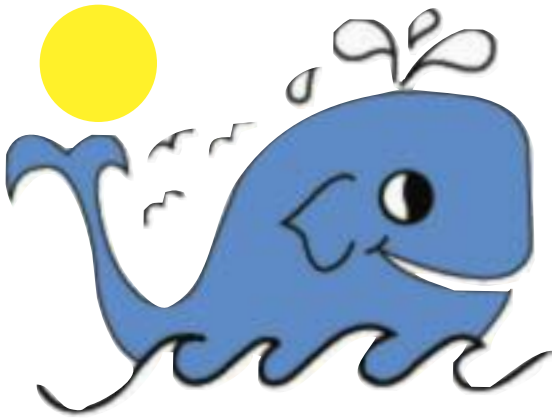


September 2014



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 • www.davidsonvilleprek.com

Stay & Play on the First Day

The first day of school, classes are split to allow for a more gradual entrance. Children will attend with their parents for half of the regular class time. No siblings please. You should have received more information on your time slot from your class representative. Or check the complete listing inside this newsletter on Pg. 4.

SCPC General Membership meeting set for Monday, Sept. 8

Welcome to the 2014-2015 School Year

The General Membership Meeting (“GMM”) is scheduled for **Monday, September 8th**. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. in Ford Hall, located next to the school. This meeting is **mandatory** for all members, new and returning. It is the first of three mandatory meetings scheduled for the school year. Please do NOT bring children to this meeting.

Here is a brief overview of what to expect:

Upon arrival, stop by the check-in table to sign in and get a quick review of any missing paperwork or signatures needed. Your class representative will greet you and you should try to meet your committee chair. We will then conduct our General Membership meeting. Each member of the Board will provide an overview of their committees and their respective responsibilities. Members will also be receiving information and materials for fall fundraisers. In addition, the board will introduce any new co-op matters requiring a vote of the membership.

The evening should conclude by 8:30 p.m. Thank you in advance for your participation.

Opinions sought for future program changes at school

Please plan to join board members and the whole school community on **Wednesday, Sept. 17th at 7:00 p.m.** at the school for a special Town Hall meeting. The purpose of the town hall meeting will be to discuss and answer questions about possible program changes for the 2015-16 school year. We’ll introduce the proposed changes at the GMM on Sept. 8th. This is an optional meeting designed to give our membership a chance to ask questions and discuss the future of our school.

To make it easier to participate, we’re providing childcare, (please let Anne know via e-mail at: Annecanaday@gmail.com).

If you have questions in the meanwhile, please let Anne know!

ALLERGY ALERT

Due to a variety of allergies this year, the school has elected to be **peanut free for ALL classes**.

Please check the notice on the front of the refrigerator for details on allergies in your child’s class.

From the Board President

By Anne Canaday

Hello all,

Back to school time is upon us! I know that my house is full of excitement for the first day back (well truth be told, I find it bittersweet, our last first day of being a 3!). And while the veterans can't wait to see Ms. Barbara and Ms. Ann, some of our new friends may be a little apprehensive about the start of school, but give them time; they will settle in and have fun before you (or they) know it!



Thank you to Debbie Ailiff and Rae Portilo, for a very efficient and productive Fall Clean-up – thanks to the many hands that came and helped to prepare by weeding ahead of time and for the hard work Saturday morning. The school looks outstanding.

Our First General Membership Meeting (GMM) is scheduled for Monday, September 8th at 7:00pm. Please remember this meeting is MANDATORY for all Co-op members.

The first day of school is a split class - please see your class schedule in the newsletter for your child's day and time. No siblings please, since this

is a special day for you and your preschooler.

Please read the newsletters each month. There are important dates, reminders and other information in each issue. A current newsletter is posted on the bulletin board near the kitchen; feel free to read this copy while at school!

If you have any questions, issues or suggestions, please contact me or attend one of the Board Meetings – we'll be happy to do what we can! We have a special town hall meeting coming up on Sept 17th and then our monthly board meeting on Sept 24th. Also if you run in to any of our board members – take a moment to thank them. They are going above and beyond to help lead our school.

Best wishes for the start of school!

Anne Canaday
 annecanaday@gmail.com/
 president@davidsonvilleprek.com
 734-717-0480 (calls/text)

Here we go... Welcome back to School!

2014-2015 SCPC Board of Directors

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 cagroff@comcast.net

Desirae Flores, **4 PM Class Rep.**
 f1f3md@verizon.net

Teacher's Corner

By Barbara Freeman

Welcome Back!

Welcome back! We hope everyone had a wonderful summer and returns to school sun-tanned and well rested! Those summer months seemed to fly by this year. It's always a challenge readjusting to busy fall routines. I for one will miss my nap!



There are a lot of new families coming into the school this year and we want to welcome you to our school! Working in the classroom is the best part of being in a co-op so just relax and enjoy yourself. While there are lots of schedules and lists of duties, Ann and I don't want you to stress about the details. At the end of the day it all gets done and everyone has had a good time! After a few parent-helping days it will begin to feel routine and you'll wonder why you ever worried about it in the first place.

Thanks to everyone who participated in the summer clean-up and to the board members who have been busy all summer. Your children will be excited to see the results of all your efforts!

Ann and I have been busy preparing the room and making plans for the coming school year. We look forward to meeting your children and making new friends. It promises to be a busy month!

SNACK POEM

Together we shall work and play,
Together we shall eat.
Together we shall quietly,
Have a little treat.

FINGERPLAYS

During the school year we incorporate many songs and finger-plays into our curriculum. Two of our most popular finger-plays for September are written below. The snack poem is used each day before snack time.

OPEN, SHUT THEM

Open, shut them,
Open, shut them,
Give a little clap!

Open, shut them,
Open, shut them,
Lay them in your lap.

Creep them, creep them,
Creep them, creep them,
Right up to your chin.

Open wide your little mouth,
But do not let them in!



HELLO

Hello, how are you?
Hello, how are you?
Hello, how are you?
How are you today

It's good to see (name) here.
It's good to see (name) here.
It's good to see (name) here.
How are you today?

FIRST DAY SPLIT SCHEDULE

3 A.M. Class

September 2
9 - 10 a.m.

Hollyn
Sydney
Hudson
Weston
Matthew

September 2
10:15 - 11:15 a.m.

Isabela
Abigail
Lola
Gracelyn
Thomas

3 P.M. Class

September 2
12:15 - 1:15 p.m.

Anna
Nikolas
Sammy
Sawyer
Lily

4 A.M. Class

September 3
9 - 10 a.m.

Courtney
Landon
Eammon
David
Chaya
Lillian
Zoe

September 3
10:15 - 11:15 a.m.

Lucy
Vincent
Izzie
Shoshi
Leo
Liam

4 P.M. Class

September 3
12:15 - 1:15 p.m.

Lilliana
Luke
Jane
Juliet
Kortland

September 3
1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Owen
Abby
Alison
Mary

Reminders & Notes

Class Times

Please make note of some new class times this year:

All 3 & 4 AM classes

9-11:30 a.m.

All 3 & 4 PM Classes

12:15-2:45 p.m.

Be sure to arrive on time for both drop-off and pick-up.

Program Your Cell Phones!

As the school year gets into full swing, don't forget to program the SCPC's phone number into your cell so that you can contact the school in case of emergency: **410-798-5650**.

It's also helpful for the teachers to give them a quick call if your child is going to be out sick. Also, grab a cell phone number or two from classmates. Those days you're running late—it's handy!

Tuition time again?

Does it seem like you just paid for a month with no classes? Families are reminded that the Co-op collects tuition one month ahead of time. So each month, you are actually paying for the following month's classtime. Make sense now?

You may recall that tuition is due by the 1st of every month. Payments received after the 10th will incur a late fee.

The monthly cost is \$95 for 3's and \$125 for 4's.

You can place payments in the mailbox inside the main hallway by the door. It has "Tuition" written on the front of it.

Please note your child's name and class on the memo line of any checks and make checks out to SCPC.

Classroom Reminders

1. Tote Bags! Each child should bring a tote bag to school with them (this is preferable over backpacks – those can be hard to fill). They can be their SCPC bag or another tote. And feel free to "bling" up their bag.

2. No Flip-Flops! Miss Barbara has specifically asked for no flip-flops. They can be dangerous on the playground. Crocs are OK.

3. Extra clothes. Even if your child doesn't normally have toileting issues, it's always nice to have an extra set of clothes handy. If you have a newly trained child, please make sure to have extra clothes (including socks).

4. Sign in and Sign-Out. Don't forget to sign your child in and out on the clip board in the front entry hall each day.

SCPC Calendar

SEPTEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Tuition Due Labor Day	2 3's Split Day	3 4's Split Day	4 3's First Full Day	5 4's First Full Day	6
7	8 GMM Meeting at 7 p.m. (Mandatory)	9	10	11 Red Day for 3's Wee-Sale Event thru Sun.-Please volunteer!	12	13
14	15 <i>Please have family pic in by this date</i>	16	17 7 p.m. Town Hall Meeting (Optional)	18 Blue Day for 3's	19 Vision & Hearing Screenings, 4's	20
21	22	23	24 Board meets at 7:30 p.m.	25 Yellow Day for 3's	26	27
28	29 4's Field Trip to Camp Lett's	30				

SEPTEMBER

- 1 Oct. Tuition Due (\$95 for 3's, \$125 for 4's)
- 2 Split Class/First day for 3's. Parents stay
- 3 Split Class/First day for 4's. Parents stay
- 4 3's First Full Day
- 5 4's First Full Day
- 8 General Membership Meeting-Ford Hall at 7 p.m. Mandatory for all members
(No children please)
- 11-14 Wee-Sale Consignment event (See pg. 9)
- 17 SCPC Town Hall Meeting, 7 p.m. Optional.
Discuss future program changes.
- 19 Vision & Hearing Screenings, 4's only
- 24 SCPC Board Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
- 25 School open for 3's (*AACPS is closed today*)
- 29 4's Field Trip to Camp Lett's
No siblings

OCTOBER

- 1 Nov. Tuition Due (\$95 for 3's, \$125 for 4's)
- 8-9 School Photos
- 11 Family Fun Day, ***NOTE new date**
- 17 **School Closed**
- 20 11:30-2, 4's Combined Field Trip to Greenstreet Gardens.
Siblings are invited
- 21 10 a.m., Open House held at school

NOVEMBER

- 1 Dec. Tuition Due (\$95 for 3's, \$125 for 4's)
- 4 **School Closed**
- 18-19 Conferences for 3's
- 24-28 **School Closed** Thanksgiving holiday

3

The Threes

September

3

September is a month of adjustments for the threes. Making each child feel comfortable and secure in a school environment, getting to know each other, learning new routines and how to be more independent will be the main focus for the month. It is important to remember that each child will make these adjustments at their own pace. Some children will feel right at home from the moment they walk through the door, others may take a week or two - or even longer - before they feel comfortable at school. We will spend a lot of time outside this month as everyone adjusts to a more structured environment. We have also added fifteen minutes to the three's day this year so we'll make that adjustment as well. Keep your fingers crossed for sunny weather and mild temps!

"Look at Me, I am Special" will be our theme for the month. Threes enjoy talking about all the things they can do now that they're "grown-up". Please send in a baby picture of your child so we can talk about how they've grown (and how cute they were!). Each child also needs to bring in a family picture to be displayed in the large muscle room.

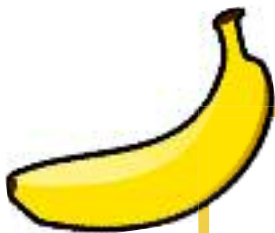
To help reinforce color recognition, we will have Color Days for the next several weeks. On each Color Day the children and co-op parents should wear something of that color. Also, the snack and drink parents could bring snack items of the color (when possible). For example, apples for Red Day, bananas for Yellow Day, orange juice for Orange Day, etc. The schedule will be as follows:

Tuesday, Sept. 11th Red Day
Tuesday, Sept. 18th Blue Day
Tuesday, Sept. 25th Yellow Day

Touch and Tell for the 3's will not begin until October. We will notify you when this activity will start.

If you have any concerns about your child or the program, please feel free to talk to me. If there's not an opportunity to talk at school, you can call me at home, 410-798-6612, or send me an e-mail at tombarb.freeman@verizon.net.

Reminders: Please send in a family photograph and your child's baby picture as soon as possible.



Ideas for Red Day parent helpers:

Snacks: Strawberries, apples, red grapes, cherries
 Drinks: Cranberry juice, fruit juices, strawberry milk



Ideas for Blue Day parent helpers:

Snacks: Blueberries, blue tortilla chips, blue yogurt
 Drinks: Blueberry juice,



Ideas for Yellow Day parent helpers:

Snacks: Bananas, tortilla chips, pineapple, yellow peppers
 Drinks: Lemonade, pineapple juice



4

The Fours

September

4

Ann and I would like to welcome all the "new" fours to the program as well as welcoming back all the returning families! We look forward to seeing everyone.

September will begin with familiar routines and activities for everyone. As the month continues we will expand our group time and add to our routines. You may notice that the fours are not as quiet as they were last year! Fours are very social. They enjoy interacting with each other and are very conversational. It will not be a quiet classroom this year so prepare yourselves.

Parts of the program are immediately different for returning fours. There are several new jobs on the helper chart, calendar time has been added, and they will be expected to be more independent by pouring their own juice and serving their own snack at snack time. In another change from last year, Ann will often work with the children in small group activities out in the kitchen. It is a quieter area and the children are better able to focus on each activity. There is also an additional 15 minutes added to our school day for the fours. It takes a while for everyone (even Ann & I) to adjust to the new time schedule and we will spend a little extra time outside at the beginning of the year.

Colors and "My Family" will be our themes for the month. Each child needs to bring in a family photo **by Sept. 15th**. We will use the pictures to illustrate stories about our families. To review colors, Ann will also be making color books with each child this month.

The Letter Box is a favorite activity for the fours. Each month two or three letters will be introduced. Although we will begin with the letter "A", the letters will not be introduced in alphabetical order. The letters will be introduced around our themes for the month - p for pumpkin, t for tepee, etc. Throughout the school year you may notice some small symbol with a letter on it that comes home in their tote bags - an apple with "Aa" printed on it as an example. This tells you which letter came out of the letterbox along with the sentence strips that are displayed in the circle area. We will also be creating an alphabet book as the letters are introduced. More details on this will be sent home at the end of the month.

Touch and Tell will begin on **September 22nd**. Most children will be familiar with this routine from last year. We will again create a book about their favorite things. This is not a required activity. Some children enjoy bringing in items to share with us, others do not. Please help your child remember their own Touch and Tell day. The Touch and Tell schedule is listed below.

Our first field trip with the 4's is a nature walk to Camp Letts on **September 29th**. Each class will go during their regular class hours. Because of the nature of the trip, siblings are not invited.

Again, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me at 410-798-6612 or send an e-mail to tombarb.freeman@verizon.net.

Touch and Tell Schedule

4 A.M.

MONDAY	WED.	FRIDAY
Liam	Leo	David
Vincent	Lillian	Lucy
Izzie	Shoshi	Landon
Chaya	Courtney	Eammon
Zoe		

4 P.M.

MONDAY	WED.	FRIDAY
Owen	Luke	Lilly
Mary	Abby	Alison
Kortland	Jane	Juliet

Sign up, shop, and earn for SCPC

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, use the code GYG2P, and pay via credit cards. It's so easy. For more details, contact Nicole Gunhus at ngunhus@aol.com.

Shop at Safeway = Raise funds

If you shop at Safeway, or dine at one of several area restaurants, you could be earning money for SCPC. Just sign up for eScrip. Ask grandparents, uncles, aunts, and friends to sign up their cards also.

eScrip works with merchant partners to contribute to groups like ours each time you shop, at no cost to you! You may also choose to support more than one organization. So if your older child attends another school, you can donate to both.

The school gets monthly checks deposited into our

account that we can use for whatever there is a need for.

I have my grocery card and several credit/debit cards registered. Everytime I take the family to eat at California Tortilla (and that's fairly often!), I get an e-mail soon after telling me that I earned money for the school. It's not a huge amount, but it does add up over time, and takes no work at all. I don't have to think about it, ask about it, or remember to bring anything with me!

Here's how to get started:

1. Go to 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. If you have any questions about this, please contact Christina Feindt at cfeindt@gmail.com.

Shop at Amazon?

SCPC families (and all of their families and friends!) can go to smile.amazon.com and select the South County Pre kindergarten Cooperative. When you make a purchase, we get a percent of the sale. No click-through from a website needed. So set it once, and go there instead of amazon.com, and the school will earn money every single time you shop! Tell everyone you know about this.

Help preserve the memories...

If you help to provide photos for the annual yearbook, your chances of seeing your child's photo increase a great deal!

It's never too early to begin taking and submitting photos for the yearbook. Capture those sweet smiles on the first day of school and beyond. Please remember to periodically e-mail your pictures to Historian Christina Feindt at: cfeindt@gmail.com. As the Historian is in the 4 AM class this year, the other classes need to really help to contribute photos from their events and class days.

We are also suggesting that you consider keeping a thumbdrive handy to load school photos on throughout the year. Then, you can just give the drive to the editor to work with (to be returned or not). This is a great option to just drag copies of photos over and keep things organized throughout the year. Stay tuned to future newsletters for more details and reminders.

Family Fun Day coming soon

The annual Family Fun Day offers a chance for students, parents, and alumni to come enjoy an outdoor event at the school. Break out your Halloween costume early this year and enjoy the costume parade!

This year's event will be held on **Saturday, Oct. 11th** and it is held on the fields behind the school. There will be food for sale and tons of fun. Lots of plans are in the works, be sure to put this on your schedule now!

We Sell SCPC at Wee-Sale Resale

Be a Shopper

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

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!

Attend the next sale held in Annapolis on **Sept. 11-14th** at the Pip Moyer Recreation Center (273 Hilltop Lane, Annapolis). Visit www.wee-sale.com for further details. **Most importantly, bring along the flier on the next page of this newsletter so that SCPC earns money from every purchase.**

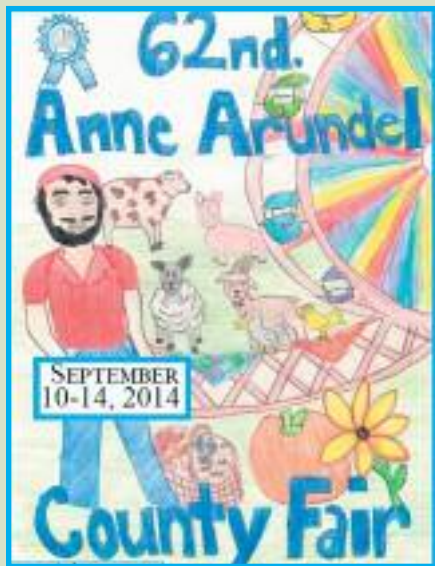
Be a Helper

SCPC will be hosting an information table at the Wee-Sale event this year to help get the word out about our great little school. With over 4,000 potential visitors passing by, it's a good chance to advertise. To do this, we need as much help as possible from our members.

A SignUpGenius page has been created to offer everyone options at 2 hour work shifts during peak shopping times. We are looking for 2 people to sign up for each block of time to promote our school, pass out brochures, answer questions and ask questions of people with smaller children/preschoolers about what they look for in a preschool. We anticipate talking to a lot of people and hopefully generate some new families as a result.

Please consider signing up for a block (or many blocks) of time before or after your intended shopping and keep in mind that children are not allowed to attend the sale on Thursday; it is tremendously busy and restricted by the sale owner for their safety.

Stacey McCoy has set up the SignUpGenius and you should get a link by e-mail. If you have any questions, please contact her at sgarofal@yahoo.com or 703-409-4366.



Enjoy a Day at the Fair

Get ready for Kids Day at the Anne Arundel County Fair! Bring your littlest ones to the Fairgrounds in Crownsville on **Friday, Sept. 12** from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. We hope that you take advantage of this special offer.

There are many special events planned for the day. There will be special exhibits from the health department, dog demonstrations, pig and duck races, live entertainment, exhibits and FREE rides. You can also learn how to milk a cow and visit with all the animals.

The goal is to provide an opportunity for the younger fair patron a learning experience of agriculture, community services and other fair activities in a smaller group.

Just mention at the gate that you are part of the South County Pre-K Co-op group. Kids under 6 are free; adults and kids 6 and older are \$3.

For more details, contact Anne at president@davidsonvilleprek.com.



South County Pre-Kindergarten Co-op

The Davidsonville Pre-school

Have a
Whale
of a
Time!

50% off Enrollment!

We are pleased to offer 50% off enrollment to new families. Bonus if they mention you referred them—you'll get an extra ticket to the auction!

Current Openings

Fall 2014:

3 year-old Classes
4 year-old Classes

Help spread the word to friends and neighbors this summer. Have your kids wear their SCPC shirts to events. Interested families should contact Kelly LaBrutte at: enrollment@davidsonvilleprek.com or call 410-257-1081



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:
Pip Moyer Recreation Center at Truxton Park
273 Hilltop Lane, Annapolis
Annapolis – Sept. 11-14th
(NO CHILDREN on Sept. 11th)

Charles County: Waldorf – Sept. 25-27th

Prince George's County Sale: Greenbelt – Oct. 24-26th

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 \$_____