



March 2014

# Whale Tales

South County Pre-Kindergarten Co-op  
Monthly Newsletter

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## Is flu season over yet?

### Are you sick of all the sickness?

The supposed boundaries of flu season stretch from November to April. So, we are still some time away from the end of all this illness.

If you were at the February GMM meeting, you may recall the update from Heidi Silvestri, the SCPC Health Chairperson. She warned us of not only the traditional flu sweeping thru the area and the school, but also made mention of a contagious gastrointestinal virus affecting many as well. She also made mention of the fact that antibacterial hand sanitizers do not stop viruses.



It bears repeating that perhaps the single best protection you can take to contain the spread of illness is to **WASH YOUR HANDS!** It seems almost silly that something so simple is so effective, yet it's true. Parents and students at SCPC are reminded that you should wash

your hands often.

And teach your children to cover their coughs and sneezes. And maybe it's time to learn about tissues and runny noses as well.

All parents are reminded of the school's guidelines for illnesses. If you need to review these, they are in the Parent Helper Guide you were given at the beginning of the year. If your child is sick, keep them home. If you do keep them home, make sure to fill out a form by the front door of the school when you return.

The procedures in place at SCPC about clean-up and illnesses are there to help protect all of us from as much contagion as possible. Hopefully, our season of illness is nearly behind us. Nevertheless, hand washing can't hurt!

## BREAKING NEWS BULLETIN ★★★★★★★★★★★★

### *Denim & Diamonds*

#### **Auction Event next Saturday**

In case you haven't yet heard the news, we wanted to remind all SCPC members that the extra-special, amazing, and unbelievable Denim & Diamonds Auction event is now upon us.

The festivities will take place on Saturday, March 8th, from 7-11 p.m. The location is: Tthe Greek Orthodox Church on Riva Rd. (2747 Riva Rd., 21401).

Bring a smile, bring friends, bring the spouse we've never met, and prepare for fun. Bring cash, checks, or credit cards. Bring a large vehicle to drive home your auction winnings!

### • Enrollment News •

If you have enrolled again for next year, you should have received a confirmation e-mail from the enrollment coordinator, Kelly LaBrutte. If you haven't seen one yet, contact Kelly at [kellylabrutte@gmail.com](mailto:kellylabrutte@gmail.com).

There are several spots still available in most classes for the 2014-2015 school year. Please help spread the word to friends, neighbors, and anyone you think might be interested. Word of mouth is still the best advertising!

# From the Board President

By Anne Canaday

I know I'm in the minority but I still love the snow...less loving the snow gear all over my house and I know my kids are ready to get out and run! The good news for all is that the warmer weather is right around the corner and in the meanwhile we have the auction to look forward to!



I'm excited to spend a night out and have the chance to support our school by getting some great bargains. I had a sneak peak at the list today and there some amazing things at all price points. I've heard recently around the school-yard that a few people are hesitant to come because they don't feel like they can buy much. I want to encourage everyone to come. It's a great night of community and every dollar you spend, whether \$10 or \$10,000, all contributes to the success of our school. Also bring friends and family! It's not too late to get additional tickets.

There are many other events coming up also: In March we have an Open House March 13th, Father's Day (March 15). In April we have grandparent's days (April 24 & 25th) followed in May by Nominating Committee (May 5th) and many others. Make sure you check the newsletters.

You will be receiving School Evaluations after the

auction. Please take some time to fill these out and return – we really do read everyone's comments and appreciate your input!

Please spread the word about our school... On the wall between the kitchen area and the "office" there are some post cards that can be posted at many locations around town – libraries, swim centers, restaurants, kids' gyms, hair cut places, etc. Take a few and post them on any community bulletin boards where you visit – every bit of visibility helps!

As always, read your newsletter each month! If you have questions about policies, procedures, membership obligations, etc., please check the Bylaws or Policy Statement or ask your class reps.

If you have any issues or suggestions, please contact me or attend one of the Board Meetings. The next Board Meeting will be at the DFRC on March 17th at 7:30 p.m.

See you at the auction!

Anne Canaday

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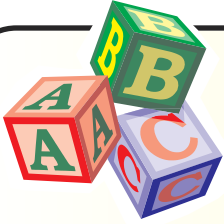
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*(Debbie & Tanya will be working together on the 3's schedules and tasks this year.)*



## Teacher's Corner

By Barbara Freeman

**H**appy almost spring! After an exceptionally cold and dreary winter let's hope that spring is right around the corner! Baby leaves and daffodils will be a welcome sight this year. That warm weekend we just had was quite a tease.

Dinosaurs, science projects, Fathers' Day, and leprechauns - March promises to be a busy month!

Fathers' Day will be held on **March 15th**. The children will be making invitations to send home for Dad before the big event. Fathers' Day is a chance for Dad to come to school and play for an hour and have an opportunity to see the classroom, sing some songs and meet some of their



child's friends. Ann and I look forward to meeting all the Dads.

We're looking forward to the annual auction. It sounds like we are in for a very fun evening this year. Many thanks to everyone for all the hard work that has already gone into the event.

## Kindergarten registration dates set for AA County

Anne Arundel County Public Schools kindergarten registration for the 2014-2015 school year will be held in county elementary schools April 8-11.

Children who live in Maryland and are five-years-old on or before September 1, 2014, are required to attend full-day kindergarten and must register at their assigned school.

When registering a child for kindergarten, parents should bring the following:

- Child's original birth certificate or birth record
- Copy of child's immunization record (optional)
- Two proofs of residency (a rental agreement/lease/mortgage and a current utility bill)

For more information, contact your local school or visit the AA County Public Schools website at:

[www.aacps.org/earlychildhood/kindergarten.asp](http://www.aacps.org/earlychildhood/kindergarten.asp).

If you are unsure which school your child needs to register with, contact the AACPS Planning Office at 410-439-5683 or send an e-mail to [planningoffice@aacps.org](mailto:planningoffice@aacps.org) for school boundary



information at this time.

SCPC parents may also want to check that your child's immunizations meet all current requirements by visiting [www.cdc.gov/vaccines](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines). While on the site, visit the state vaccination requirements page for a complete list of state mandated vaccines for incoming Kindergartners.

Mrs. Heather Mattick in the front office of Davidsonville Elementary School says that parents can bring along their children's immunization records to have them looked over, but many kids will not have received all of the required shots until their 5 year well-child doctor visit. So it is not mandatory to bring the records to your first registration visit, though you will have to submit records prior to attendance within the school system.

Heather went on to say that Davidsonville Elementary's registration hours will be April 8-11 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. for walk-ins. If you cannot make those hours, call the school for an appointment at 410-222-1655. You will receive a packet of information at registration.

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# The Threes

## March

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We enjoyed watching the 3's open their Valentines last month, despite the snow delay. They are always so excited to receive their special "mail"!

This month we will focus on a variety of science activities. Sink and float, densities, and magnets are some of the concepts we will explore. These are always fun activities and the children may also enjoy trying them at home.

We will celebrate St. Patrick's Day on **March 13th**. Children are encouraged to wear green and parent helpers may wish to bring a green snack.

Huggy Bear will wake up from his long winter's nap with the arrival of spring and we will take a walk outside to see some signs that winter is officially over.



### Touch and Tell Schedule

**3 A.M.**

TUESDAY	THURSDAY
Jane	Zoe
Landon	Leo
Courtney	Chaya
Shoshi	Nolan
Lucy	Lilly
Vincent	Alison
Izzie	

**3 P.M.**

TUESDAY	THURSDAY
Owen	Luke
Trevor	Juliet
Mary	Lilly
Ari	

4

# The Fours

## March

4

**M**arch will be a busy month for the fours. Our main focus will be on dinosaurs. We will use the story, Maia, to help learn about dinosaurs. We will paint a dinosaur mural and dinosaur eggs, hunt for "fossils", and measure to see just how big those dinosaurs really were. This unit involves a lot of paint and messiness, so don't wear your best clothes on co-op days! If your child has any interesting books or other information about dinosaurs that they would like to share, please bring them in.

To conclude this unit we will take a trip to the National History Museum to view the dinosaur exhibit. This trip is always very popular, but requires a lot of parent participation. We ask that a parent accompany each child. The date for this year's trip is **March 24th**. Keep your fingers crossed for good weather! We will meet at the school at 9:00 to carpool to the New Carrollton subway station. We usually leave the museum by 12:30 and arrive home by 2:00. More details will be sent home closer to the date.

We will celebrate St. Patrick's Day on **Monday**,

**March 17th** with Green Eggs and Ham. Ann will contact the parent helpers concerning what to bring for snack. Children are encouraged to wear green on that day.

At this time of year the four years olds bring a lot of energy to the classroom. This is due to many factors including the long winter and lack of outdoor playtime. You may wish to talk to your child again about good classroom behaviors. Listening at circle time, helping to clean up, and using good table manners need to be reinforced.

Fred enjoyed going home with everyone the last few months. His book will be on the bookshelf if you'd like to read about his adventures. It has been great fun reading their stories each day. In a couple of weeks, a new animal will come home with a different theme.



**4 a.m.  
TOUCH  
&  
TELL  
Schedule**

MONDAY	WED.	FRIDAY
Sophia L.	Madelyn C.	Sophia M.
Cameron	Maddie	Micah
Hope	Jonathan	Ryan
Jennifer	Ally	Madelyn L.
Michael	Anna	

# SCPC Calendar

## MARCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7 Fantastic Friday 12:30-2:30	8 <b>Auction!</b>
9	10	11	12	13 Open House 10 a.m.	14 Fantastic Friday 12:30-2:30	15 Father's Day Event at school
16	17  <b>Happy St. Patrick's Day!</b> SCPC Board Meets, 7:30	18	19	20	21 Fantastic Friday 12:30-2:30	22
23	24 Natural History Museum Trip	25	26	27	28 Fantastic Friday 12:30-2:30	29

## MARCH

- 1 April Tuition Due (\$95 for 3's, \$125 for 4's)
- 7 Fantastic Friday, 12:30-2:30
- 8 SCPC Annual Auction Event, 7-11 p.m.
- 13 Open House, 10 a.m. at the school
- 14 Fantastic Friday, 12:30-2:30
- 15 Father's Day event for 4's, 9-10 a.m.
- 15 Father's Day event for 3's, 10:15-11:15 a.m.
- 17 SCPC Board Meeting 7:30 p.m
- 21 Fantastic Friday, 12:30-2:30
- 24 Natural History Museum trip for 4's
- 28 Fantastic Friday, 12:30-2:30

## APRIL

- 1 May Tuition Due (\$95 for 3's, \$125 for 4's)
- 14-21 Easter/Spring Break - No School
- 24 Grandparent's Day for 3's
- 25 Grandparent's Day for 4's

## MAY

- 1 Mothers' Day Tea 3's
- 2 Mothers' Day Tea 4's
- 5 Nominating Committee meets
- 19 General Membership Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 20 Last Day 3's
- 21 Last Day 4's
- 31 Spring Clean-Up