



# The Preschool Post

January 31, 2012 Volume 4, Issue 6

## Notes from the Director

We are gearing up for a "lovely" month here in celebration of our family of friends at Allison Creek Preschool!

We are also planning ahead for a special celebration in March - Mat Man Day! Each child will have the opportunity to do many, many activities that all center around Mat Man - including making their very own shirt! Please read the attached flier and return about the shirts. We will encourage all of our children to wear these at our end of the year celebration.

As is our tradition...we will be collecting dental supplies for needy children during the month of February - dental health month. Participation is completely optional. If you would like to send in supplies, please send those in with your child.

Finally, registration for next year is moving right along. Please be sure to register for next year early as February 6 will be Open Registration to the public. And...pass the word along about our preschool! :)

## Valentine's Day

*Each class will celebrate Valentine's Day! Each child is encouraged to bring a Valentine for his/her classmates. Parents may choose to address and sign Valentines or simply sign the Valentines and deliver to each friend's mailbox. This is a wonderful time to share about friendships and how much we care about one another!*

## Preschool Cookbook

Starla Davis is working to compile the amazing recipes we are getting for our cookbook. If you would like to volunteer to help proof/edit, please contact Starla at [starlamdavis@yahoo.com](mailto:starlamdavis@yahoo.com). Thanks!

## Dr. Seuss Week!

Dr. Seuss's birthday is March 2. We will celebrate his birthday during the last week of this month. Each day, children are encouraged to dress according to the themes listed below...

Mixed Up Monday - dress with clothes backwards or inside out

Toesies Tuesday - wear silly socks

Wacky Wednesday - dress in mismatched clothes

Themed Thursday - dress in a way that highlights your favorite Dr. Seuss book or character.

Our children can expect to have a week filled with Dr. Seuss fun - including crafts, stories, and special snacks....even green eggs and ham!



## Preschool Playground Project



Update: The playground structures are complete and we are now moving on to the mulching phase. Every time we are ready to move, more rain keeps the trucks from being able to deliver to the back of the building! We are hoping that we will be enjoying our new space soon....If you would like to make a contribution toward the cost of the mulch, please see Ms. Elizabeth.

# Beginner Horse Care and Riding Lessons

with Ms. Lara

Call (803) 222-0356 or email

[allisoncreeklara@gmail.com](mailto:allisoncreeklara@gmail.com) for more  
information!



## Hair Pretties :)

Handmade Headbands

1" Woven or Wrapped Headbands

3/8" Wrapped Headbands

Premade or custom!

Email [fourgibsons@yahoo.com](mailto:fourgibsons@yahoo.com)



## Scholastic Book Orders



Some book flyers will be sent home this month but all are available online! Should you decide to order books, please order online by:

- 1 - Please go to [www.scholastic.com/bookclubs](http://www.scholastic.com/bookclubs) to order.
- 2 - Sign up for a user name & password. If you already have one, just log on.
- 3 - Enter our Class Activation Code: H32YP.
- 4 - Place order
- 5 - Pay securely

*\*\*\*Please note, every online order scholastic receives from our preschool, the preschool gets a free book! All book orders allow the preschool to accumulate points and earn free books!*

If you have any trouble ordering online or if you have any questions, please send an e-mail to [acpreschool@comporium.net](mailto:acpreschool@comporium.net). Thanks in advance!  
Orders are due by February 16.



ZUMBA classes are still being offered from 12:45-1:30 pm each Monday. The cost of the class is \$5 per person. The class is open to EVERYONE - preschool family or not. And...you don't have to have any ZUMBA experience to come. Childcare will be provided for preschool families during the ZUMBA classes at a rate of \$3/child or \$5/family.

This is a very fun time for Moms to get together to relieve some stress...after all....what happens in ZUMBA, stays in ZUMBA! :)

### Unit/Theme - with Ms. Meg

Theme: Valentine's Day/Friendship, Dr. Seuss and Dental Health

Wow, can you believe that it is already February? How time has flown by so far this year. We are finishing up our winter/community helpers theme this week and will begin our lessons on Dr. Seuss, Valentine's Day/Friendship and Dental Health. The children have had so much fun this past month learning numbers and letters of the alphabet using a variety of winter themed manipulatives. We reviewed various shapes by making a "Shapely Snowman" in class. The children are doing a fantastic job of differentiating between similar shapes. Ask you child the difference between a square and a rectangle. You will be impressed! The 4's class's spent several days learning about Ordinal Numbers through class discussion and fun activities. I was thrilled at how well they caught on. Both the 3's and 4's talked about the difference between 'real' and 'pretend' and participated in a whole class activity where they had to differentiate between the two. Learning, as I have mentioned several times before, is easier when you make it fun and inviting.

During February we will be playing games and participating in various activities the help the children better understand the importance of good dental health. We will also be reading about and discussing the true value of friendship and Valentine's Day. There are many fun math games we will play during this theme. Dr. Seuss's birthday is celebrated in the month of February so we will be doing plenty of reading of some of our many favorite Dr. Seuss books.

**3's Language Skills:** the children are quickly learning the parts of a book, and what roles an author and an illustrator play in literature. They are becoming very fluent in being able to recognize their first names and identify the letters. We are still working with them on being able to spell their name on their own. I was amazed at the improvement the children had made over the Christmas break. Thank you for spending time helping them to learn these basic facts at home. As you know, before children can begin to learn to read and write they need to be able to recognize the letters of the alphabet. We will continue to work on basic letter recognition in class through various games and activities. Please continue to work with them at home on these concepts. Simple flash cards are an easy and fun way to help them with this skill.

**Math skills:** We are still counting our daily apples and straws to help us keep up with how many days we have been in school. We are way past our half way mark and the children are very excited to continue our counting to 100. They are also learning to count by 5's and 10's. Ask them if they can sing you the 10-20-30 song. We are also concentrating on number identification #'s 1-10 through games and activities and I have also started adding higher numbers as well.

**4's Language Skills** - The children have worked very hard on identifying and spelling their last names and are now ready to start learning their phone numbers. I will be sending home a note asking you to let me know what phone number you would like your child to learn or continue to practice so please keep an eye out. We will continue identifying beginning word sounds and rhyming words. The children are doing such a wonderful job at reading, spelling and signing the weekly "sight words". I am so very proud of them!

**Math Skills:** We will continue to count and recognize numbers 1-20, and count by 5's and 10's to 100. Every day the children continue to add apples to the tree and straws to a pocket chart to keep track of how many days we have been at school. We are bundling our straws by 10's to help the children with counting skills and are working our way to 100 days of school. In addition to counting we will be playing different games that will help introduce basic addition and subtraction skills using various manipulatives.

Cutting is a fine motor skill that is quite difficult for many young children to learn. The children have many opportunities at school to practice this skill but the more you can help at home the quicker they can grasp the concept. Please don't be afraid to allow your child/children to use safety scissors at home. It is so essential for them to practice and a good way is to have them just cut strips of paper or give them coupons out of the paper and let them have at it. You are not only helping them learn but allowing them to have fun while doing it!

### Ms. Starla - 2s

This year is off to a great start! We had tons of fun learning about winter, penguins & community helpers during the month of January. This month we will learn about friendship and dental health. We will also have fun celebrating Valentine's Day & Dr. Seuss's birthday this month. We are working on gross motor and fine motor skill through some fun activities. We are excited to be learning our shapes, colors and we will start to work on letter recognition too!

### FARM FRESH EGGS!

\$2.50 PER DOZEN

Email Ms. Lara at [allisoncreeklara@gmail.com](mailto:allisoncreeklara@gmail.com)



## Allison Creek Preschool's 2012 Summer Camp: **CAMPING AT THE CREEK**



Strap on your boots, load up your backpack, throw some wood on the fire during our camping themed summer camp. Enjoy the most exciting adventure of all—a summer learning experience that is fun and exciting! Camps are for children ages 2 – completed third grade Elementary Students will be participating in a book study :)

Monday, June 25 – Friday, June 29, 2012 – 9:00 am – 12:45 pm

Cost = \$115 / camper (sibling discounts available)

Price includes registration fee, snack, art, music, playtime, and more!

*New this Year – ALL campers should bring a nut free, ready to eat lunch!*

*AND....A Playball Camp will be offered from 1pm–4pm! Students wishing to participate in both will have a true “summer camp” experience – being at Allison Creek from 9am–4pm daily.*

50% deposit at registration

Balance due at camp opening

\$5 Discount if Registered and Paid in Full by May 15

Questions? Ready to register?

Email Elizabeth Gibson at [acpreschool@comporium.net](mailto:acpreschool@comporium.net) or call 803.325.8655



## MUSIC - with Ms. Alice

We have enjoyed learning lots of songs about winter time and snow this past month, even as the weather provided us with much more rain than snow. Some days we even altered the words to some of our songs to mention rain rather than snow! Still, we love singing our songs about snowmen! In the month ahead, we will be learning a variety of songs relating to our themes of friendship, Dr. Seuss, and even dental health. We will also be learning folk songs and traditional children's songs. As usual, we will work in some creative movement and different ways to use instruments.

## Art - with Ms. Katrin aka Ms. Frizzle

*"Art washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life." Pablo Picasso*

Dear Parents,

January was another busy month in the art room.

The 3's just finished making favorite hats and mittens after listening to the respective stories by Jan Brett. We learned about her special way of telling the story by giving us clues hidden in the side panels of her illustrations. They finger-painted to make a polar bear print, made cloud pictures as well as magically frosted windows. A real fun project was our "melted snowman" made from torn construction paper.

The 4's classes started the New Year with fireworks - only on paper, of course! They created their version of a cup of hot cocoa sitting on a table with a view out the window in the background. We practiced using a variety of lines to design our mugs. Our snow owls were a lot of fun - we read the book "Lazy Ozzy" and then made our own owls. I introduced the color wheel and they made a mosaic version. We played a fun game with paint chips and worked together on a mural to practice color values. I let them use modeling clay to design colorful birds. We looked through magazines to design our snowman collages - it was great to see what the kids chose to use for buttons, hair, arms, etc. They put a lot of thought and effort into choosing just the right pictures. It turned out to be a real fun project!

We are planning to use a lot of pink and red for our artwork in February, as well as fun projects to celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday. This is always a favorite theme for the children and us teachers alike!

Thank you for sharing your children with us. They are all so very special to me!

"I feel like a real artist!" Joshua, 4

## Handwriting - with Ms. Bekah

January has been a great month for reviewing and just to get back into the swing of things! I have been so excited to see all of the sweet faces and to see some new excitement for the things they are continuing to learn. We've already begun some new things, but mostly have reviewed to refresh our memories.

*Twos: Letter Recognition and formation, Mat Man:*

In February, we will continue learning and reciting our alphabet as well as the different wood pieces that make our letters. We will also be singing a few songs from the Get Set for School CD to help us remember these new things we are learning. They have finally met Mat Man! I think as we continue to We will also be singing songs about him as we learn how to draw ourselves and our body parts. All of the parts Mat Man is made of are the same pieces used to make our letters. SO cool!! I'm excited to see improvement and growth as each child continues to blow me away!!

*Threes: Review on grip and letter formation, WRITING!:*

We will continue to be practicing forming letters with our capital letter cards and wood pieces. There will be lots of reviewing as well as new letters and activities to do. We have been learning about how many legs are on different animals. We have also been learning the all the big words for how lines are laid; vertical, horizontal and diagonal. We will be starting to write our first letter (with crayon) within the first week of February. YAY!!! I'm sure I will be surprised and am anxious to start with them. They have done so well with grip and learning to stay inside the lines as well as listening to directions. I feel that they will do well as we use the different tools Handwriting without Tears provides.

*Fours: Grip, Letter Recognition and NEW letters and numbers!!*

We have begun our new set of letters. There is no name, like Frog Jump Letters. We have learned the letter H and K in the past two weeks. They have done exceptionally well and I continue to review Frog Jump Letters with them as well. I can really see a change in their consistency with taking their time and becoming more confident in their abilities. We will continue with more letters in February and I encourage you to ask your children about them and for them to show you. Grip and formation are a good thing to watch for. I know you will all be SO proud as you see their work improve from day to day!

Thank you SO much once again for all that you do at home with your child. The more practice they get, both at school and at home, the more letters they will learn and their confidence will begin to soar. Ask them about their letters and what is important to remember as they write them. Grip, posture and taking your time all help in such a big way. I love hearing new things that they are starting to comprehend. I love this program and I hope you see all the benefits that it has in store for your child.

## Upcoming Events

- February 1** Deadline to order Chic Fil a Meal for Open House on Feb 6
- February 6** Open House for Current Families and Open Public Registration - 5-7pm - Chic Fil a Meals available!
- February 13** Valentine's Day Parties -  
Toddlers & Threes
- February 14** Valentine's Day Parties -  
Twos & Fours
- February 15** Tuition Due
- February 16** Scholastic Book Orders Due
- February 16** Mat Man Shirt Orders Due
- February 17** Newsletter Ads Due
- February 20** NO Preschool - President's Day
- February 21** Deadline to order pizza lunch
- February 22** Pizza Lunch
- February 27- March 1** Celebrate Dr. Seuss Week
- February 27** Mixed Up Monday
- February 28** Toesies Tuesday
- February 29** Wacky Wednesday
- March 1** Theme Thursday
- March 27 & 28** Spring Pictures
- March 29 -** Easter Celebration & Egg Hunt
- April 2-9** Spring Break - Preschool Closed
- May 22-** End of Year Programs
- May 23 -** Last Day of Preschool

## Pizza Lunch!



Families will have the option of ordering a pizza lunch for children in place of bringing a lunch box on Wednesday, February 22. The cost of the lunch will be \$5. Each pizza lunch will consist of a slice of pizza, a drink, a serving of fruit, and a cookie. Lunches will have to be ordered by February 21 so we can order the appropriate number of pizzas. **Pizza lunches are only available to children who are at preschool for lunch.**



**Haute Dawg Treats**  
Wholesome treats for all dogs.  
Dietary sensitivities included!

A bakery, for your pet!  
Tina Del Llano, Baker

Call to order (803) 627 ~ 0304  
HauteDawgTreats@Gmail.com

LIKE US on Facebook  
for Treat specials and Gift Ideas!

## stella & dot.

Mary Kate Pursley, Independent Stylist

[pursley09@live.com](mailto:pursley09@live.com)

803.810.6154

<http://www.stelladot.com/sites/MKatePursley>

## ACPS Contact Information

### Preschool Phone Number

803-325-8655

### Preschool Address

5780 Allison Creek Road  
York, SC 29745

### Preschool E-mail Address

[acpreschool@comporium.net](mailto:acpreschool@comporium.net)

### Preschool Website

[www.orgsites.com/sc/allisoncreekpreschool](http://www.orgsites.com/sc/allisoncreekpreschool)

Please keep preschool office hours  
(Mon – Thurs 8am-1pm)  
in mind when waiting for a response  
to emails or phone calls.

## Allison Creek Preschool Community Page



Like us on  
**Facebook**

What a great networking tool....please be sure to like our page to get updates and communicate on the happenings at our preschool!