

PROVIDENCE NURSERY SCHOOL  
9019 LITTLE RIVER TURNPIKE  
FAIRFAX, VA 20031  
www.providencenurseryschool.com

# THE PROVIDENCE PAGES

*A Letter from Natalie...*



## Mark your Calendar

**March 7<sup>th</sup> thru March 11<sup>th</sup>**

Brunch for Parents  
9:30am-10:30am

(see calendar for your class's specific day)

**Monday March 14<sup>th</sup>**

Board/Annual Membership Meeting  
7:30pm  
(this is a mandatory event)

**March 21<sup>st</sup> thru March 28<sup>th</sup>**

NO SCHOOL  
Spring Break

**Thursday April 7<sup>th</sup>**

NO SCHOOL  
PACT Conference

**Monday April 11<sup>th</sup>**

Board Meeting  
7:30 p.m.

The *Providence Pages* is published for Providence Nursery School, Inc. Please send submissions to [newsletter@providencenurseryschool.com](mailto:newsletter@providencenurseryschool.com) by March 20<sup>th</sup> for April's issue.

Happy March! I am really looking forward to spring coming soon. Until then, we have a lot going on at PNS to keep us busy until warm weather arrives for good.

Class brunches will take place during the second week of March. Please see the school calendar for the date your class is scheduled. The brunches are just like those we had in the fall, a fun, casual way to learn more about your child's class and a topic of your teacher's choice as well to spend time socializing with other parents. All who attend will earn 30 minutes of parent education credit. And if you bring food or drinks for the brunch, you will earn volunteer time as well.

The next big March event is the mandatory membership meeting on the 14th. At least one parent from each currently enrolled family is required to attend. This meeting is mandatory. Our by-laws require a quorum to vote in officers for next year's Executive Board and if we do not have enough families in attendance, we cannot conduct the vote. The vote will take place at 7:30 p.m. and will only take a few minutes. You are then free to leave but also welcome to stay for our monthly board meeting.

**Some dates to remember: Spring Break is March 21 – March 25 and March 28 is a FCPS Holiday, school resumes on Tuesday March 29.**

As we begin to make preparations for the next school year, this is a great time to share your thoughts and ideas about PNS with current or future board members. Parent surveys will be sent via email soon, and we appreciate your feedback on how you think we might be able to improve the school. The survey is an important tool for the board to implement changes and improve our school. We aim for 100% participation so be on the look-out for the email. As always, if you have ideas on ways we can make PNS even better, our board members are here and available to listen.

I hope everyone has a great March and a wonderful start to Spring!



*Natalie*

## CDO & 2's

March will be a month of scientific and mathematical exploration in the Twos and CDO classes; we'll observe, examine, count, and measure as we learn about plants and animals, construction, and the weather.

For the first two weeks of March, our theme will be the Farm. We'll focus first on farm animals, learning some familiar farm songs and nursery rhymes, and using animal puppets and costumes for pretend play. Then we'll find out how farmers grow fruits and vegetables from seeds. We'll stretch our bodies as we pretend to be growing plants, examine some real fruits and vegetables, and practice using magnifying glasses to get a closer look.

Next we'll turn our attention to something completely different: Construction! We'll spend the third week of March reading about construction trucks, putting on hard hats, trying out construction tools, and working on our own small-scale projects.

After a week of Spring Break, we'll return on the 29<sup>th</sup> full of news and stories, and full of energy for some outdoor exploration! Our theme in the final week of March will be Spring Weather, so we'll be going outside to observe the shapes and colors of clouds, new buds and leaves, and other signs of Spring.

All of my young friends have already done so much growing this year, and each month brings new ideas, new words, new skills... I can't wait to see and hear what happens next!

Ms. Auten

### THE SALE YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR!

The youth of Providence Presbyterian Church will be holding a Rummage Sale and Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, **April 9 from 8 am to 12 pm** at Providence Presbyterian Church, 9019 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax, VA 22031. All proceeds will support Providence youth activities. **Donations** may be dropped off Sunday April 3 through Thursday, April 7 from 5-7:30 pm. We are seeking gently used treasures that you no longer need or want. Your clutter is someone else's treasure! (Please **NO** *computer equipment, underwear, bed pillows, expired car seats, TV's, games/puzzles with pieces missing*)

Early shopping will be available Friday April 8 from 12-4pm for a small entrance fee. Contact Helen Burvis at 703-405-5948 to volunteer and Mary Ellen Moss at Providence Presbyterian Church 703-978-3934 with any questions.



We've had our wintery days and now I am ready for spring and warmer weather. We all need to go outside and run, slide, scream and swing. That should clear our brains and get us ready for more learning and fun.

For our first theme this month it's all about Dr. Seuss and his zany characters. We'll be rhyming and giggling all week as we read about them and make up some characters of our own.

Next we'll talk about Colors and Rainbows. We'll discover how rainbows happen and experiment with prisms if we have a sunny day. Color mixing and matching will be on the schedule as well.

Then we'll celebrate the wearing of the green for St. Patrick's Day. We'll have plenty of shamrocks around and maybe some of those pesky leprechauns will come looking for their pots of gold.

The last week of the month is for relaxing and enjoying the spring break, whether you have plans for travel or a "staycation".

Our second Brunch get together is scheduled for Friday, March 11. Come earn some easy parent education time and share information and Q&A with your "classmates".

I think all that should keep us busy while we wait for spring to arrive!!

Miss Susan



March...the month of indecision...in like a lion and out like a lamb? Or vice versa? I personally think it's time for warm breezes and sunny, blue skies. I just want to be outside with the kids...no more "indoor playtime!"

Dr. Seuss will be our honorary guest during the first week of March. We will honor his memory by exploring several of his books...including my favorite, Green Eggs and Ham. Of course, we'll do some cooking on that day! (It never gets old!) We'll read several other Seuss treasures...and even perform a couple of Seuss-related experiments. Have you ever seen "walking water"...we will as we read One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish.

Hickory, Dickory/ Old King Cole/Humpty Dumpty, etc...what do we have in store for the week of March 7<sup>th</sup>? Nursery Rhyme Week, of course! We will sing rhymes, dance rhymes, and even rhyme rhymes! This is such an important preschool skill – but it's such fun for the kids that the week will fly by! Stand by for lots of corny, preschool humor...in rhyme time!

Weather will be our emphasis during the week of the 14<sup>th</sup>. We will be conducting some colorful experiments and discussions of "Why does it snow/rain/etc?" during our circletimes. We'll all learn the colors of the rainbow in order (a great sequencing skill) and have lots of fun drawing them in different media. It's a very colorful week, for sure!

Spring Break is next on the PNS calendar...no school the week of March 21 through Monday, the 28<sup>th</sup>. Enjoy the family time!

Fairy Tales will be the topic that begins on 3/29...princesses and princes, castles, and dragons will all make appearances during this week. It will be a dramatic week, I'm sure! I know many in this class who will really enjoy this theme! There may be chances to create all sorts of "fairy tale stuff"...from magic wands to fire-breathing dragons to popsicle stick catapults. Who knows what will happen? ☺

Our Spring class brunch will be held on Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:30-10:30. I hope you will plan on joining me for another lively session.

Also don't forget the General Membership Meeting that will be held on Monday, March 14<sup>th</sup>. Please try to attend. The election of officers for next year's PNS Board will be held. Time at the meeting will be time well spent!.

The Fours' Gang is moving right along with their alphabet fun. The kids' listening skills are improving by leaps and bounds! They are all starting to really hear those initial sounds and think of words that start with our special letter. Letters this month will be G (2/29), N (3/7), and D (3/24).

It's going to be a marvelous March!

Jane Millward



Well, since the weather has been wild and unpredictable, March is going to be a great month for Curling Up with a Good Book! Your children love the variety of books we have been reading so far this year. This month's theme is so truly near and dear to my heart and I suspect the kids will love it as well. Thank you for sending in those reading pictures of your children, it makes for such a great bulletin board this month!

Our first week of March will celebrate the birthday of **Dr. Seuss**. Rhyming and silliness will be all around. We will attempt to pile turtles high in the sky, imagine the animals we'd choose for our own personal zoo and make up some tricky tongue twisters. Our problem solving skills will be put through the paces as we discuss the character's dilemmas and choices to see if we can come up with a better conclusion. For our class book this week, we'll write and illustrate a "Green Eggs and Ham" song! The Letter of the Week will be Y.

The week of March 7, we'll play with **Nursery Rhymes**. Building on the rhyming games from the previous week, we'll explore poetry and rhythm. Gross motor games are a natural fit as we play some classic Mother Goose games. We will use our gross motor skills to jump candle sticks and find Mother Hubbard's dog's bone and reenact the sequence of Hey Diddle Diddle. Counting, number recognition and one-to-one correspondence will go hand in hand with some of our rhyming activities. The Letter of the Week will be J.

The third week in March is **Fairy Tales!** Look for a castle to be built, costumes to be worn and tableaux of classic story scenes to be created. We will compare and contrast some of the classic elements in fairy tales- hero/heroine, villain, and a magical element. We'll graph our favorite fairy tale stories. We'll use our fine motor skills to "draw" in fairy potion. We'll work in small groups to write original fairy tales. We will be doing a Letter Review of our most recent letters.

When we return from Spring Break, for the last week of March, we will visit some **Classic Characters**. This will be the hardest week for me! How will I narrow down my favorites to just a few? We'll use sequencing to retell some of these classic stories. Print awareness

activities will abound and we will add yet another class book to our shelves as we write The Fours Class and the Many Colored Crayons. Our little artists will enjoy making hand print castles as well as masks of some of our favorite characters. We will combine the Letters C and K this week.

Going on the Buzzer has been a big hit with children. We will continue to work on problem solving vocabulary as well as social skills, letter and sound recognition and number recognition each week in our small groups.

Don't forget: Parent Teacher Brunch on Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 to 10:30am. I look forward to chatting with you about your wonderful children. Spring Break starts the week of March 21<sup>st</sup>.

Here's hoping for a mild March!

Ms. Ryan



## SUMMER CAMP

After Memorial Day some of our teachers and aides will be leading a “summer camp” experience for our little ones. The emphasis is on fun with a different theme each week.

On Wednesdays – weather permitting – we will provide a water day with pools and sprinklers for the kids to splash in. Come join us for songs, games, arts and crafts, stories, and learning through play!

**Space is still available!** Registration will run until all classes are filled. We will notify you of class placement by March 28<sup>th</sup>. Tuition is due in full by May 1<sup>st</sup>. The total program tuition is non-refundable.

**We will have one three-week session this year running from May 31<sup>st</sup> to June 17<sup>th</sup>.**

There is a \$40 registration fee per family due with your registration form. Registration forms are on our website (<http://www.providencenurseryschool.com/summer.shtml>).

If you have any questions, see the details on the website or contact camp co-directors Elizabeth Boland or Michelle Lewis at [summercamp@providencenurseryschool.com](mailto:summercamp@providencenurseryschool.com)

## PARENT EDUCATION

Dr. Rene Hackney will present "Calm Parenting" on Saturday, March 5th from 10:00-11:30 AM. Her talk will focus on identifying triggers for frustration, anger, and stresses and will teach ways to find a calm approach to parenting. Those attending will earn 1.5 Parent Education hours.

## ENRICHMENT

### Wonderful Wednesday

With warmer weather the kids will be spending more time outside riding bikes so we will only have one Enrichment Presentation a month for the remainder of the school year. This month KayDee Puppets will join us on March 30<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 in the Big Room for a Fairy Tales puppet show. Parents, siblings, 2s, and CDO are welcome to attend as well.

Bryna Ericsson

## MANDATORY MEMBERSHIP MEETING IS MARCH 14<sup>TH</sup>

Our annual Membership Meeting will be held on Monday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 in the Big Room. This is a mandatory meeting. One member of each current PNS

families must be in attendance in order to vote for the 2016-2017 Executive Board, listed below. The monthly board meeting will follow, and all are welcome to stay.

## 2016-2017 EXECUTIVE BOARD

President – **Jennifer Wiskochil**

VP Admin – **Stephanie and Dan Jensen**

VP Membership/Forms – Alex Hume

VP Membership/Enrollment – **Kristie McCauley**

Secretary – **Elizabeth and Bo Boland**

Treasurer – Kelley Raich

Asstiant Treasurer – **Leah and Jason Fogarty**

Fundraising Co-Charirs – Liz Claeys and Carisa Pineda

**Bold = Change to the E-Board**

## VCPC AWARDS!

The Virginia Cooperative Preschool Council will be accepting nominations for VCPC member schools' parents whose commitment over the past year has been superior. Perhaps you can think of someone whose contribution has been substantial and nominate him or her for this award. Nomination forms will be available on the sign-in tables and by e-mail to [hlesya@hotmail.com](mailto:hlesya@hotmail.com)

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Each family enrolled in a co-oping class must complete eight volunteer hours during the school year. CDO-only families are required to do four. Here are some opportunities to earn your volunteer hours.

- Wednesday, March 2 – Lunch bunch coverage from 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.
- Monday, March 7, Tuesday, March 8, Wednesday, March 9, Thursday, March 10, and Friday, March 11: Classroom coverage during brunches, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.
- March 14 – Attend board meeting at 7:30pm (after required annual membership meeting)
- April 16 – Last Clean-Up and Maintenance Day of the year. This is a great way to earn volunteer hours if you have already completed your requirement.

Please contact the VP Admin if you are able to help with any of these by emailing [vpadmin@providencenurseryschool.com](mailto:vpadmin@providencenurseryschool.com)

Reminder: All families are required to complete 8 volunteer hours per year. Each co-oping parent is required to complete 4 parent education hours per year. Volunteer hours are not the same as parent education hours. Being up to date with responsibilities is a requirement to register for next year.

### **FUNDRAISING**

Circus tickets will go on sale at the March board meeting and be sold until they are gone. The tickets are for the April 10th, 1:00pm show at the EagleBank Arena. Tickets are \$15 apiece and every dollar will go to the school. There are a VERY limited number, this year, so please only request enough for your immediate family. If there are extra, we will let everyone know by the end of March.

The Spring Raffle will be held on Thursday, April 7th. Class reps will be in contact about putting together class baskets. We would love to have as many items as possible, in addition to the baskets.

Please let us know if you have any ideas about places that we can solicit or if you have any tickets or services that you would like to donate. If you would like to earn some volunteer hours by helping us solicit for raffle items, e-mail Liz or Carisa.

We will have a school-wide playdate at PNS on Thursday, April 7th. (There is no school that day, due to a teacher conference.) There will be snacks, crafts, and toys out to play with from 10 till noon.

Look for more details on PNS all as the date gets closer.

Apparel will be on sale again at the Spring Coffee, at the end of April.

Questions? Comments? Please call or e-mail Liz Claeys or Carisa Pineda. Thanks for supporting PNS!

### **EDITOR'S NOTE**

Thank you for reading the PNS newsletter. If there is anything you would like to have published in the April Newsletter please submit it by March 20<sup>th</sup>. If you have any suggestions or things you would like to see in the newsletter don't hesitate to let me know.

Thank you,  
Elizabeth Carroll  
[newsletter@providencenurseryschool.com](mailto:newsletter@providencenurseryschool.com)

### **CONGRATULATIONS!**

Congratulations to the Saad Family! Zeina, Tarek and big brothers Charlie (3s) and Paul (CDO) welcomed Julien on February 2nd.

Congratulations to the Robinson Family! Gerald, Jenny, big brother Gerald (3s) and big sister Simone welcomed Layla Sophia on February 9th.

### **WELCOME**

Welcome to Laura Braceland, Miss Laura to the kids, as our floating aide on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays. Laura's daughter attended PNS so Laura is very familiar with our school.

We are very excited to welcome Miss Laura!

### **THANK YOU!**

As always there are many thank yous to go around! Here are just a few:

- Thank you to the Shadid, Blythe, Morber, and Pineda families for shoveling our sidewalks and pathways following the January blizzard.
- Thank you to Kristin Rule for updating our Facebook banner photo.
- Thank you to the Clare, Chitnis, Kamath, Paradise, and Shadid families who helped get our student artwork ready for the Art Show at Kings Park Library. Thank you to the McAllister, McCarthy, and Morber families for assisting with set up. A big thank you to Liz Casteel, our Art Show coordinator, for heading things up.
- Thank you also to Jane Millward, Susan Patton, Ryan Bianchetti and Jessie Auten for making our art show so beautiful. Thank you for selecting the artwork and making sure that each student was represented and creating such nice descriptions for each class.
- Thank you to Kristen Browning for covering lunch bunch.
- Thank you to the Cely, Chase, Dinh, Di Teresi, Erickson, Hagner, Mack, McAllister, and Streckfus-Green families who helped with February's Clean-Up and Maintenance Day and as always, thank you to our Clean-Up Coordinator, Maintenance Chair, and Maintenance Committee families for leading the effort.
- Thank you to the The Browning, Clare, Erickson, and Paradise families who provided refreshments for February's parent education talk.

- Thank you to the hiring committee, Jane Millward, Jennifer Wiskochil, Michelle Lewis, Jenny Robinson and Alex Hume, for jumping in and finding our wonderful new hire. A special thanks to Leah Fogarty for leading the hiring process.
- Thank you to our **PNS teachers** for another fabulous VIP Day! Our students and their Very Important People shared a fun and educational morning.

# MARCH 2016

| Sun                                   | M  | T                                     | W  | Th   | F                                      | Sat |
|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|-----|
|                                       |  | 1<br><b>Tuition Due</b>               | 2  | 3<br><i>National Anthem Day</i>  | 4                                      | 5   |
| <i>National Women's History Month</i> |  |                                       |  |  |  |     |
| 6                                     | 7<br><b>CDO Brunch</b><br>9:30-10:30am                 | 8<br><b>2s Brunch</b><br>9:30-10:30am | 9<br><b>4s Brunch</b><br>9:30-10:30am    | 10<br><b>3/4s Brunch</b><br>9:30-10:30am   | 11<br><b>3s Brunch</b><br>9:30-10:30am | 12  |
| 13                                    | 14<br><b>Board/Annual Membership Meeting</b><br>7:30pm | 15                                    | 16                                       | 17<br><i>St. Patrick's Day</i><br> | 18                                     | 19  |
| 20                                    | 21<br><i>Spring Break Begins</i><br><b>NO SCHOOL</b>   | 22                                    | 23                                       | 24   | 25<br><i>Waffle Day</i>                | 26  |
| 27                                    | 28<br><b>NO SCHOOL</b>                                 | 29                                    | 30<br><i>Take a Walk in the Park Day</i> | 31   |  |     |
|                                       |  |                                       |  |  |  |     |