

MARK YOUR  
CALENDARS:

May 3&4  
Spring Pictures

May 6th  
Work Day

May 29th-  
Closed- Memorial  
Day

June 15th-  
Preschool  
Graduation

June 26th  
Summer Camp  
Begins

July 4th  
Closed-  
Independence Day

INSIDE THIS  
ISSUE:

From the Director	1
Child Development 101	1
Classroom News	2-3
Tips for Preschoolers	2
Tips for Infants and Toddlers	3
Pineview Church	4
Office Notes	4

## FROM THE DIRECTOR...

What a busy spring so far! Busy and fun!! I hope you enjoyed all the beautiful artwork that your amazing children created. We had a lot of fun celebrating the WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD! Then we jumped right in to TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK! Thank you for all the wonderful ways that you and your children made the teachers feel loved and appreciated! And if that wasn't enough...we also had our SPRING WORKDAY! We had so many helping hands –parents, staff, church members - cleaning up the playground and front gardens! Weeds were pulled, roots were chopped, sandboxes sifted, leaves raked and tons of mulch spread around our climbing equipment and more. The playground and the front entrance gardens look fantastic! Everyone worked so hard and I just want to say a big THANK YOU!

We have one more piece of exciting news to share with you. In an effort to be more efficient and up to date, we will be starting to use a new software program to sign children and staff in and out of classrooms. We will be using tablets instead of pencil and paper for signing in, daily reports and other school-parent communication. We are very excited about this new way of doing things! We will be doing lots of trainings in the next couple of weeks and there will be more information coming your way. The first parent announcement should be in your child's cubby today. You will also notice that our enrollment forms will be a little different when you get them. We appreciate your patience as we transition. If you have any questions feel free to call, email or stop in the office.

Enjoy the beautiful spring! God bless!

*Kirsten*

## CHILD DEVELOPMENT 101

### TEACHING FRIENDSHIP SKILLS- TEACHING YOUR CHILD TO TAKE TURNS

#### What are friendship skills?

Friendship skills are the ability to organize play, share, take turns, be helpful, give compliments, apologize and have empathy for others. This month, let's focus on turn taking. A very important friendship skill.

#### Why is turn taking important?

It is necessary for children to be reciprocal in their interactions (each has a turn). Reciprocity has two dimensions. Initially, children need to be responsive to the social bids/requests of others. Also, over a period of time (say several months), it is important that there be a relatively equal number of occasions that each member of a friendship dyad starts an interaction.

In addition to reciprocity, friendship patterns of interaction are also characterized by the length of interaction occurrences. That is, friendship pairs engage in gradually longer play episodes and interactions.

#### How can we teach children to take turns?

- play a game where "you take a turn, I take a turn".
- Have them ask for their turn with a toy.
- Teach how to get a friend's attention to initiate play by looking, tapping, or calling them, or holding out their hand to indicate initiation of play and turn taking.
- role play to show ways to initiate play and turn taking.

- When teaching turn-taking, use the language that will be used while children are playing. For example, "It's my turn to go. You wait while I take my turn. Now it's your turn. This is fun!"

- Practice with your child using natural, motivating, interesting, meaningful activities. This could be anything at home, the playground, during car rides, while doing chores etc. You can take turns during daily routines, such as Dressing ("You put on one sock, then it is my turn to put on a sock"), or Tooth Brushing ("You brush for a count of 10, then I brush for a count of 10"), or Eating ("You take a bite, then it is my turn to take a bite").

# Pre-K PLANS

## TIPS FOR PRESCHOOLERS

### How to Teach Turn Taking

\*Play games that require turn-taking. Board or card games are a perfect way to teach older preschool children to wait for a turn. Outside games, such as basketball or catch, are also ideal games to practice taking turns.

\*Build turn-taking into play time. You can make just about any toy or activity into an opportunity to practice taking turns. Take turns doing activities such as stacking blocks, sliding down the slide, using the swing, racing a car down a track, scooping sand into a bucket, or wearing a crown.

\*Use a timer or a song to measure a turn. Waiting is hard and children want to know when to expect their turn. Show children how to manage taking turns by using a sand timer or singing a song. These tools can help them to predict when their turn will end or begin and makes it less likely that they will become frustrated and use challenging behavior. You can say something like, "I see you want a turn on the swing too. Let's sing a song and when we are done it will be your turn. Do you want to sing the Itsy-Bitsy Spider or Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star?"

\*Incorporate turn-taking into your everyday routine. There are many ways to include turn taking into the activities you already do on a daily basis such as choosing a TV show, cooking, or picking books to read.

\*Simply pointing out to your child that you are taking turns helps to reinforce the skill. You can say, "You put in the chocolate chips and I put in the walnuts. We are taking turns! This is fun!"

\*Practice waiting. Help prepare your child for turn-taking by giving him opportunities to practice waiting. For example, play "stop and go" games at the park, with toy cars, or in the pool. The more comfortable your child is with the concept of waiting and self-control, the more successful he will be with taking turns.

### Miss Paige & Mr. Moises

Happy May families and friends!

God is blessing us with beautiful spring weather and wonderful experiences! We have a busy couple of months! 206 will begin learning about our 5 senses, what we use them for and what it feels like without some of them! We'll be doing science experiments and taste experiences. Celebrating the wonderful sounds and smells outside as well! We will be jumping into more sight words and continue beginner reading strategies! The following week is our Mother's Day celebration and we will spend the week appreciating moms, grandmas, aunts and more! This is the week our ducklings should be hatching! We have been taking great care of the eggs and watching them grow week by week inside the eggs! Thirdly, we'll hop into a unit on bunnies, their life cycle, what they eat and how they live! Next is a unit on farm animals and farm life. The kids and I LOVE this unit! We'll get a real idea of what it takes to be a true farmer! Lastly, as we finish May and begin the busy month of June, we will start our Alphabet Review! The year is flying by and getting ready for Kindergarten is hard work! These pre-kindergarteners have been working so hard! For that reason, our bible verse in the month of May will be; "God will help you" 1 Chronicles 12:18. God bless!

### Miss Maeve & Miss Amanda

May is here!!! This year is just flying by! We will have a busy month as usual! Our themes will be swamp/pond, Mother's day, 5 senses, transportation and alphabet review.

Our first theme is swamps/pond week! We will have fun learning about different animals that live in swamps and ponds. We will play a fun math frog game and have fun making swamp sensory bottles. Our next theme is all about mom. We will be learning about the important role moms play in the family. The kids will be working hard on some gifts and songs for their mom too. Next, is our 5 sense week. Each day we will be dedicated to one of our 5 senses- sight, smell, touch, taste & hearing. We will be doing a taste test and graphing the results, playing a touch and feel game & a game called "what's that sound" and more! Then, it's our transportation theme. We will be learning all about different modes of transportation by reading books and doing fun activities. We will have a fun science experiment called "sink or float" when we learn about boats. Lastly, we will be doing our alphabet review week. We will spend the week reviewing our letters and letter sounds with books and various fun activities.

Our bible verse this month is "God will help you" 1 Chronicles 12:18.

### Miss Becky

Spring is definitely here and we look forward to a great month. To start May off, our first theme is Spring. We'll be exploring the changing of seasons, make a four seasons tree at Cathy's station, along with making some Spring themed art and outdoor activities, like blowing bubbles with our homemade bubble solution! Our second week is Mother's Day! We are planning some great mother/family activities, including a very special homemade gift for mom :). Don't forget our Pre-K Mother's Day breakfast on Fri. May 12th. We look forward to seeing you there! Our next theme is gardening. We are very excited to get our class garden started! We will be planting a lot of seeds and plants this week along with pumpkin seeds we kept from our pumpkin from last October! We plant in hay and discuss how gardens can be grown in many types of materials and spaces. We can't wait to try some of our produce this Summer! Our last themes for the month are birds and butterflies. We will be looking at life cycles and even will have some caterpillars in class to watch hatch into butterflies. After they hatch we take them out and set them free. The children always enjoy watching them fly around the field.

Happy May!!

# PreSCHOOL Ponderings

### Miss Katie & Miss Shannon

Happy May!! This month we will be super busy! We'll talk about patterns and shapes all around us. We'll take a shape walks and look for patterns in nature! Next, we will talk about Moms and Mother's day. We'll work on some top secret projects. Our Mother's Day Tea is Friday May 12 at 4pm! Then, we'll talk about our Earth and what we can do to take care of it thru recycle, reuse and re-use! Lastly, we'll talk about gardens! We'll read all types of books about gardens and do a little planting ourselves, green thumbs not necessary! See you in June!!



### Miss Lena & Miss Kathy

Our themes this month will be nursery rhymes, Mother's day, caterpillars and butterflies, flowers, plants & seeds and music.

During our nursery rhyme week we will be reading several of my favorite nursery rhymes and learning what makes words rhyme.

We will be talking about our mothers and other important women in our lives during our mother's day week.

Caterpillars/butterflies is a favorite week where we will be focusing on how caterpillars grow and change into butterflies.

We will also learn how seeds grow into plants and flowers. We will be planting our own seeds and observing how they grow.

Our letters for this month are x,y, & z. We will also work on recognizing number 18, 19 & 20. Have a great month!

### Miss Kelly & Miss Stephanie

Holy Moly- how is it May already? Our first theme this month is bugs.

We will observe bugs in their natural habitat-the playground. We will also talk about similarities and differences between bugs.

Our next theme is an important one. We will be learning about mothers! Of course all of our projects this week are top secret. We look forward to sharing them with you all at our party.

Next is a week about pond and frogs. We will learn all about the life cycle of a frog.

To end the month we will have a week all about rhyming. During this week we will read Mig the Pig and learn some of Mig's favorite rhyming words. We'd like to wish all our wonderful Moms a Happy Mother's day! We are thankful for all you do! God bless!

# Toddler Time

## Miss Sonja & Miss Jen

It's May already! Time really flies by when you are having fun. We've been walking the children through the social and emotional developmental areas so that they may be able to learn the skills of getting along with peers and becoming great problem solvers. We will continue to work with your child on a daily basis. They are making a lot of progress and we are excited for them. Fine motor skills will be another area that we will be focusing on as well.

Our themes for this month are: caterpillar and butterfly, flowers, Mother's day (we will be celebrating Mom every day all week! You deserve it! Dad it will be your turn next month.) and bugs.

We continue to work on potty training in which our goal is to get the majority of our children out of diapers and pullups and into big boy and big girl undies! Yahoo!!! They are loving the independence. Keep those cubbies stocked with extra clothes and underwear and we are good to go!

Happy Mother's Day to all the moms!!!

## Miss Holli & Miss Nayrobj

Happy Spring Families and Friends of Room 109! The children love the beautiful weather we have been having! The month of April has come and gone so quickly, but we are looking forward to May! We will be having our Mother's Day Party on Friday, May 12th at 4pm. We plan to serve some delicious hors d'oeuvres and desserts. We will also have a special giveaway for our moms (and grandmas!) in attendance! In addition to Mother's Day, the children will also be learning about flowers, turtles, space (National Space Day is the first Friday in May!), and a Wizard of Oz-inspired week in honor of L. Frank Baum's birthday! In closing, I would like to share one of my favorite Bible verses with you all: "You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You. Trust in the Lord forever, for the LORD GOD is an everlasting rock" (Isaiah 26:3-4, English Standard Version).

## Miss Nann & Miss Dominique



Happy May! The weather is beautiful and the flowers are blooming! This month we will be talking about spring sports -baseball, soccer and lacrosse

and we will be focusing

on Mother's day. Our Mother's day pizza party will be Friday, May 12th at 4:00PM. The children have a special program planned and have made a beautiful gift that we hope our mothers will enjoy. We will continue to spend time on counting, the alphabet and learning our colors. Have a great month!



## Miss Theresa & Miss Kristen

It's hard to believe that it is already May! We are looking forward to seeing all of God's beauty in nature this month and spending lots of time outside.



This month we will be learning about mothers, butterflies, farm, insects and frogs &

pond life. We will be learning about the life cycles of these creatures as we explore each theme.



We will also continue to work on beginning patterns in math. God bless you all this month!

## Tips For INFANTS/TODDLERS

### TEACHING TURN TAKING

\*Mommy's turn to hide, baby's turn to giggle; Mommy's turn to hide, baby's turn to giggle. Even before Candy Land and Chutes and Ladders, there are simple and fun games that even very young children can play.

\*Turn taking can require some verbal and physical reminding. Remind your child that it's Ava's turn to go down the slide or Finn's turn to spin the wheel.

\*Make the language of turn taking familiar and usable for your child. Even when stacking blocks, use simple language to describe turn taking: My turn, your turn. Frequently, pairing the verbal reminder along with a gentle physical reminder is necessary. Placing your hand on top of your child's shoulder to stop them from grabbing or reaching is perfectly fine and effective.

\*Try not to get into lengthy explanations of why it's not your child's turn or how long they'll have to wait for their turn with a particular item or activity.

\*Remember that they aren't capable of understanding how long two minutes is and when they really want something, explaining that it's not fair to snatch the truck out of Ben's hand or asking them, "how would you feel if Lillie took the doll stroller from you?" aren't effective ways of intervening. Clear and concise language that they're used to hearing is what's effective: Lillie's turn. Your turn is next. If you do choose to assign a time frame, be sure to use a visual or auditory timer to give a concrete cue of time.

\*Keep in mind that turn taking is a skill that you unknowingly model for your child from the very beginning. This happens when they observe you having a conversation with another adult, waiting in line at the grocery store, and waiting at a red light.

\*Call attention to the fact that you take turns, too. And don't be afraid to admit that even you sometimes have a hard time waiting your turn.

<http://day2dayparenting.com/teaching-child-take-turns/>

# Incredible INFANTS

## Miss Ruth & Miss Patrina

May is here and we are happy to get into the warmer weather. Our babies are growing and doing more things all the time. As the weather is nicer, we will be going out for walks and on the playground.

We are having fun playing on the floor. Some are crawling and others are trying to crawl. They enjoy looking at books and hearing stories. They are getting to be good talkers using their voices. If you have any questions please let us know. Have a wonderful Mother's day!!! God bless!



## Miss Kathy & Miss Geeta

We are looking forward to May flowers and hope to be painting some flowers with the children this month. We love doing art projects with the children as evidence in the art display for artsy Thursday. It is also so good for their fine motor development and for sensory stimulation.

We will celebrate mothers in special ways by reading books about mothers and making special projects.

By the end of the month all of our children will have turned one! It's so much fun watching them grow and seeing the many "firsts" along with you, their families.

Happy Mother's day to all our moms!



251 Washington Avenue Ext.

Albany, NY 12205

Phone 456-6786

Fax 456-6492

office@pineviewpreschool.org

www.pineviewpreschool.org

Infant & Toddler Care

Preschool

Summer & Vacation Week Camps

Open 7:30-5:30



Summer camp registration is now available! We take the campers swimming and on field trips! There's sports, arts & crafts and so much more! Spread the word!!!

Please stop by the office for more information.



# Pineview Day Camp

## Notes From the Office

- As the weather gets nicer our classes will be spending more time outside. Please be sure to bring appropriate outdoor clothing for the weather everyday.
- Sunscreen permission slips are available from your child's teacher or at the office. Please sign the permission slip and return to school with a bottle of sunscreen labeled with your child's name. We ask that parents apply sunscreen to their child in the morning and the teachers will reapply in the afternoon.
- As the weather gets warmer we want to encourage the children to drink water throughout the day. If you would like to send in a water bottle please be sure to label it with your child's name. Please do not fill water bottles with anything other than water. We do not refrigerate water bottles and juice and milk will go bad sitting out in cubbies and classrooms. Please bring these water bottles home daily to wash and refill with fresh water.
- Spring time is a great time to check your child's cubby to see if he/she has clothing that fits and is appropriate for the weather. Remember each child should have a complete outfit (socks, shirt, pants, underwear) in his/her cubby.

Looking for a church home?

**Pineview Community Church welcomes you!**

**Sunday Mornings:**

**10:30 am Worship Service**

**Nursery care available for**

**children Birth through**

**2 years of age**

**Kids' Church**

**During the service for**

**children ages 3 years**

**through 5th Grade**

**Children's Service**

**Every 5th Sunday a service**

**geared towards kids! Great**

**for the whole family!**