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# ◇ ALLABOUTUS ◇

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Volume 47 Issue 9 Accotink Academy Preschool 6215 Rolling Road Springfield, VA 22152 (703) 451-5797 May/June 2011

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## Calendar Notes

**May 9 & 12**

Farm Field Trip

**May 16-20**

Used Uniform Sale

**May 17**

Staff Training

AM Hours: 10:45-12:45

PM Hours: 1:30-3:30

*Dress Down Days on 5/17 &  
5/18*

**May 26**

**\*Kindergarten Ceremony\***

**9:30 AM**

**May 26**

Last Day for 2 Day Classes

**May 27**

Last Day for 3 & 5 Day Classes

**May 30**

Memorial Day Holiday

**June 6**

Sunshine Summer Program  
Begins

10 AM - 2 PM

**Menu**

**May 2-6** Honey Grahams

Ritz Crackers

**May 9-13** Wheat Thins

Cheez-it Crackers

**May 16-20** Vanilla Wafers

Popcorn

**May 23-27** Animal Crackers

Saltines

*\*Apple Juice Served Daily\**

**Units Of Study**

Butterflies & Insects

Seeds and Flowers



## FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

This is the final edition of the *Allaboutus* newsletter for the 2010-11 school year. We look forward to seeing returning students in the Fall and we wish those who are leaving us the best of luck in the future. We would also like to take this time to acknowledge our wonderful and supportive parents who have volunteered their time to help with school parties and various celebrations, holding hands on field trips, reading special stories to our students and numerous other things they have done to make our program such a success. We thank you for trusting us with your children who are so special to us. You are all wonderful parents which is evident by the terrific children you send to us.

As the weather warms and summer approaches, children will be spending a lot of time outdoors. Children as young as four years of age can learn how to protect themselves and be safe should the need ever arise. Parents can teach safety rules to their children so they can understand and put them into practice. Listed below you will find some suggestions for how to effectively deal with personal safety issues in young children .

- Children should know their full name, home phone number and how to use the telephone. They can also learn their address and know their parents' names.
- Teach children how to use an assertive voice if someone they don't know approaches them on foot or in a vehicle. They can be taught to say, "NO" in a loud, strong voice, or, they can yell, "This person is not my Mommy or Daddy!"
- Children should have a trusted adult (friend or neighbor)

*Continued on page 3*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### *Parent Survey Forms*

Parent Survey Forms will be sent home with your children the first week of May. These surveys are used to help us plan for the following year and are a helpful tool which we use to make necessary changes to our program. We take your suggestions, concerns and recommendations very seriously and value your input as parents. **We would like to have these surveys returned to the office no later than Friday, May 13th.** If you have lost or misplaced your copy, you may stop by the office to get another one. We appreciate your help with returning these surveys as soon as possible.

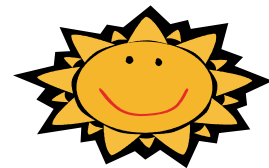
### **!!! REMINDER !!!**

We would like to remind parents to return any resource materials and reference books which may have been checked out or borrowed from the school. We are glad that we can provide you with this information and hope that you find it helpful.

In addition, if your child has lost or misplaced any articles of clothing or other items during the school year, please be sure to check the lost and found box located next to the water fountain in the hallway beside Mrs. Brendmoen's and Mrs. Tavares' desk. We have many "lost" items in this box which will be donated to a local charity if they remain unclaimed by the last day of school.

Plan now for your child to attend our

### *Summer Sunshine Program*



**When:** June 6—July 22, 2011

**Where:** Accotink Academy Preschool

**Age:** 3 - 6 year olds

(child must be 3 by April 1, 2011 and toilet trained. Child's 7th birthday must be after December 1, 2011).

Proof of age is required for children who have not previously attended Accotink Academy.

Current immunization and TB screening records are also required on the Virginia State Health Form and dated after July 23, 2010. These forms can be obtained from the school office and must be turned in no later May 25, 2011.

**Time:** 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. , Monday - Friday

<b>Classes:</b> 2-Day Program (T/Th)	\$64.00 per week
3-Day Program (M/W/F)	\$96.00 per week
3-Day Program (T/W/Th)	\$96.00 per week
5-Day Program (M-F)	\$160.00 per week



**Registration:** Ongoing through May 25, 2011. Registration forms and a non-refundable registration fee of \$45.00 may be returned to the office. **\*All tuition money is due by May 27, 2011.** Questions should be addressed to the director, Fran McBride at (703) 451-5797.

Director's Desk, continued from Page 1

to call if they are scared or have an emergency. This should be someone who knows you and your child well.

- Teach your children that adults should never approach children for help or directions. Let them know this can be a "trick" which could harm them.
- Should your child ever get lost or wander away from you, have them find a mommy with children to go to for help rather than finding a security guard. They can also go to a store employee if they can not find a mommy.
- Do role play with your children using dolls or puppets to help reinforce 'good touch, bad touch' and 'feelings' concepts. Let children know that most touches are OK and that most people are good people. Equate a 'good' touch with a feeling of warmth, love, caring and security. 'Bad' touches are the kind that physically hurt and 'secret' touches are ones that are NEVER ALLOWED.
- Have a 'no secrets' rule! Explain the difference between secrets and surprises. Let children know that anytime someone tells them to keep a secret from their parents or guardians, that they should tell anyway or not do it in the first place.
- Teach your child the "always-ask-first-rule." Let your child know that he/she must always ask you or another trusted person in charge first to go somewhere with someone. Your child must understand that he must ask first to go away with someone. Practice this rule with your child.
- Treat your child as you would your wallet. Always know where he/she is and maintain close contact with it all times.
- Never leave any child UNATTENDED in a car even for a moment.
- Establish boundaries so children know where they can and can not play when outside.

The key to effective training in the areas of personal safety is repetition and active rehearsal. By working with young children on these safety precautions we can help them grow up knowing the right things to do when faced with a situation which puts them in harms way. Parents may want to visit local libraries for more information on this subject and also check out safety videos for families to watch together.

Wishing you and your family a safe, happy and restful summer!

Lexie and Susan



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 \*  
 \* Recital Photographs \*  
 \* If you had your child photographed by Splendid Portraits at the recital, you will receive the portraits in the mail. \*  
 \* These will be sent directly from the photographer to your home. You should receive the portraits in about 2-3 \*  
 \* weeks. Should you have any questions, please contact Splendid Portraits directly at 703-237-8067. The chil- \*  
 \* dren did a wonderful job at the recital and we hope you enjoyed the show as much as we did! **If you plan to** \*  
 \* **order a video from the recital, the order form and payment are due no later than May 4, 2011.** \*  
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**THANK YOU!**

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**THANK YOU!**

We feel very fortunate to have so many wonderful parents who volunteer to help out where needed. We appreciate all of the help we have received this year from parent volunteers who helped us during the Fall Festival, the Book Fair, Dr. Suess celebrations, classroom parties, and supervising the children during field trips. We would also like to thank those who generously gave their time to help with recital preparations as staging a production of this magnitude takes a lot of support and helping hands.

Thanks to Mrs. Cordiner (Lindsay's mom), for collecting and tallying our General Mills "Box Tops for Education" this year. She has done a wonderful job providing the children with activity sheets they can color and use to collect their box tops. Please continue to save them over the summer and you can drop them off in the fall if your child is returning. These are used to help us maintain and purchase equipment for the playground.

Thanks for being such wonderful, caring parents!



### Used Uniform Sale This Month

During the week of May 17-21, we will hold a used uniform sale here at the school. This is a great opportunity for parents to clean out their closets and make it possible for another child to purchase a uniform. We plan to have parents bring in uniforms on Monday and Tuesday, May 16th & 17th. Please be aware that we will only accept Accotink uniform items for this sale. The items will then be sorted, priced, tagged and organized by size and article of clothing. We will be selling uniforms on Wednesday, May 18th and Thursday, May 19th. On Friday, May 20th, all unsold uniform items will be returned to the parents who brought them in. Proceeds from the sale are returned to the parents who were able to sell their merchandise. **We will only be able to accept cash during this sale so please come prepared if you plan to purchase any items.**



### Lunch Bunch Ends and Student Dress Down Days

Our Lunch Bunch program will end on Friday, May 20th. The last full week of school will be the week of May 23rd. Classes will be holding their "End of the Year" celebrations and picnics during this week. Also, during the last week of school, children **will not be required** to wear uniforms as this will be "**dress down week**". Children should dress for the weather and wear comfortable play clothes since many classes will be at area parks, etc. during this week.



### Kidwell Farm Trip



On Monday, May 9th and Thursday, May 12th, several of our classes will be taking a field trip to Kidwell Farm in Herndon. **Buses will load promptly at 9:00 AM so please make sure your children arrives at school by 8:45 AM.** Mrs. McBride's 5AM and 5PM classes, and Mrs. Winston's 5AM class will visit the farm on Thursday, May 12th. These 3 classes will have an extended day in order to make up for snow days. Parents for Mrs. McBride's and Mrs. Winston's classes will need to pick up their children at 1:30 PM on this day. All other classes going to the farm will have their dismissal at 11:45 AM as usual.

### Classroom Doors Decorated for Week Of the Young Child

We hope you all have enjoyed the wonderful and colorful classroom doors which the children and teachers decorated for the Week of the Young Child which was held April 11-15, 2011. The classes each chose a favorite book to represent their art work. The children had lots of fun with this project and enjoyed reading these stories and "making them come to life". If you haven't already done so, please take a long as you stroll the hallways and enjoy these wonderful displays.



### Final Tuition Payment for 2010-11

Just a reminder to parents that the final installment of tuition for this school year is due by May 5th.

