

handprints

OCTOBER
2012



Squish! Squish!
Touch Tanks at school, September 2012.

Preschool/K News and Notes

Our study of the environment has brought about discussions of what the earth is made of, what it would be like if there was no sound on the earth, noticing what grows on the earth, what is alive and not alive, and talking about the many treasures on our earth (beautiful flowers, trees, animals, rocks, insects, etc.) The children have explored with miniature Earth bowls of dirt, searched for a special rock to make a pet rock, had fun pretending to be a flower seed growing into beautiful flowers, and made a pretend camera to take photographs of the Earth.

The children enjoyed their time with Brian (Molly's dad), Mark (Noah's dad) and Morgan and Tori from USC who brought us touch tanks to explore. Mark showed the children slides of sea turtles and the harmful pollution in the ocean

(plastic bags that look like jelly fish) that can cause problems for sea turtles and other sea life.

The play "Goodnight Moon" at the Children's Theater was filled with whimsical characters who sang and danced to create a lively, funny production of the book. BIG THANKS to the adult volunteers who made the trip possible. More thanks to the preschool/k grandparents who came to enjoy lunch with us on Grandparents day!

Please remember quarters EVERY Friday for cookie day! The children decided to send their cookie money to the Carter Foundation to help people in Africa get rid of the Guinea worms in their water. One last reminder: please be sure your child has appropriate extra

Staff Changes

Kat Cantey is leaving Harmony to pursue her other passion — food! She has taken a job at Whole Foods and her last day will be October 12. We will miss Kat, but also wish her the best as she ventures into the next phase of her life.

Taking Kat's place, we are excited to have Jon Ramler back who previously worked in Harmony's after school program for a couple of years. He will be joining us in the morning to be Ashley's assistant this October.

clothes in his or her cubby at all times.



Elementary News and Notes

Lower Elementary

Students are completing studies of astronomy and the physical properties of Earth. We've seen lots of volcano excitement in class! We're gradually moving into studies of life on Earth so it should be a very interesting time of research. Our trip to the zoo to see "All Living Things" will also help to inspire studies.

Students are discovering all sorts of things about themselves and one another as we continue to grow as a classroom group. They're also learning how to set goals for classroom work, and follow through with completing them. The most important thing we've decided is to show love and kindness to each other in the midst of all our activities.

Thursdays are always fun with PE in the afternoon now after lunch and recess. The relays going on have been highly anticipated each week. Spanish on Fridays is well underway, and they are learning a lot.

Students have brought in mugs for hot tea in the afternoons. Peach is a favorite! We've been singing a song together every day called "Be Well" and the students love to think of things to add that can "be well," such as the sun, the earth, cats, dogs and even peanut butter!

Upper Elementary

In the upper elementary every morning starts with a student-created topic for journal writing. We are continuing to hone outlining and paragraph writing skills, and often use Venn Diagrams to organize our information. We also do a fun sentence correction each morning, and have shared some of that fun with the kindergarten and Lower El.

We've begun our states study again. Connecticut is next in order of statehood and in study, and the students are busy getting their survey ready to send to a school in every state. We continue to conquer math and love to play the math game.

In Science we are going to go on to the 2nd Great Story and a new set of experiments, which we will lead as the Elders of the Lower El. The first homework project comprised of an interview with an Elder about the assassination of President Kennedy was a wonderful experience that will be remembered by all. The next will incorporate our ideas for this year's science fair projects.

This month we have field trips to the USC Marine Geology and Biology Labs.



october	ready	welcome	learning
	<p>10/7 Family Fun Day at Plex</p> <p>10/19 Teacher Workday — No Elementary classes or afternoon kindergarten</p>	<p>10/15-10/19 Book Fair</p> <p>11/4 Parent Teacher Work Day 1-4 pm</p>	<p>10/16-10/18 Saluda Shoals Field Trips — Preschool and Kindergarten</p> <p>11/17 Annual Oyster Roast and Silent Auction Fundraiser</p>

7th Annual Harmony School Oyster Roast and Silent Auction

Saturday, November 17th, 2012 is the date – come and support the school in our biggest fundraising effort of the year – our annual Oyster Roast!

For the seventh year, Harmony will host a fantastic evening of live music along with hot steamed oysters, chilled beer and wine and many varieties of warm, homemade chili. We will also have an awesome silent auction with items such as event tickets, travel opportunities, gifts, books and music, children’s items and original hand-made items – all available to the highest (silent) bidder!

This year, we will partner with St. Lawrence Place, a local non-profit that provides programs and transitional housing for families. St. Lawrence place will help us by selling tickets and volunteering on the day of the event.

Please mark your calendars now. The fun begins at 7pm. Watch your parent pockets and email for more details.

Happy Birthday to You!

Abby Geppert 10/2
Rowan McAngus 10/4
Jackson Clements 10/13
Rad Dobson 10/13
Taylor Muckenfuss 10/27

Classroom Supplies

We still need baby wipe refills and boxes of tissues for all classrooms. If you haven’t brought yours in, please do so!

Family Fun Day at Plex

Join us Sunday, Oct 7 from 2-5pm at the all-new Family Entertainment Center at Plex Sandhills! Bring siblings and friends! Admission includes roller skating, wall-to-wall inflatables, mechanical bull rides, bungee jumping, Rock-n-Roll Ride, Bunny Bucket Ride and a 30' Tall Rock Climbing Wall.

The cost is \$8 for children of all ages, \$15 for adults and no cost for supervising adults. Tickets are available for purchase in the school office. Plex will donate 20-30% of all ticket sales back to Harmony School.

