

# Put a little PEP in your Life!

## August 2024 Newsletter

### A Letter from the Director...

Dear Park's Edge Preschool Families, August is always a bittersweet time of year as we say goodbye to children going to school in fall and welcoming new families to the program. We look forward to celebrating the last month of summer here with a few more field trips and everyone's favorite, Granny's Treats on Thursdays.

Congratulations to Ms. Haley and her husband Tyler on their baby Cole, born on July 11. Everyone is doing wonderful, and Ms. Haley reported she is enjoying all the snuggles and looks forward to returning Wednesday, October 2nd.

Reminder: We WILL be open on Friday, August 23rd, normal business hours.

Window Update: We have received confirmation that the upstairs classroom window project will start Friday, September 20 through Tuesday, September 24. We look forward to having everyone return, Wednesday, September 25. With the window update, we are excited to repaint the upstairs classrooms on Saturday, September 28 to have a fresh look for the environment. New blinds will be

ordered after the windows are installed to complete the project. No charges will be applied for the upstairs during the closure. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Huge shout out to Ms. Nicole, Mr. Cody and Ms. Melinda for planning another fun-filled summer for children 4 and up. Some of the highlights included: Ryan the Reptile Guy, Bear's Den and the Wehr Nature Center. Thank you to Zacher Trucking Company, Hales Corners Police Department and all the parents and grandparents that came to the car wash. The children were so proud to help wash your car.

Thank you to Emanuel Church for inviting the PEP families to participate in Vacation Bible School held July 22-25. The theme 'Hometown Nazareth Where Jesus was a Kid' transported the children to the streets of Israel to learn more about where Jesus lived as a child. The children were able to sample pita and hummus, stuffed olives, and figs. Each child tried 'stomping on grapes' (water balloons), make a lavender body scrub and learned a new dance that they performed on Parent Night. Thank you to Karin McElrone and Emanuel Church's Board of Christian Education and Ms.

Alexis, PEP's teacher, for making this a memorable week for all.

As they say, all good things must come to an end. We will wrap up our summer fun with a Picnic and Party on Thursday, August 29. Tuesday, September 3 is back to school for the Whitnall School District. Please drive carefully when entering and departing Emanuel Church/PEP's parking lot in meeting school bus safety guidelines. PEP's Annual Open House is scheduled on Thursday, September 5 from 5-7pm. Families are welcome to tour the facility, meet the teachers, and see your child's classroom. Grandparents Day will be Friday, September 6 from 4-5pm. An age appropriate activity will be held in the classroom.

If your family is continuing for the school year at PEP, the annual Registration Fee will be charged to your account on Tuesday, September 4. Park's Edge Preschool will be closed on Monday, September 3 for Labor Day. Regular charges are applied. Enjoy the last weekend of summer!

Thank you,  
Kristin Burr  
Interim Director

## Happy Birthday!

Hannah B.	08/02/2019
Benji K.	08/06/2020
Madelyn M.	08/06/2022
Cooper D.	08/07/2023
Emily A.	08/08/2021
Mason W.	08/15/2020
Leah K.	08/16/2018
Cameron F.	08/21/2012
Elijah C.	08/22/2022
Marlee P.	08/25/2022
Bellamy P.	08/26/2022
Fiona W.	08/29/2022



## Happy Anniversary!



Happy Anniversary to our beloved Ms. Melinda! Ms. Melinda has been an integral part of our PEP Family for the past 19 years. She started as a float teacher in our upstairs classrooms and has graced every classroom with her presence throughout her career. The children absolutely light up when they see Ms. Melinda and they always run over to get one of her famous hugs. Her Coworkers love to make her laugh and love hiding and scaring her whenever they get the chance. Outside of work Melinda is a team sports lover. She is an avid bowler and volleyball player, as well as the Bunko queen of the Midwest. She has two children who are her absolute world. Her motherhood quote is “it’s a dirty job but somebody has to do it”. She also finds it “super rewarding”. Thank you, Ms. Melinda, for all your hard work. We are so thankful to have you as part of our Park’s Edge family.

Happy 3rd anniversary to everyone’s favorite, Ms. Alexis! Ms. Alexis is a PEP alumnus and grew up in our program. She started her PEP career in high school as a sanitation associate after the pandemic. Alexis then moved into a Program Aid position in our downstairs classrooms. After graduating this year from high school, she is now an Assistant Teacher! In the all she will start working towards a degree in Early Childhood Education. Alexis is not only the best classroom and toy organizer we have ever had here at PEP but is also incredibly loved by the children. Alexis knows every child in the building. She knows what makes them smile and what activities they love doing. Outside of work Alexis loves spending time with friends, is a makeup and fashion lover, and is the ultimate Hello Kitty fan. We are so thankful that Alexis has grown and will continue to grow as part of our PEP Family.



## Love Bugs

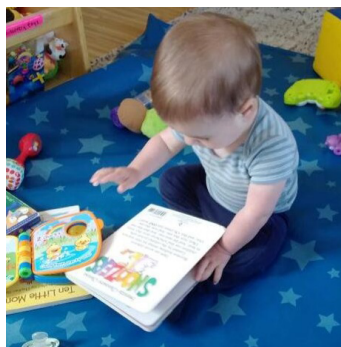
Why do bananas wear sunscreen?

Because they peel (Ba Boom Ching)

The Love Bugs were living it up in July! We had bubble filled dance parties and made good use of our dancing ribbons. Our little Picasso's finger painted, and their creativity really came out. Look for their artistic creations all over the room. Our babies are on the move and thriving. Here are some milestones that were achieved. Emmett is army crawling all over the place and is sitting up by himself. Atlas is practicing crawling on his hands and knees, and he is eating purées for lunch. Logan is getting stronger each day and is pulling up on shelves to stand. George is gaining more balance to sit up by himself and is moving in circles to reach for toys. Colette smiles at her friends as she sits up and is mouthing all the teether toys. Way to go babies! We can't wait to see what you all accomplish in August.

Have a great rest of the summer! Stay cool.

Ms.Terri and Ms.Brooke



## Beautiful Butterflies

Happy August!

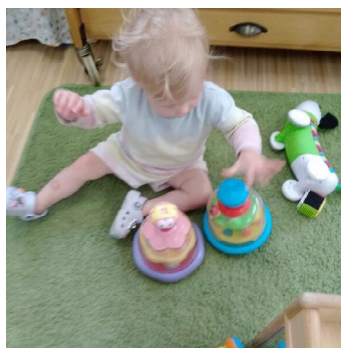
Last month we had a BLAST playing outside with balls with our toddler friends. They have been enjoying the interactive songs "Row your boat", "The itsy bitsy spider", and "Baby bumble bee". We also read a book with more verses to "the itsy bitsy spider". They have all been using more speaking words saying, "Hi", "Bye-bye", "more", "mine", "please" and "thank you"; but our favorite word is "Bubbles". We love to clap for our friends, share with each other, and are doing great with all of our milestones! We are so proud of them.

Declan A will be the baby of the month for August. He loves books, music, and art. When he does finger painting he likes to say "Wow, wow, wow!"

The themes of the month of August are music, books, cooking/baking, and zoo! We look forward to listening to lots of music, playing instruments, and marble painting. For our family engagement activity, please decorate and return a "Family favorites" sheet. We can't wait to see your favorite foods, songs/bands, instrument, books/author, and animals at the zoo!

We hope you have a happy and healthy last month of summer!

Ms. Holli & Ms. Julie



## Darling Dragonflies

“READING IS A PASSPORT TO COUNTLESS ADVENTURES” - Mary Pope Osborne

During July, our Daring Dragonflies had a blast on water days, cooling off and having fun with our friends. We loved getting frozen treats from the ice cream truck on hot days. One of the highlights during Ocean week was watching whales jump out of the water, it was so exciting to see them pop up out of the water and sing their songs. We also had a great time exploring the world of insects, learning about their habitats and behaviors. It has been a summer full of adventure and discovery!

In August we are excited to explore different sports, learn about the animals at the zoo and uncover the process of how books are made as well as indulging in reading the imaginative stories from our favorite authors.

For August, the Dragonflies are going to focus on learning about opposites and differences. They will explore words that have opposite meanings, like hot and cold, big and small. They will also learn how to identify differences between objects, such as colors or sizes. By learning these we hope to add to their vocabulary and cognitive skills. It will be a fun and interesting challenge for them to tackle. We encourage parents to engage in games of opposites or incorporate them in everyday routines.

Gabriella is our special child for August. She loves art, snuggling and always has a big smile and hug ready for everyone. She brightens up our day with her creativity and kindness. We are so lucky to have Gabby as a part of our class.

Ms.Haley and Ms.Jacque



## Busy Bees

Boom boom bye to July! We had a great month filled with a water bounce house, painting with red, white and blue, learning lacing buttons and lots of fun outside!

Summer is almost done, but please keep swimsuits here for water play days, as August is pretty hot!

Our goals this month are to work on recognizing colors and getting more comfortable doing sensory art!

We can't wait for our fun themes this month, we will be learning about music, cooking, and the zoo. We will be shaking up our own whipped cream and tasting it with strawberries, and we will be taste testing lemons and limes. We will be having a picnic the week of the 19th so please look for messages about bringing a bagged lunch for us to eat outside!

We are having two more in house field trips this month. Tuesday, August 6th we will be listening to Ryan the guitar guy, and Tuesday, August 27th we will be having a foam bubble machine to finish off the summer!

I hope everyone has an amazing end of summer!

Ms.Emily and Ms.Linda



## Sunshine Room

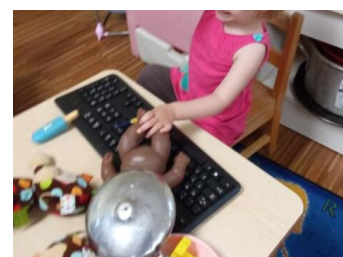
What an exciting summer it has been so far! July was a busy month for our Sunshine friends. We engaged in so many exciting experiments about water, as July was our water month. Our kiddos learned about “sink or float”. We placed several items in a bin of water to see if they would sink or float. The Sunshine room was excited with all of our results. We also learned about absorption. Our experiment taught us that sponges, paper towels and washcloths “absorb” the water, but paper does not.

We also had fun making caterpillars with our names and “bug art” as we studied different insects this month. I have to say the most fun we had was making our fireworks artwork. What a blast!

Summer is a time for outdoors and exercise. We have taken full advantage of our amazing weather and enjoyed water days, bounce houses and playing with friends outside. We can't forget all the bubbles we've made outside; the kids love to chase the bubbles. We look forward to the rest of summer and more learning with friends! Ms.Kristen will sadly be leaving us on August 29th, we hope to see her again next summer! We welcome our lovely Ms.Mariah back to the Sunshine room this month.

Thank you for all the continued support and entrusting us with your amazing children. They are all so special to all of us here at Park's Edge. Keep bringing in those water bottles so your kiddos are hydrated as they play, grow and learn.

Ms.Kristen, Ms.Ladonne, Ms.Nola



## Fantastic Frogs

Hope everyone is having a great summer so far. It's hard to believe we are coming to the end of Summer, although it has been fun. We have been spending a lot of time outdoors. The children enjoy having their morning snack and story time by the outdoor sanctuary. We have also enjoyed center activities outside. The children's favorite thing to do is dance around the picnic tables with the colorful scarves as they listen to their favorite songs.

One of the children's favorite highlights for this past month was waving flags as they pretended to march on the Fourth of July Parade. During the week of bugs and insects they eagerly searched for roly polys to put in their bug containers. They learned that a roly poly is not a bug, but a crustaceans which is a member of the shrimp, lobster, and crab family. They also learned that a roly poly has seven plates on their back and when they become frightened they roll up into a tiny ball. Even though a roly poly is not a bug the children had fun learning about them.

For the month of August we have great themes planned. Our themes include “Music Appreciation” (during this week we will learn about different musical notes and make fun instruments out of toilet tubes and paper plates). Other themes include “Amazing Authors”, “Baking and Cooking”, and “Fun at the Zoo”. This month we plan to cook up some simple kid friendly recipes such as a delicious trail mix, bagel pizzas, and sushi roll ups. The children will practice scooping, pouring, spreading and mixing. These are great fine motor skill development. They are welcome to bring in one of their favorite books during the week of “Amazing Authors” week, as we will be highlighting children's Authors.

Please continue to check the procare app for upcoming dates and activities, as we still plan on having a few more water days. Also keep in mind that every Friday we have “show and tell”. Your child is welcome to bring a small or medium item to class to show their friends and talk about it. Have a great month!

Ms. Sandra



## Shining Stars

Summer is here! July has been jam packed with great adventures and activities. From nature walks, water slides, bouncy houses, to the Bear's Den, Milwaukee Public Museum and Kids in Motion, we were always on the move. Our favorite? Of all things, walking to McDonald's and eating lunch together. Our 3D board shows all the great insects and bugs we created and learned about. Did you know all bugs are insects, but not all insects are bugs? We ended the month with some Olympic competitions and dancing in the rain. We are looking forward to all the adventures yet to come!

Please take a moment to see the beautiful chrysalises we have in our classroom and ask your child about them. The children loved learning about the life cycle of a butterfly and seeing it in action. They were able to watch the caterpillars grow and then take their J shape just before creating their chrysalis. Estimated birth date is August 7-9th.

For the summer we ask that everyone has extra weather appropriate clothes. Along with a swimsuit, towel, and **a sweatshirt to keep for the week in their cubbies** (it can get cold in the classroom). If you have any questions, please reach out to Ms. Maria. You can always talk to us in person, on the app, or call during nap time between 1-3.

Ms. Maria and Ms. Susan



## Purple Moons

Why did the battery need to go on summer vacation? He needed to re-charge!

Even though summer is coming to an end, we are extremely grateful and blessed to have had such a fun filled summer...so far! We are looking forward to our awesome August themes including music appreciation, amazing authors, baking and cooking, as well as zoo week!

July started off with a classic fourth of July celebration. We made some super sparkly firework paintings, they almost look real! We also had the best lunch ever, McDonald's of course! Following that, we took a dive right into ocean week, where we learned so much about ocean animals, and we enjoyed a fun filled day at Greendale Community Park. Then we crawled into bug and insect week, where we took a hike through Wehr Nature Center where we got to see some real creepy crawlers up close! We also took a fun ride out to Bear's Den Petting Zoo where we got to pet a lemur! How cool is that?! Then we splashed right into water week where we got to walk through the Milwaukee Public Museum and learn all about our oceans, lakes, and rivers. We then ended July with some fun at Whitnall park where we got to play some Olympic sports for our spectacular sports week.

Moving into August, we will have so many fun trips to wrap up our summer. Ryan the Guitar Guy is making a comeback to sing some sweet tunes. We also have some fun baking and cooking planned, and our favorite way to end every summer, a movie day! We can't wait to watch Madagascar during zoo week.

This summer has been filled with tons of kindergarten prep! We have been working on our writing skills, sight words, and soon we will take a look at some CVC words (consonant, vowel, consonant). I know many of you have been practicing at home, and your hard work is definitely noticed and appreciated, thank you! You're doing great!

Happy August!

Ms. Mariah and The Purple Moons Crew



## Slithering Snakes

What sits on the seabed and has anxiety? A nervous wreck.

A warm welcome to August, our last full month of summer! While we've been thoroughly enjoying the sunny days after a wet July, we wish the temperature didn't feel the need to compensate. When and if the temperature exceeds a certain threshold we'll be forced to stay inside, preferably with popsicles or some other sweet summer treat. We'll always send a message when this happens, but if you'd like a glance at the metric we use, you can find it posted on our parent board near the menus. As summer comes to a close we hope you've enjoyed the summer program, and would love to hear any feedback or ideas for next summer!

Looking ahead to August, we are eagerly anticipating so many upcoming activities, most notably an entire week of homemade food, and the chance to eat it! Our bake sale will be August 22nd and 23rd, so please come and check out some delicious baked goods made lovingly by your child! We will also be learning how to prepare our own food, some basic recipes, and hopefully some amount of independence in relation to feeding ourselves. We'll make sure any recipes used wind up going home, in case you'd like to cook any of them with your child. August will also see us introduce a brand new theme! We will be exploring authors and their works, by looking at different genres each day. Feel free to bring in some of your favorite books, or share any project ideas to help us better understand these facets of writing. We're sure August will come and go in a flash, and school will be in session before we know it, but until then we look forward to closing out our summer with as many memorable moments as possible!

Sincerely,

Ms. Nicole, Mr. Ben, and Mr. Cody



## Themes with Christian Sub Themes

**08/05-08/09: Music Appreciation**

Psalm 95:1 "Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the rock of our salvation."

**08/12-08/16: Amazing Authors**

God is the most amazing author of all!

**08/19-08/23: Baking and Cooking**

Ecclesiastes 9:7 "Go, eat your food with gladness."

**08/26-08/30: At the Zoo**

Proverbs 12:10 "The righteous care for the needs of their animals."

## Nac Nook

As we come to the end of summer and are gearing up for the new school year, we like to revisit PEP's Five Core Values that are proudly displayed over PEP's office entrance.

Every decision, activity, and lesson plan that are created in this building take those five core values into account. Our teachers and administrators work very hard every single day to make sure that we are following our core values and setting excellent examples for the children in our program. We realize children are sponges and are soaking up everything we teach and model for them. Our core values ensure that we are on the right track.

### Five Core Values:

- Children First
- Professionalism
- Teamwork
- Positivity
- Commitment

## Important Dates:

### Thursday, August 1st-

Kids In Motion - Stars & Moons 9:00am  
Moorland Golf-Snakes 12:00pm

### Wednesday, August 7th-

Ryan the Guitar Guy  
Moons & All Snakes here by 8:15am

### Thursday August 8th-

Movie Day! Sing! Movie with popcorn in the church Sanctuary  
Stars & Moons 9:30am  
Snakes 12:30pm

### Sunday, August 11th-

Emanuel Church Car Show 11:00 am-4:00pm  
All are welcome!

### Tuesday, August 13th-

Hales Corners Library  
Stars, Moons & all Snakes 8:30am

### Wednesday, August 14th-

Splash and Splash Water Fun - Swimsuits & Towels Needed  
Stars & Moons 9:00am  
Snakes 12:00pm

### Thursday, August 22nd-

Bake Sale! Stop for a delicious treat.

### Tuesday, August 27th-

Bubble Machine - Swimsuits & Towels Needed  
Stars, Moons and Younger Snakes 10am  
Older Snakes 12pm

### Thursday, August 29th-

End of Summer Picnic and Party!

### Monday, September 2nd-

Park's Edge Closed for Labor Day  
Regular Tuition Applied

### Tuesday, September 3rd-

First Day of School - Whitnall School District

### Thursday, September 5th-

Park's Edge Open House  
Come Meet the Staff 5:30-7:00 pm

### Friday, September 20-Tuesday, September 24th-

Upstairs classrooms closed for window installation