

# handprints

MAY  
2011

Elementary students prepare for their Barrier Island trip in April.



## Harmony Preschool/K News

Our ocean studies had us experimenting with salt water and evaporation. We discovered when salt water evaporates, salt is left behind in the ocean. We made wave makers with a large bottle, oil and water. We learned how wind is a factor in ocean waves. Landslides, earthquakes, tsunamis and hurricanes also cause large waves. Using a fish tank with warm water and colored ice cubes, we showed how currents move in the ocean waters. Cold water moves toward the bottom and warmer water rises to the top. Currents move and mix throughout the world oceans.

Our discussions have taken us to the ocean floor where the continental shelf, slope, mountains, ooze, valleys and trenches are beneath the ocean. We discovered the anatomy of a fish and how they differ from

other animals in the ocean. In a submersible, we're exploring the sunlight zone, twilight zone and midnight zone! The fish get even more interesting the deeper you go.

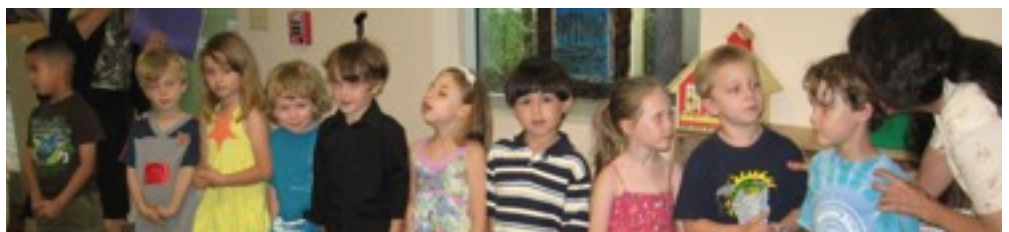
Debbie brought in her wet suit, goggles, snorkel, flippers, booties and gloves to show the children the apparel snorkelers and divers wear while swimming in the ocean, especially if the weather is cold, exploring underwater coral reefs.

Our spring egg hunt was inside thanks to a rainy day. Thank you to Claire for hiding eggs in the green building so the children could hunt. It

didn't take them long to find an egg, sit on the carpet and discover that there was jelly beans — *yes candy!* — inside! The kindergartners got a chance to go out and plant in the gardens!

The children had a wonderful time exploring the aquarium on our zoo field trips! It was fun to see the sharks, sea turtle, eel, jellyfish, sea anemones, spider crab, sea stars, clownfish, and all the great assortments of animal and plant life.

Ashley's class had to postpone their trip due to the weather, but they will go on Wednesday, May 4.



## Elementary News and Notes

May must start with memories of our April Barrier Island field trip. It was an incredible learning experience for all. From insect classes to seining and hiking through the marsh to the mud pit and evening square dancing, it will be a treasured experience for years! Thank you to the adventurous dads who accompanied us: Alex's dad, Benjamin and Sanjeev's dad, Aidan's dad and Jacob's dad. We learned a lot about nature and ourselves! On the way home, we stopped at the more than 400-year-old Angel Oak tree!

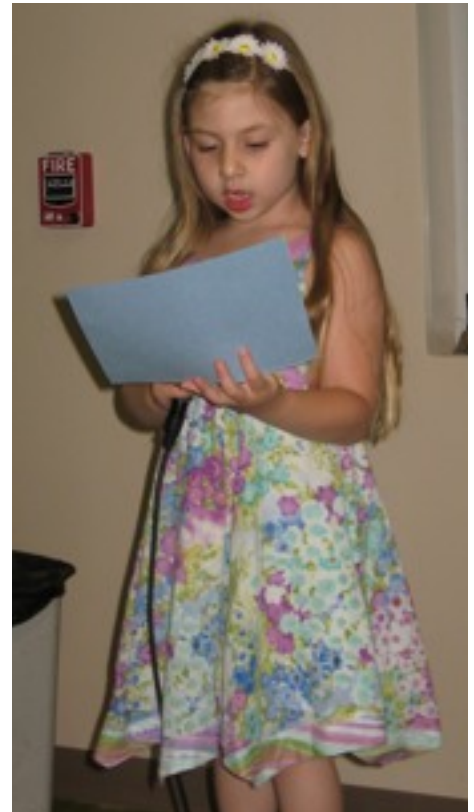
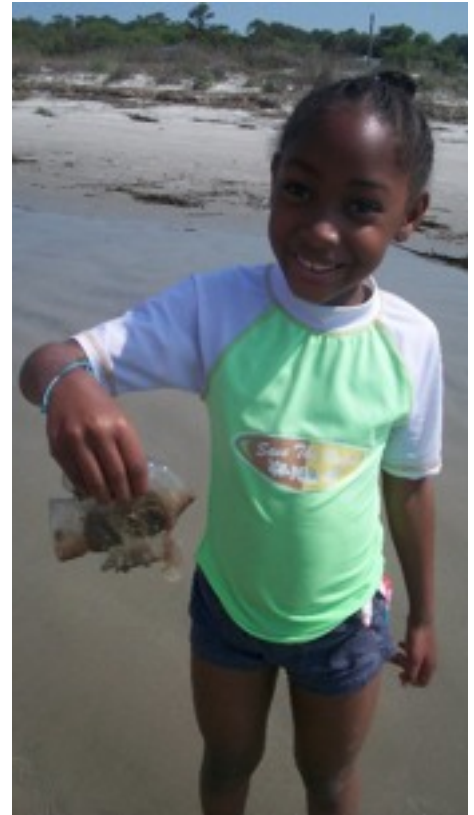
Our students loved writing poems and being a part of Poetry Night here at Harmony School. It was fun and truly wonderful to be part of a group of writers sharing creative words.

Our end of the year conferences are going on now with times available the first two weeks of May. Parents, please sign up on the calendar in the classroom.

In addition to the well-loved Lovebug and Cob, please welcome the soon-to-be-newly-named tortoise of Miss Jennifer's, who is residing in the small fenced area near the elementary buildings on the playground. Jennifer and Julie hope to add a small mammal to our animal kingdom representatives soon!

Our studies of Africa are continuing through the end of the school year. There is so much to explore and learn about. We will do our best work with the time we have remaining!

As the school year closes and we focus on all the things that must be done, we also take the time to appreciate all the 21 amazing blessings we've come to know this school year! As we say goodbye to some, we hope their journeys are peaceful and wonderful ... and to the others we'll see this summer and next year, we look forward to a great adventure next year!



may	friendships	special trips	peace
	<p><b>6-7</b> Kindergarten Camping Trip, returning Sat. at 5pm</p> <p><b>19</b> Kindergarten Graduation and Potluck, 6:30-8 pm</p> <p><b>24</b> Last day of school. Full day for pre/k &amp; half day for elementary and kindergarten. Pickup is at 12:15pm</p>	<p><b>11</b> End of Year Family Picnic, 6-7:30 pm</p> <p><b>20</b> Drum Concert at Booker T. Washington Auditorium, 7-8pm</p> <p><b>25-31</b> Happy Summer Break!</p>	<p><b>16-20</b> Drum residency with Lee Ann Kornegay</p> <p><b>23</b> New Parent Meeting, 7pm</p> <p><b>june 1</b> Summer Session begins!</p>

### Cookie Money

This month's cookie money goes to a non-profit organization called Power to the People which works with volunteers to bring solar electricity to community buildings in rural areas of developing countries.

### Poetry Night

Poetry night was music to our ears! The children did a fabulous job reading their poems. Thanks to all the children for the wonderful poetry book and to our special guest poets, Cassie Premo-Steele and Dick Holmes, for their poetry readings and involvement with the children on this special night.

### End of Year Picnic

Mark your calendar for Wednesday, May 11 from 6-7:30pm at Harmony School. We'll gather for our annual end of the year picnic! Bring a blanket and a picnic dinner for your family. We relax on the playground and enjoy each other's company as the school year draws to a close.

## Happy Birthday to You!

Alex 5/8 ❁ Evan 5/13 ★ Tatum 5/20

Nicole 5/24 ☺ Jacob 5/29

### Artist in Residence

Lee Ann Kornegay is our Artist in Residence the week of May 16-20. All week long, she'll be teaching the children West African drumming. On Friday May 20 from 7-8pm, the children will perform on stage at Booker T. Washington auditorium on the USC campus. Lee Ann worked with our children last year and we are looking forward to her coming back again for this very fun event for all of our children!

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