

April 2016

Unity School Newsletter



PROGRAM DIRECTORS

Unity Families,

April showers are sure to bring some stunning May flowers! It's this time of year we start looking forward to parent teacher conferences. The teachers have been working hard all year at compiling information to present to you about your wonderful children. Each class will be posting sign up sheets, as their conference dates get closer.

Hope you all have enjoyed the first days of Spring. We would love for you to mark your calendars for our annual Earth Day celebration on Friday April 22nd (more info to come). There will be nature-based activities in classrooms and lots of activity in the garden (weather permitting). We encourage you to take some time to celebrate the Earth with us.

Our "WOW WALL" has been up and running for a couple years now. This space was created to offer a platform for parents, children and staff to openly express the quality experiences you have had at Unity or just a space to write down a few words of appreciation for the amazing and passionate staff we have here at Unity School. We love to read the feedback posted each month.

Kindergarten Open House was a major success and we are starting to gain lots of interest in our Part day kindergarten program for the fall. If you were unable to attend the Open House but would like some info, please stop by the office and talk with Susanne or Jessica. There will also be another Open House May 16th 5:30-6:30 for those parents that would like to come and find out more about it. We would love to hear from you soon if you are thinking about your child attending Unity Kindergarten.

Otter families, summer will be upon us before you know it. We wanted to remind you that Unity School will be offering our annual camp-out again this year. Please mark your calendars for Wed. July 20th-22nd if your Otter child would like to join the fun! The camp is a 2-night 3-day adventure at Clark Creek Campground with 4 unity staff members. There will be lots more information and a sign up sheet, as we get closer to the summer.

Thanks for being a part of our growing Unity community!

Susanne & Jessica

Unity School Needs Your Help!

Garden cleanup days: April 1st & May 14th

Any time between 11 am - 3 pm

Parents and kid teams or individuals welcome

PANDA

Hi Panda Families,

Let's start by welcoming our friend Ronan to the Panda class.
Welcome Ronan and family!

March was an exciting month in the Panda class. After three of our friends got to fly in airplanes, we played with a variety of transportation vehicles in our room. We put together train tracks, "fixed" our bikes, and raced our cars with our friends. Toward the end of the month we discussed the places we go. Most of the children were excited to talk about the beach and the park. We made an art display of the beach using paint and sand.

We got to ride the purple bus in March also! The bus ride was almost as much fun as our field trip to N.A.A.G. The children had a blast walking like bears, jumping on trampolines, and jumping off the "Pirate ship" into the foam pit. Thank you to the parents who joined us - What fun!

Parent-teacher conferences are coming up. The Panda conferences will be April 11-15. Be on the lookout for the sign-up sheet. If the available times don't fit your schedule, feel free to discuss it with Cherri or Celia, we are happy to accommodate you.

Thanks! Cherri, Celia & Cori

CATERPILLAR CLASS

Hello Caterpillar families,

During the month of March we had lots of fun exploring loose materials and recycled materials. We sorted bottle caps, pom poms, and jewels by size and color. We made transient art, collages, and painted boxes. We built with cardboard boxes and bottles, and used recycled materials as sorting trays for loose material to make musical instruments.

We finished up our month by webbing friendship, working together and cooperation. The Caterpillars enjoyed a variety of team work activities; marble painting with a partner, kicking and rolling balls to each other, making friendship cards, and working as a team to put floor puzzles together.



During this topic we continued to work on social conflict resolution skills, sharing, and taking turns. We are still working our way through the Second Step curriculum. The kiddos particularly love any lesson that involves puppets. We provisioned lots of sharing activities: sharing water and sand tubs with one other friend, projects that have two children working together taking turns.

Most of the Caterpillars have quite a lot of skills to resolve social conflict. They can ask for a turn, get a timer and wait for their turn. They can say, "Stop, I need space." and can walk away from friends that are not being kind.

This month brings some changes to the Caterpillar room. We would like to welcome Alice, Pauls, Cole and their families to our classroom! Yay! Welcome! We also want to welcome our new Assistant, Jessica (yes now there are two of us in our class). Kevin will be going back to subbing. Lastly, Tara will be going on maternity leave this month. Teacher Jessica will still be here from 9-5 to facilitate the classroom and support families. She will miss all the little caterpillars but they are in wonderful hands.

Thank you,
CP teachers Tara & Jessica



LADYBUG CLASS

Hello Ladybug families,

Can you believe it's April ready? April showers will bring May flowers and we're learning all about spring right now! (Remember to still bring boots and raincoats for your children.)

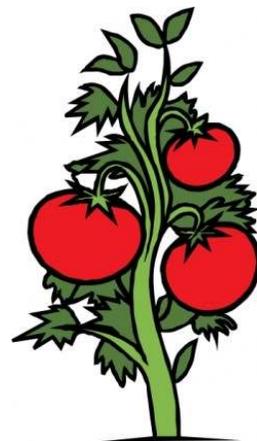
We are very excited for the upcoming months; Michelle and Dorothy have been busy scheduling field trips. Watch our classroom door for signups; we'd love to have parent chaperones!!

We also have our Parent-Teacher Conferences in April, keep looking in your mailboxes for information. We really enjoy sharing the updates on your kiddos and setting goals with you for the future.

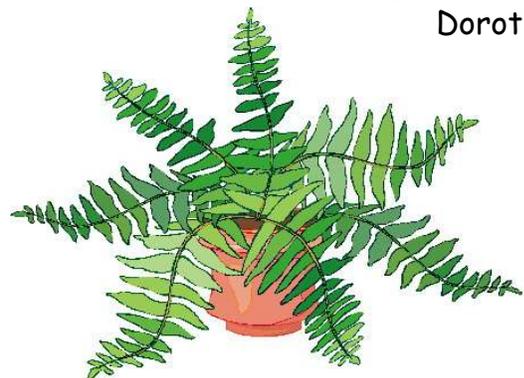
There will be a school wide Earth Day celebration on April 22; we hope you can join us. We hope everyone had a great winter, here's to a happy spring!

Love from your Ladybug Teachers!

Dorothy, Michelle & Mandolin



**Donations of
plants needed
for Unity's plant sales**



BUTTERFLY CLASS

Hello Butterfly families. It's officially spring, and the weather is getting nicer. Pretty soon those flowers will be blooming just like our children already are!

The weather has been getting warmer, so we can finally put away those winter coats and bring out our spring jackets. It's still rain season though, so please bring appropriate rain attire for your children. That way we can all get outside and enjoy the fresh spring air!

Now that it has been getting so nice outside, our children will be doing a lot more activities in the garden. Helping with planting, putting soil down, weeding, etc. Ask your children about the things they have learned in the garden.

The Butterfly children are blossoming faster than we can even imagine. They are very into their writing skills. They have been writing names, different words, and even creating sentences. We just can't believe how independent they are becoming!

This month we will be focusing a lot on insects, plants, and their lifecycles. The children already know a lot about insects, so this will give them the chance to really explore and dive deep into learning all the things they want to know.

On April 1st the butterflies will be going on a field trip to the Shed Institute for the Arts. We will be watching a musical called *Don't Worry Be Happy!* They will be singing inspirational songs to uplift the human spirit. We are all very excited!

Parents we wanted to give you a reminder that the last week of April will be the Butterfly conferences. There will be a sign up sheet hanging above the art files the second week of April, so please be sure to keep an eye out and sign up right away.



Sadly I (teacher Erin) will be leaving at the end of April. My family does not live here and I have been missing them very much. I also have a little sister that is growing up way too fast, and I seem to be missing most of it. It has been a long difficult process in deciding to leave unity and Eugene, and I will miss the families I have gotten to meet dearly, but for my family and I this is what is best. Thank you so much for being very welcoming and letting me care for you children! These truly are some special children that will never leave my heart ☺.

Thank you for taking the time to read this, and we hope you all enjoy this beautiful spring weather!!

Hugs and Smiles,
Pammie, Erin, and Kelly



OTTER CLASS

Dear Otter families,

We are getting really excited for the summer season! We have a lot of good field trip ideas and are looking forward to sunnier weather. Similarly, I'm sure the Otters are quite excited to not have homework.

The Otter are interacting with Jelly Bean and Brownie a lot. The guinea pigs have connected with the students and love getting out to play. They also get really excited when the Otters find them some treats!

We have a great group of Otters that we enjoy spending time with every day. They are also very talented and creative. They often have great questions for us. They also offer insight of their own that lets us know just how busy their minds are! We love to hear their ideas and stories!

We look forward to the coming season and the new adventures it brings with our class.

Sincerely,
Teachers Josh & Sarah



APRIL 2016

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				1
4	5 TUITION DUE	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15 OVERUSE FEES DUE
18	19	20	21	22 Earth Day Celebration
25 SCHEDULE CHANGES DUE	26	27	28	29

April 16th Garden Clean-up Day - Volunteers Needed