy; Alexis-float staff; Jennifer-upstairs closer M & Th; Slithering Snakes-Maria am bus & 4-k noon, Cody pm bus & Megan (rider)

Children start returning to school on Friday, September 1st, please drive safely through our parking lot and community. Mr. Cody and Ms. Maria are Park's Edge Preschool's CDL licensed bus drivers. Please pray for them as they transport our precious cargo to and from school this year. Prayers for all students, parents, and teaching staff this 2023-2024 school year.

Park's Edge Preschool will be closed on Monday, September 4th, Labor Day Holiday...enjoy a restful holiday weekend after busy summer fun!

Sincerely,
Ellen M. Kvalheim

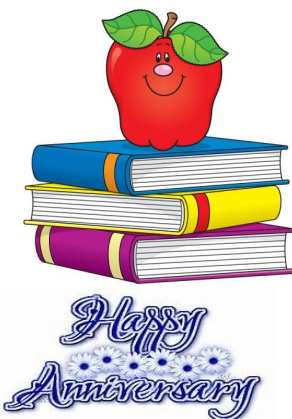
Happy Birthday

Mason B.	09/07/2019
Jordan S.	09/10/2020
Jacob T.	09/13/2019
Finn V.	09/14/2020
Jack S.	09/20/2020
Vivian S.	09/22/2015
Otto A.	09/28/2020



Ms. Julie	9/19/??
Ms. Kristin	9/23/??

September



Ms. Kristin 9/25/00



Love Bugs

Summer is coming to an end! We are so sad that it went so fast. Throughout the month, we explored textures and enjoyed music bubbles art and water bag play. September we will focus on back and core muscles as well as pincher grabbing and gross motor skills. We are excited to say that most of our infants are tumbling and moving so much.

We want to welcome Evelyn and her family to the Love Bug classroom.

She loves to sit up and observe the world around her. Ariya, who is our

Child of the Month is starting to position herself in a crawling position and has mastered front to back rolling. Declan is rolling all around the room and loves the bounce chair. Hazel loves the floor activity mat and all the lights on the toy drum makes. Harrison is rolling over to his belly and is working on his neck muscles. Cassidy is also positioned in the crawling position and scoots

backwards around the room.

We are excited to observe all our infant's growth and development as we continue to communicate and explore different textures to further expand our development. Enjoy the last of summer and Happy Fall.

Ms. Octivia & Ms. Terri &
The Love Bugs



Beautiful Butterflies



Let's go. We are ready for a new season. Last month the children enjoyed clapping at our annual talent show. We celebrated first birthdays and enjoy celebrating the first milestones daily. Children are learning to stand and walk as well as sign and babble/talk.

Please provide proper outdoor clothing and

warmer clothing as the weather is continuously changing. Please be sure to label all belongings, to help with no lost or swapped clothing.

Our Baby of the Month will be Aaron. Happy Birthday Aaron! Aaron likes to butt scoot and bounce on his bottom (like Tigger). He is learning to stand on his own. He smiles and claps

while going outside and while listening to music. He is interested in books.

We are proud of him and all our babies. They are growing and learning by leaps and bounds and we can't wait to watch more!

Happy September!
Ms. Julie & Ms. Holli &
The Beautiful Butterflies

Darling Dragonflies

August was a month full of fun activities for our class! We enjoyed ice cold Granny's treats, splashed during water days, had picnics and housekeeping games on the playground and got in touch with our inner artist with lots of art projects. We had a blast, and we are already looking forward to all the exciting activities that await us in September.

We can't wait to watch the leaves change colors and watch our pumpkins begin to grow. We are also looking forward to

the cooler weather and all the fun activities that come with it. We're going to see how excited we can get when the fire trucks drive past. We have a color week coming up where we're going to wear different colored outfits each day and be on the lookout for our colors. During the week of 'We Are Special You and Me' we will bring in your favorite book.

We are welcoming new and returning friends to our class. We are excited to get to know them.

Our Child of the Month will be Hayden. Hayden loves dancing and unicorns, be sure to stop and see her pictures. Parents, please bring light jackets or sweaters as the cooler mornings come. We will continue to work on getting them off all by ourselves.

Happy September.

Ms. Nicole & Ms. Jacque & The
Darling Dragonflies



Busy Bees



Wow summer has come and gone, and we had such a blast with all the awesome field trips. From the foam machine to all the bounce house it made the summer buzz by! We have been working on taking turns with toys and have been interested in housekeeping and taking care of our babies lately, especially with the addition of the new babies outside. We've enjoyed our water play days and enjoyed all the help from the summer high school helpers.

We are looking forward to our new school year, we will be learning about fire safety and how to be pretend firefighters putting out a fire with spray bottles.

Our goal this month will be working on our fine motor skills/ tasks like twisting and lacing with our animal twist builders and buttons and string. They have improved on twisting them on, but we are still working on getting them off.

Our Child of the Month is Zosia. Zosia has been enjoying taking care of babies in housekeeping area and building with Legos.

We are so excited to start the new school year off, and to see all our growth over the next few months.

Ms. Emily & The Busy Bees

Sunshine Room

We had such a fun and busy August! From our bounce house, talent show, waterslide, and our end of summer pizza and pj party, our days have not been boring. Our favorite week this month was Wacky Week. We learned that it is okay to be silly and different than others. Our favorite book was 'Don't Push the Button'. A fun book about a monster who, spoiler alert, pushes a button that he isn't supposed to push and turns into all

different sorts of silly things. Our sunshine room loves to be silly and make each other laugh, especially their teachers. As sad as we are saying good-bye to summer and all the fun we've had, we are excited for fall and all the themes that we have coming up.

These themes include 'Cool for School', 'All Things Color', 'We are Special' and 'Fire Safety'. We are also

looking forward to the return of some friends who were gone for the summer.

Welcome back Sunshines! Our goals have been focused on letter recognition, fine motor skills as well as gross motor. We have loved cutting paper recently and working our tiny but mighty hands to cut it!

We hope you have a great September!

Ms. Mariah & Ms. Kasey & The Sunshine Friends



Fantastic Frogs



Wow, hard to believe summer has come to an end, although we enjoyed every last bit of it. Most of our time was spent outdoors. We did a lot of fun things this past month. One of our highlights was taking our center activities outdoors. The children enjoyed building, digging, and racing cars outside. We took building blocks outdoors for them to build. They used gardening tools to dig underneath the rocks searching for roly pollys. We took an assortment of cars and trucks along with the car mat and let their imagination run wild. We had a blast! The children are doing an amazing job developing their small motor skills. During the week of "If I Ran the Zoo" they used clothing pins to clip and match letters of

different zoo animals. This was not only a great fine motor skill but a great way to enhance their literacy and language skills. When we asked the children what was their favorite thing to do this summer they all agreed on the water play days and the picnics outdoors.

We are looking forward to a great start to a brand new school year. Themes for the month of September include "we are cool for school", "All things colors", "we are special", and "fire safety". During the week of "all things colors" the children will be working on color matching and color recognition. The children will focus on recognizing and writing their own name. They will learn the importance of keeping themselves safe both in the classroom and outside. They will also learn tips about fire safety and how to use the stop, drop, and

roll method. Self awareness and manners will be an important part of learning this month. Ms. Jenni has been reading books about mastering life's little milestones and using our best behaviors. These books are wonderful teaching tools to help with empathy, patience, self-care, social skills and self control. The children enjoy reading these books with Ms. Jenni.

I hope everyone got a chance to read the article I sent through procare about tips for reusing your child's beautiful artwork. Creativity is part of each child's learning process and they all have a unique gift. Please remember to grab their art work from their folders and enjoy their creativity.

Have a wonderful and blessed month.

Ms. Sandra and Ms. Jenni & The Fantastic Frogs



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Summer is over, such a bittersweet feeling. We had a busy fun summer but, I can't wait to get back to our school routine. I'm so sad to say goodbye to my friends that are leaving to go to school but excited to meet all the new friends starting. Our class took a poll and their favorite things this summer were the treasure hunt, swimming at the pool and playing with their friends.

We were working on following directions and taking turns playing games. The friends that are staying for this month will continue perfecting these tasks. We will also be working on safety rules/classroom rules and finding out what goals my friends need to work on individually. Please make sure your child has extra clothes (underwear, socks, shirt, pants/shorts) in their cubby basket. Thank you in advance and thank you for such a wonderful summer!

Have a great September.
Ms. Melinda & The Shining Stars

Change of Schedule Form

If you are making any changes to your regular schedule, please fill out the form located on top of the family mailboxes. With all the comings and goings with all the children in our program, it is difficult for us to remember something told verbally. You can also email Ellen (ellen@parksedgepreschool.com) and Kristin (kristin@parksedgepreschool.com).

Purple Moons

Hello Purple Moon Families,
We are all excited to get back to the routine of the school year, but saying good-bye to the fun summer is so hard. We had a great time with our water/mud days. Two water slides in one summer was a real treat. Our field trip adventures around the neighborhood was an amazing idea. We did get to go outside a lot, which helped us focus on the things we were learning. I must say I was thoroughly impressed by how well the children read books throughout the summer especially during Wacky Week. The class surprised me on a daily basis, with their creativity, manners, and team work abilities. I am so proud of all of them!

We have been working hard throughout summer on our reading and math problems. The class gravitates towards legos so we have worked our reading and math problems into their lego projects. I am sure this will carry over into their school year!

I hope everyone has a safe and great school year! Thank you for a great summer, I will miss you all.

Ms. Nicole & The Purple Moons

September

2023



As August blows out, we look forward to the cool winds of September. While our summer is coming to a close, we turn towards the future, ready and prepared for a fresh new school year.

We have many fond memories of August going to the local parks and forests, and our amazing back in the pool at Swimstastic. We had the great privilege of going swimming once a month on top of all our water day here. Our book *Magnus Chase* has been a thrilling tale, one that is equally exhilarating and comical. If you would like to continue the series, the next book is titled *Magnus Chase and Thor's Hammer*.

Now that's not to discredit September and all the fantastic experiences we have ahead of us. We cannot wait for another exciting school year full of education and growth. We look forward to nurturing and nourishing the educational development of our class, and are overjoyed to welcome some first time school agers. Please remember to turn in any bussing paperwork prior to the first day of school, as we will use it in our safe transportation of your child.

We anticipate a tremendous school year, focused on both education, and also the strength of community and the power of unity. We hope your summer concludes with memorable moments, and await you in the school year!

Ms. Jenele & Mr. Cody & Ms. Maria

The Slithering Snakes

Important Dates

Friday, September 1st– Whitnall First Day of School

Monday, September 4th– Park's Edge Preschool Closed
for Labor Day—Regular Tuition Applied

Thursday, September 7th- Park's Edge Preschool's annual
Open House 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm-
Meet and Greet the P.E.P Staff



ASSOCIATION FOR
**Early
Learning
Leaders**

**National
Accreditation
Commission**
FOR EARLY CARE AND
EDUCATION PROGRAMS

ACCREDITED

NAC Nook

NAC NOOK

After an extensive search for a qualified candidate the PEP Board has hired Haley Bigger as incoming director at PEP. Haley will start at PEP on Tuesday, September 5. She will go through an extensive orientation period through November 1 when she will fully assume the role of Director. I will stay on as emeritus director until June 1st, 2024, when Park's Edge Preschool celebrates its 25-year anniversary. I will officially retire shortly after that date.

The State of Wisconsin's Department for Children and Families has been notified of the upcoming transition as well as the Association for Early Learning Leaders, governing board for the National Association of Accreditation for Early Childhood programs.

This has been an important decision and process as we move into the future with new leadership at the helm. I will keep you posted as the transformation develops.

Thank you,
Ellen Kvalheim



Themes w/ Christian Sub Themes

Upstairs & Downstairs Themes

9/4-9/8: We are Cool for School
God gave us friends to play and share with
Prayer: Thank you God for our time spent together.

9/11-9/15: The Crayon Box that Talked
(All things Color)
Psalm 52:8 But I am like a green olive tree
in the house of God. I trust in the
steadfast love of God forever and ever.

9/18-9/22: We are Special You and Me
God knew who we would be even before we
were born
We are special in God's eye

9/25-9/29: We are Fire Safe and Ready
Burning bush story (Moses)
Psalm 104:4 He makes his messengers
winds, his ministers a flaming fire.

Pastor's Note:

Strong and Vigilant God:

Our children are back in school, with their friends, under the care of teachers and aides who will surround them with love. They will help these children flourish, in places where fear can be the farthest thing from their young, still forming minds.

But we're parents. We know the world we live in. We know that growing up is hard. Despite every reassurance, we will worry anyway.

So we come to you with our uncertainties, knowing that You will not judge us, or accuse us of lacking faith, because whatever concerns we have grow from our love, and our desire to protect our children, even when we can't be physically with them.

Remind us that You love our children more than we can imagine. Remind us that You are watching them even when we can't. Remind us that we are in partnership with a God who is, *right now*, working so that all of us can flourish, in safety and peace.

Thank you.

Amen.
Dale Stohre

