

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

THE PROVIDENCE PAGES

A Letter from Jennifer...



Mark your Calendar

March 6th thru March 10th

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

(see calendar for your class's specific day)

Monday March 13th

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

Friday March 24th

NO SCHOOL
FCPS Holiday

Thursday March 30th

NO SCHOOL
PACT Conference

April 10th thru April 14th

NO SCHOOL
Spring Break

Monday April 17th

Board Meeting
7:30 p.m.

The *Providence Pages* is published for Providence Nursery School, Inc. Please send submissions to newsletter@providencenurseryschool.com by March 20th for April's issue.



Happy March! I am really look 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.

Our VIP Day takes place on Saturday, March 4 from 10am-12 noon at PNS. It is an excellent opportunity for grandparents, non co-oping parents, nannies or family friends to see the school and meet our teachers. We hope your child can bring their VIPs for this special day!

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 13th. 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: School is closed Friday, March 24 for a FCPS Holiday and Thursday, March 30 for a PACT Conference. Spring Break is April 10-14.

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!

Jennifer

CDO & 2's

Twos and CDO families have a full month ahead, with VIP Day and Class Brunches coming up soon; we have some busy days ahead in class, too, as we branch out into bigger adventures, including a nature walk and a class science project!

When February ends and March begins, we'll be in the middle of Community Helpers week. We'll play a guessing game about jobs, try on some different work hats, and get out the toy police and fire vehicles. Then we'll explore another interesting kind of work: Construction. We'll spend the second week of March reading about and playing with construction trucks, trying out construction tools, and working on our own small-scale projects.

The theme for the week of March 13th is the Jungle. Many of my young friends this year are very interested in animals, so we'll read about jungle animals, build them some habitats, and go on safari with wild animal toys and puppets.

For the final two weeks of March, we'll become scientists! First we'll be learning about Spring Weather -- going outside to observe the shapes and colors of clouds, new buds and leaves, and other signs of Spring. We'll sing rain songs, and jump in imaginary puddles. Did you know we have a little walking trail

nearby? We'll head out for a nature walk to take a closer look.

Then we'll spend a week focusing just on Fruits and Vegetables... we'll use our senses to observe their colors, their seeds, the way they grow, and how they taste! We'll begin a class experiment, watching a potato grow roots and sprout right on our classroom window sill.

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 1 from 8 am to 12 pm at Providence Presbyterian Church, 9019 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax, VA 22031. All proceeds youth activities. Donations Sunday March 26 through 5-7:30 pm. Early shopping March 31 from 12-3 pm Contact Mary Ellen Moss Church 703-978-3934 with will support Providence may be dropped off Thursday, March 30 from will be available Friday for a small entrance fee. at Providence Presbyterian any questions.



For those of us who love snow (including my big, white dog) this winter has been disappointing so far. But you get what you get and you don't get upset!! So, we'll look forward to March. It's the month with the beginning of Spring in it. That means things start to grow again and I get to work in my garden! It also means we can use the playground more and it is staying light longer and that makes everyone happy.

To start the month, we'll do some rhyming and reading with Dr. Seuss. Green Eggs and Ham, There's a Wocket in my Pocket and One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish are some of my favorites. We'll try to make up words to rhyme with our names – some of them might be pretty silly.

Next we'll investigate Wind and Rainbows. Sometimes we talk about wind when we're doing the weather report, but we will try to pay more attention to it and see what we can use to make wind. Rainbow colors are fun at the art table and we can use a prism to make rainbows on the walls if the sun cooperates

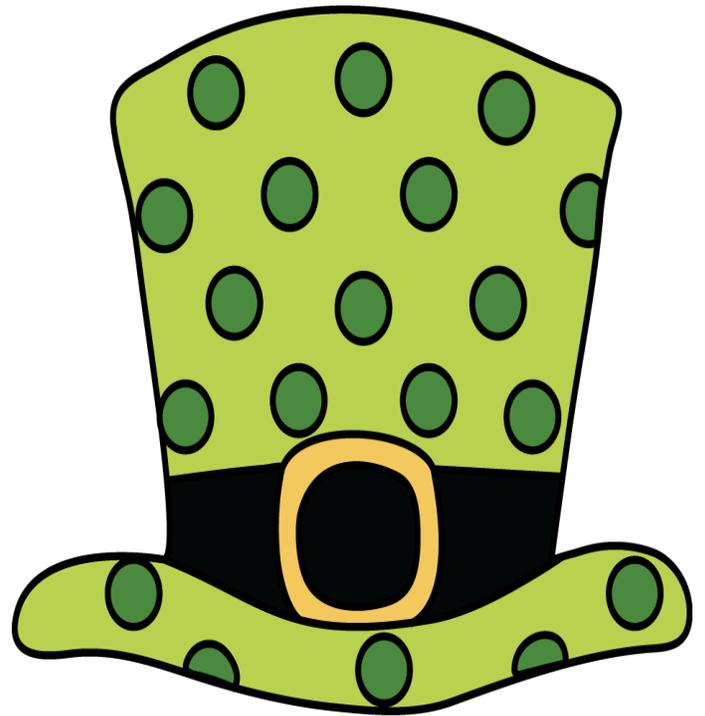
Then we'll celebrate the wearing of the green for St. Patrick's Day. We'll have plenty of shamrocks around and maybe some of those pesky leprechauns will come looking for their pots of gold.

Our last theme is Birds. They will be busy looking for food and building nests, so we'll help them out with some cereal bird feeders and nesting materials. We will become pros at identifying some of our favorite backyard birds.

Mark your calendars for our Class Brunch on March 10th. While we enjoy some good food together, we can talk about whatever is on your minds at this point in the school year.

Hopefully all the above will keep us busy while we wait for Spring to arrive!!

Miss Susan



As I write this mid-February, the weather outside is unseasonably warm. As a true "snow-lover," this winter has been a disappointment for me. But the one redeeming factor is that nice weather means that we get to be outside every school day...enjoying our beautiful playground and just being kids! For the sake of the flowers and the buds on the trees, bring on Spring!

First comes a week beginning March 6th filled with nothing but rhymes! Nursery rhymes will be front and center as we sing rhymes, dance rhymes, and even rhyme rhymes! This is a very important pre-reading skill – but it is such fun for the kids that they won't even know that they are learning! We will even do some problem solving for a few nursery rhyme characters. Stand by for some fun in the sun, etc! ☺

Next in line is a very interesting week (beginning 3/13) where we will be discussing all kinds of weather. We will do some weather related science experiments and talk about how weather conditions are the same/different. Rainbows will get a day all to themselves...sequencing those colors is always so entertaining!

Then comes one of my very favorite units...construction vehicles! During the week of March 20th, we'll be discussing all sorts of information about different types, and purposes, of construction trucks. We will experiment with the forces of motion...and pushing and pulling experiments will be on tap during circle time. There will also be a very special field trip this month to visit the Virginia Department of Transportation garage in Merrifield to see all the different types of vehicles used by the state. How cool is that? Emily will send us all the details as we get closer to "the" day!

The last week of the month will find us looking skyward. We will spend our time learning all about our feathered friends...birds! I'm sure we will be looking upward during our nature walks...and making some colorful, feathered artwork!

VIP Day is on the calendar for Saturday, March 4th from 10:00-12:00. I hope to see lots of my little friends

there that day with their special VIP. Our Spring class brunch will be held on Thursday, March 10th from 9:30-10:30. Plan on joining me for another lively sharing session! And please don't forget the General Membership Meeting that will be held on Monday, March 13th. Do plan to attend! The election of officers for next year's PNS Board will be held. Time at the meeting will be time well spent! There is no school on Thursday, March 30th ...all the teachers and aides will be at our spring PACT Conference learning lots of neat stuff.

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 N (3/6), R (3/13), C/K (3/20), and I (3/27).

It's going to be a marvelous March!

Jane Millward



Usually, our winters are so wild and unpredictable that March is a great month for Curling Up with a Good Book! If this year's mild weather continues, we'll hopefully have lots of opportunities to curl up outside with our books! 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.

The week of March 20th, 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.

With a fifth week of March in store, we'll start our next big overarching unit of Spring! This week we will focus on what is happening **Under the Ground**. Spring is coming and underground things are happening. We are going to get messy this week! We'll be exploring the science of soil and planting a garden in a jar. What makes up the layers of dirt? We are going to go find bugs and worms to watch. We'll talk about the animals that make their homes in the earth. Hopefully the mystery seeds we plant will start to make an appearance by the end of the month. A tasty "mud cake" will make a yummy underground treat. We might even spend an entire morning "playing" underground in our classroom. Our letters this week will be Q and U.

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 limited! Registration will run until all classes are filled. We will notify you of class placement by March 28th. Tuition is due in full by May 1st. The total program tuition is non-refundable.

We will have one two-week session this year running from May 30th to June 9th.

There is a \$40 registration fee per family due with your registration form. Look for the registration forms on our website.

http://providencenurseryschool.org/?page_id=58

If you have any questions, see the details on the website or contact camp director Kristie McCauley at summercamp@providencenurseryschool.com

PARENT EDUCATION

Please join us on Saturday, **March 4th** 10-11:30am Dr. Rene Hackney will return to PNS and present on "Positive Intent and Praise" No RSVP needed.

Friday, **March 17th** from 9:45-11 we will hold a CPR Anytime Class. Please email jennifermack@gmail.com if you are interested in attending this class.

ENRICHMENT

We are hosting the Kaydee Puppet show on **March 15th** as part of our March enrichment program. They will be performing "No Bones About It" and 'Jack & The Beanstalk.

Maja Strollo

MANDATORY MEMBERSHIP MEETING IS MARCH 14TH

Our annual Membership Meeting will be held on Monday, March 13th at 7:30 in the Big Room. This is a mandatory meeting. One member of each current PNS family must be in attendance in order to vote for the 2017-2018 Executive Board, listed below. The monthly board meeting will follow, and all are welcome to stay.

2017-2018 EXECUTIVE BOARD

President – Jennifer Wiskochil

VP Admin – Stephanie and Dan Jensen

VP Membership/Forms – **Laura Heim**

VP Membership/Enrollment – Kristie McCauley

Secretary – Elizabeth and Bo Boland

Treasurer – **Jonathan Liljegren**

Asstiant Treasurer – **Anna Fiser**

Fundraising Co-Charirs –Carisa Pineda and **Sarah and John Millward**

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 vpadmin@providencenurseryschool.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 1 – Lunch bunch coverage from 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.
- Monday, March 6 (CDO), Tuesday, March 7 (2s), Wednesday, March 8 (4s), Thursday, March 9 (3/4s), and Friday, March 10 (3s): Classroom coverage during brunches, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.
- March 13 – Attend board meeting at 7:30pm (after required annual membership meeting)

- April 22 – 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

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

The Fundraising Committee is planning a school wide play date and raffle for **March 30th**. (This is a Thursday when the teachers are off at a conference so there is no regular school.) We are starting to collect items for the raffle. Class reps will be in touch as the date gets closer, about putting together themed baskets for raffle items.

We need help to reach out to local businesses for other donations like gift cards. You can earn volunteer hours by mailing or dropping off a request letter for us. The letter is already ready to go with all of the pertinent information (including our contact info and 501 c 3 number). If you are interested in helping out, please e-mail Liz Claeys. Thank you again for your support of PNS!

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.

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 20th. 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

THANK YOU!

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

Thank you 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 Stephanie Jensen and Giuseppe Mercadante for hanging the art at King's Park Library.

MARCH 2016

Sun	M	T	W	Th	F	Sat
			1 Tuition Due	2	3 <i>If Pets Had Thumbs Day</i>	4 VIP DAY! 10am-12pm
5	6 CDO Brunch 9:30-10:30am	7 2s Brunch 9:30-10:30am	8 4s Brunch 9:30-10:30am	9 3/4s Brunch 9:30-10:30am	10 3s Brunch 9:30-10:30am	11
12	13 Board/Annual Membership Meeting 7:30pm	14	15	16	17 <i>St. Patrick's Day</i> 	18
19	20 <i>International Earth Day</i>	21	22	23	24 <i>NO SCHOOL FCPS Holiday</i>	25
26 <i>National Spinach Day</i>	27	28	29	30 <i>NO SCHOOL PACT Conference</i>	31	