



August 2013

# Whale Tales

South County Pre-Kindergarten Co-op  
Monthly Newsletter

3789 Queen Anne Bridge Road • Davidsonville, Maryland

P.O. Box 160, Davidsonville, MD 21035 • 410-798-5650 • [www.myscpc.org](http://www.myscpc.org) • [www.davidsonvilleprek.com](http://www.davidsonvilleprek.com)

## Changes at SCPC offer solutions for all

*Board creates new class options to help increase enrollment numbers*

**A**s you have probably heard, the Co-op is offering some new programs for our 2013-2014 school year: An extended day 4's class and an optional parent help 3's class.

Why the changes? Our enrollment is lower than expected this year for a number of reasons and so Ms. Barbara and the board spent a great deal of time brainstorming how to best position the school for success this year. We feel adjusting our classes a bit will allow the school to attract some new families while maintaining all we love about the cooperative school environment.

### 4's Extended Day

This year, our 4's parents will have the option of allowing their child to stay for an extended day on Monday and Wednesdays for a small additional fee. Parents will continue to help only during the normal class time. Normal class time will be 9:30-12:00 p.m.; the optional extended class will be

12:00-1:30 and include time for a packed lunch. We have 3 spots open in our 4AM class and one might already be filled!

### 3PM Non-Parent Help option

We've heard recently from more and more families that while they love the co-op, they are unable to participate due to the parent help requirements. We understand that for some families parent help is a barrier to joining, so this year we will be offering parents the option in the 3PM class only to opt-out of parent helping for a slightly higher tuition. They will still participate on a committee and all other obligations of membership. If you know of someone who is interested, please have them e-mail Kelly LaBrutte at [enrollment@davidsonvilleprek.com](mailto:enrollment@davidsonvilleprek.com).

If you have any questions or concerns please reach out! We LOVE hearing from you!

## INSIDE:

See the School Calendar  
on Page 4

See First Day Split Schedule  
on Page 5

## Pull weeds & play!

Come join the group on **Friday, August 16** from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. on the school playground. Pack a lunch and bring your gardening gloves. While the kids play, we'll weed the playground to prepare for Saturday's mulching.

Please note, this is an optional activity and attendance is not mandatory.

# From the Board President

By Anne Canaday

Hello all,

I cannot believe it is already August! However I have been LOVING the amazing weather we've been having. I'm also getting excited to head back to school and see some familiar faces and meeting all the new families that have joined this year. Please see the highlighted events below as well as the information in the rest of the newsletter; there are a lot of upcoming events. The newsletter, our website and your class representatives are your best sources of information!



workshop date, please e-mail me at: [president@davidsonvilleprek.com](mailto:president@davidsonvilleprek.com). At this orientation, you will be given a detailed tour of the school, discuss parent responsibilities, the Bylaws and Policy Statement and have the time to ask questions of Ms. Barb, Ms. Ann and some Board members. This is an important session to familiarize you with the daily school routine and will hopefully make your first day of parent helping much easier!

## INSIDE AND OUTSIDE MAINTENANCE

The Fall Clean-Up is scheduled for **Saturday, August 17th at 9:00 a.m.** This is required for ALL families. Thank you in advance for all the hard work making sure our school is clean and ready to go for our kids! Details on what to expect and bring can be found later in the newsletter.

## FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

To make the transition easier for kids who will be in school for the first time, joining a new class or for those who just aren't ready to see summer end, the first day of school is a staggered entry. This means that half the class goes for the first half and the second half follows while parents stay. Please see page 5 for your child's class start date and time.

## NEW PARENT WORKSHOP

As we prepare for the start of school, we will be having the New Parent Orientation on **Wednesday, August 27th from 7-8 p.m.** at school (no children please). This is required for all new families (alumni families returning you're welcome to join us!) If you can't make the

## SEPT. GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING (GMM)

Our first GMM will be held on **Monday, September 9th at 7:00 p.m.** The GMMs are held in Ford Hall; the building to the left of the school – follow the sidewalk around to the front entrance (there is a sign for the Dance Club). This meeting is mandatory for all members and will kick off the new school year with committee reports, any school updates and discussion of this year's major fundraiser.

Thank you to the Board and Committee Members who have met over the summer to prepare for this school year. The effort of all our members will make this a successful and rewarding school year! If you have any questions, issues, suggestions, please feel free to contact me or attend one of the Board Meetings - we'll be happy to help out! The next Board Meeting will be at Carrie Groff's house on **August 22nd at 7:30 p.m.**

Enjoy the rest of your summer!

*Cheers,*

Anne Canaday

[annecanaday@gmail.com/](mailto:annecanaday@gmail.com)

[president@davidsonvilleprek.com](mailto:president@davidsonvilleprek.com)

734-717-0480 (calls/text)

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### CLASS REPRESENTATIVES:

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Tanya O'Rourke, 3AM Class Rep.  
(443) 321-4621  
[tanyakaarina@yahoo.com](mailto:tanyakaarina@yahoo.com)

# Getting to know your teachers

**W**elcome to SCPC! It's hard to believe another school year is about to begin. Three and four year olds have always held a special place in my heart. Their enthusiasm and delight in the world around them makes them both fun and challenging to work with. I look forward to their smiles and big hugs each day!

SCPC has been a part of my life for longer than I may care to admit. Both of our children attended school here. While Jessica was enrolled, I served on the board, including one year as president. I wasn't quite ready to graduate from preschool when she did so I worked as an aide here for four years before leaving to teach the four-year old program at Mayo Nursery School. I was very excited to return to SCPC to teach both the threes and fours programs several years ago. I have always enjoyed the unique atmosphere of working in a co-op. Having parents work in the classroom on a regular basis gives you an opportunity to provide more activities for the children and to create a stronger program. It's also fun to watch parents bring their own style and enthusiasm into the classroom. Most importantly, it allows us to really get to know not just the children but their extended families as well. I've always enjoyed the sense of community you feel within the school.

My husband Tom and I have lived in our "starter house" in Riverwood since 1976. Tom worked in IT and is retired from the Secret Service. He has his "closers" license and does settlements for Brennan Title - it helps finance his golf hobby. We will celebrate our 39th wedding anniversary in August. Where does the time go???

Our two children, Matthew and Jessica, have kept us quite busy the last few years with weddings and new babies. We are really enjoying the grandchildren. Being a grandparent is just as wonderful as everyone says it will be. As the saying goes - "If we had known being a grandparent was so much fun, we would have done it first".

Our son, Matthew, is a project manager for Brown Construction. He and his wife, Katie, live in Annapolis



## Miss Barbara

Barbara Freeman



Roads. Jake, one of the World's Cutest Grandsons will be four in November. We now have the World's Cutest Granddaughter, Lucy, who was born the beginning of May. Matthew also has two stepdaughters, Sophia and Abby who are going into fourth and third grade. Spending time with them is usually the highlight of our week but we always need a nap afterward and it looks like a cyclone has gone through the house!

Jessica and her husband, Kirk, have a home in Hollywood, FL. Miles, another one of the World's Cutest Grandsons, was born the end of May. Jessica is now working for the Florida Virtual School in hopes to be able to stay home with baby Miles. Kirk is working on his doctorate in marine biology at NOVA Southeastern University. They are both into scuba diving, coral reefs and underwater photography. Although I'm not sure how much scuba diving Jess will be doing in the near future. She has two stepchildren as well, Robbie and Kylie. They live in Oklahoma but spend most of the summer with Jess & Kirk. We're sorry she's so far away - thank heavens for cell phones, email, airplanes and Skype!

I am writing this in early July in fear that I will be too jet-lagged by the end of the summer. Tom & I are taking our first ever trip across the pond the month of August. We are attending his nieces wedding in Germany on August. 4th and then will be doing a three week Rick Steves' tour. We are very excited but a little nervous as well. We will also be taking our annual family trip to Hilton Head in a few weeks. With seven children and eight adults, we are not planning on getting much rest!

I look forward to seeing everyone and hearing about your summer travels. Ann and I are looking forward to another fun-filled year. See you soon!

One, two...  
About me I will tell you.

Three, four...  
The number of cats inside my door.

Five, six...  
Husband Ty drives a truck with cement to mix.

Seven, eight...  
Son Drew and his wife Kati are great!

Nine, ten...  
Son Justin, wife Mandy, Toddler James and soon, new baby in the play pen!



## Miss Ann

Ann Collins



Mary had a little lamb, its fleece was white as snow,  
Was an art major in college, an artist in Rockville, then to start a family in Riva we did go.

One potato, two potato, three potato, four...  
Taught with Miss Barbara for years twenty four.

Peas porridge hot, peas porridge cold,

I love to play with your children be they three or four years old!

Hey diddle diddle, the cat and the fiddle, the cow jumped over the moon...

This summer was cook-outs, art camp, a race in Dover, and I taught VBS in June!

Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall,  
Humpty Dumpty had a great fall.  
Welcome to everyone, new and old friend,  
Looking forward to seeing you when we return again!

# SCPC Calendar

## AUGUST

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Tuition Due Health Forms Due	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 Weeding & Playdate	17 Fall Clean-Up <i>MANDATORY</i>
18	19	20 3's Class Picnic	21	22 SCPC Board Meeting	23 4's Class Picnic <b>*NEW DATE</b>	24
25	26	27 New Parent Workshop <i>Mandatory for new families</i>	28	29	30	31

## AUGUST

- 1 Sept. Tuition Due (\$95 for 3's, \$125 for 4's)
- 1 Health Forms Due
- 16 Weeding & Playdate at SCPC, 10-12 p.m.  
Optional for all families. Bring the kids
- 17 Mandatory Fall Clean-Up, 9 a.m. at SCPC
- 20 3's Class Picnic, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at SCPC
- 22 SCPC Board meeting 7:30 p.m.
- 23 4's Class Picnic, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at SCPC  
**\*PLEASE NOTE NEW DATE FOR THIS**
- 27 New Parent Workshop 7-8:30 p.m.  
*(No children please)*

## SEPTEMBER

- 1 Oct. Tuition Due (\$95 for 3's, \$125 for 4's)
- 3 Split Class/First day for 3's. Parents stay
- 4 Split Class/First day for 4's. Parents stay
- 5 **School Closed**—Rosh Hashanah
- 6 4's First Full Day
- 9 General Membership Meeting-Ford Hall  
at 7 p.m. Mandatory for all members  
*(No children please)*
- 10 3's First Full Day
- 19 SCPC Board meeting, 7:30 p.m.

## OCTOBER

- 1 Nov. Tuition Due (\$95 for 3's, \$125 for 4's)
- 18 **School Closed**
- 25 4's Field Trip to Greenstreet Gardens  
10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

# SPLIT DAY SCHEDULE

4's

SEPT. 4<sup>TH</sup> - SESSION 1  
9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Sophia L.  
Madelyn C.  
Maddie  
Sophia M.  
Micah  
Jonathan  
Cameron

SEPT. 4<sup>TH</sup> - SESSION 2  
10:45 - 11:45 a.m.

Hope  
Ryan  
Anna  
Ally  
Jennifer  
Michael  
Madelyn L.

3's

SEPT. 3<sup>RD</sup> - SESSION 1  
9:15-10:15 a.m.

Alison  
Lucy  
Vincent  
Juliet  
Courtney  
Chaya  
Leo  
Shoshi

SEPT. 3<sup>RD</sup> - SESSION 2  
10:30-11:30 a.m.

Nolan  
Owen  
Landon  
Izzie  
Madison  
Lillian  
Zoe  
Jane

# Reminders & Notes

## Class Times

Times have shifted a bit this year with the class changes, so make a note of exactly what time your class takes place:

**3AM** - 9:15-11:30 a.m.  
**3PM** - 12:15-2:30 p.m.  
**4AM** - 9:30 a.m.-12 p.m.  
**4ED** (Extended Day option) -  
12-1:30 p.m.

## Health Forms

Health Forms are due now! Completed health forms are a county requirement and your child may not begin school without them. Each family needs to have on record a parent health form and child's health form. Please mail those ASAP if you haven't done so. Mail them directly to Heidi Silvestri at:

981 Wayson Way  
Davidsonville, MD 21035.

Questions can be directed to [health@davidsonvilleprek.com](mailto:health@davidsonvilleprek.com).

## First Day

The first day of school, classes are split to allow for a gradual entrance. Children will attend for half their regular class, with their parents (no siblings please!). Please check the split-day schedule on this page to find your time slot.

## Fall Clean-up (Interior & Exterior)

Saturday, August 17, 9 a.m. -12 p.m.  
\*Mandatory for ALL families\*

**Interior Clean-up:** 4's Families (*no children please*): During this cleanup, we will be unpacking, cleaning, and setting up toys, equipment, and supplies for the new school year. Each family with a child enrolled in the 4AM class for 2013-14 is responsible for helping with this cleanup and must send one family member to participate. If you have more than one child enrolled, you need send only one adult to the cleanup.

**Exterior Clean-Up:** 3's Families (children may attend but will need to be supervised and remain on the playground): Our 3's families will be focused

on mulching the playground and weeding around the school building. Please wear clothes to work in and bring weeding tools, gloves, rakes, pitch forks, wheel barrows and snow shovels or buckets (this are a HUGE help for moving mulch to cover the playground). The more the merrier – many hands make for quick work, so bring your spouse!

If there is a valid reason that you cannot attend, you must contact Heather Oster, inside/outside maintenance chair at: [heatheroster99@yahoo.com](mailto:heatheroster99@yahoo.com), by Aug. 13, 2013, to schedule an alternate job to fulfill your requirements.

\*Please note, the SCPC bylaws say that families who do not participate in their assigned cleanup will be fined \$75.

Thank you for your cooperation in making our school a great place to be!

## New Family Workshop

This is a day for new families to the co-op (returning alumni are welcome to attend, but it is not required). Miss Barbara will share more about the role of the parent helper and what to expect in the classroom and we'll have a tour of the school to help familiarize you with where everything is! Our workshop is on **Tuesday Aug 27th from 7-8 p.m.** (*no children please*).

If you are unable to attend, e-mail Anne Canaday at: [president@davidsonvilleprek.com](mailto:president@davidsonvilleprek.com) to schedule a time to take the tour.

## Family photos needed

All families will need to bring a family photo in for the beginning of the year. Make sure you take a moment to snap a family shot this summer!

## Website set to debut

The SCPC website has been completely redesigned and is preparing to go live for the kickoff of the new school year.

You will find all types of information online. We've tried to think of everything, but if you discover something that you'd like to see on there, contact SCPC President Anne Canaday at [president@davidsonvilleprek.com](mailto:president@davidsonvilleprek.com). Check it out soon!

The website can be reached at two URL's (same site):

[www.myscpc.org](http://www.myscpc.org)  
[www.davidsonvilleprek.com](http://www.davidsonvilleprek.com)



# Fundraisers Make Cents!

South County Co-Op PreKindergarten is a special school for many reasons. The primary thing that sets us apart from other schools is the cooperative nature of the school. Parents run the business of the school from top to bottom. This contribution of time and labor helps to reduce the tuition fee for

each child attending class here. If you haven't compared costs with other area schools, you might be surprised how inexpensive it is at SCPC!

With that in mind, we are always seeking new ways to increase revenue and hold down costs. You will see many fundraisers this year. There are

many opportunities to help raise money for the school. The spring auction is a primary source of funds, as are tuition payments.

Additionally, there are a variety of simple ways to help the school, without necessarily buying anything you wouldn't normally purchase. Here is a list of just some of these programs:

## WEE-SALE CONSIGNMENT SALE

If you are a local parent, you may already know about these huge local sales. There are several sales annually in different locations.

From strollers to high chairs, from toy boxes to puzzles – it's hard to believe how much you will buy for a child! And we all know how quickly those little bodies grow and the constantly changing clothing sizes.

Wee-Sale offers large-scale consignment sales so buyers can get substantial discounts on gently-used clothing and goods for children. The sales are known to be well attended and competition for purchases can be intense!

Wee-Sale is also great for the consignors who get to re-sell all of that kid gear that they no longer need. You can make great money and clean out your closets too.

Attend the next sale held in Annapolis on Sept. 5-8th at the Pip Moyer Recreation Center (273 Hilltop Lane, Annapolis). Visit the website at [www.wee-sale.com](http://www.wee-sale.com) for further details. **Most importantly, bring along the flier on the next page of this newsletter so that SCPC can earn money from every purchase.**

## SCHOLASTIC BOOKS

We all buy books for our kids to teach them a love of reading. Here's a good way to buy some great books for your children, as birthday and holiday gifts, or to donate to the school itself.

You will be getting fliers in your child's tote bag throughout the school year that offer the opportunity to order children's books and more through the Scholastic Book program. Each purchase earns points that are used for books in the classroom, manipulatives, and even some equipment.

Orders will be collected every month by the deadline. There are two ways to order: Complete the back of the flier, make a check out to Scholastic, and place both items in a box at the school. Or you can go online at [www.scholastic.com](http://www.scholastic.com), use the code GYG2P, and pay via credit cards. It's so easy.



## eSCRIP

eScrip works with merchant partners to contribute to groups like ours each time you shop, at no cost to you! If you shop at Safeway, or Giant, or dine at Bella Sera, Paladar, or many restaurants, you could be earning money for SCPC. You may also choose to support more than one organization. Here's how to get started:

1. Go to [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com)
2. Click on "sign-up"
3. Follow the instructions to register your grocery cards and your existing credit/debit cards.

**South County Pre-K Co-Op  
eScrip Group ID - 6565463**

Accounts must be renewed each year! Sign up or renew your account today!

Special Note: eScrip's 10% Back to Schools program runs from **Aug. 14-Sept. 10th**. Save ALL your receipts (and those of your neighbors and friends also!) from shopping at Safeway during this time and bring them all to a collection box that will be at the school. Schools raise a lot of money taking part in this promotion every year.



## High Quality Children's Clothing and Gear!

Don't miss our **HUGE** consignment events!  
We will have tens of thousands of children's items!

**Anne Arundel County Sale:**  
**Annapolis – Sept. 5-8<sup>th</sup>**  
**(NO CHILDREN on Sept. 5<sup>th</sup>)**

**Charles County: Waldorf – Sept. 21-22<sup>nd</sup>**

**Eastern Shore: Cambridge – Oct. 4-6<sup>th</sup>**

**Prince George's County Sale: Greenbelt – Oct. 18-20<sup>th</sup>**  
**(NO CHILDREN before 12PM on Oct. 18<sup>th</sup>)**

Please visit our website for specific hours and locations:

**Wee-Sale.com**

### Help raise money for your non-profit organization or school!

Bring this flyer with you and Wee-Sale will donate  
5% of your purchase per flyer (from each shopper) OR \$10 per new  
consignor who consigns a minimum of 30 items at the sale,  
to the following qualified organization:  
*(one flyer per family, per event)*

**South County PreK Co-Op**

**PO BOX 160, Davidsonville MD 21035**

I spent this much money \$\_\_\_\_\_