

# Parent Newsletter



Wishing Well Preschool  
& Childcare

May 2017  
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## Playground

### Update. Work day. Help wanted.

Let me start by saying thank you to all our families for their understanding as we faced one of the muddiest springs our playground has yet to experience. No one likes to spend their evening doing laundry after working all day, but we are glad you were willing to do it with minimal grumbling so the children could get outside most days.

It might be a little late but I was on Amazon the other day and found a “Muddy Buddy”. This suit is waterproof made of 100% polyester and machine washable. The generous fit allows for layer of clothing and easy movement. The average cost was \$30.00. If you would

like to order one for your child we would be happy to use it going forward. (We would even wash it so it can stay here!)

You may have noticed a green fence on the hillside as we attempt to grow grass again this summer. We will also be fencing the center circle and removing several inches of the clay and replacing it with new black dirt and fresh seed. Since we will need to do this by hand, it may take a little while unless we have some volunteers with shovels and wheelbarrows. We could plan a work day for a Saturday or Sunday and get it done quicker.

We have also ordered some new equipment for the sand area but it could take up to 12 weeks to ship. Hopefully we will see it sooner.

Lastly, we are looking to install a brick / stone walkway from the patio area to the playground to make the area safer when the ground is wet. I am wondering if there are any families who might be knowledgeable in installing this type of walkway. YouTube makes it look easy, but an experienced brick layer would be helpful. There may be room for bartering if you help install it.

### Dates to Remember

Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup>,  
Ms. Heather’s due date

Sunday, May 14<sup>th</sup>,  
Mother’s Day

Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup>,  
National Brown Bag it  
Day – Pack a sack  
lunch if you want!

Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup>:  
Closed in observance of  
Memorial Day

Tuesday, July 4<sup>rd</sup>:  
Closed in observance of  
4<sup>th</sup> of July

### UW-Madison Child’s Study Form attached

Wishing Well has been invited by The Learning, Cognition, & Development Lab at the University of Wisconsin- Madison to participate in an upcoming study. This study is regarding children’s memory development.

During the study, children will be shown pictures of novel toys and later asked to recall the toys that they

may or may not have seen earlier. The study is called “Children’s Memory for Objects and Words”.

If you would be willing to have your child participate in this study, please fill out the attached consent form and return it to the office by Monday, May 8<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you for considering participating in this study.

### Communication Staying informed

We are working hard to improve our communication with our families. Each classroom has selected a way to provide parents with day to day communication about their child’s day. These means include daily sheets, car talk, a dry erase board, or an email. If you do not know what your child’s classroom is using – please ask!

### Muddy Buddy



Order online at  
Amazon.com

## Building a Sense of Community

### Enjoy a good Laugh

*"I am thankful for laughter except when milk come out my nose!"*

-Woody Allen  
The Gift of Laughter

Humor is an important part of our everyday lives. As a form of intellectual play, it grows more sophisticated with age. The kind of humor children express depends, in part, on the level of cognitive development they have achieved.

A child first experiences humor in the second year of life in the context of playing with objects. A three-year-old usually thinks it is hilarious to give objects or events names that she knows to be incorrect. She probably will giggle if a rabbit is called a bird.

Most four-year-olds laugh at objects primarily based on

their appearance. A drawing of a car with square tires, for example, might keep a boy laughing throughout the day.

Unexpected behavior also provokes laughter in young children. Seeing a grown-up jump rope or dress up in play clothes and wig can send a child into a fit of laughter. A description of an impossible event, such as the term "It is raining cats and dogs" also can produce giggles.

Most three to five-year olds don't understand many of the jokes, riddles, or puns that seem funny to older children. Younger children do enjoy changing the words of jokes

and repeating them often. For example, "Why did the chicken cross the road? . . . Because he wanted to!" can break the child up. We adults may not understand the joke, but we can appreciate the reaction it brings to our children.

Humor is more than just a chuckle or a belly laugh. It releases pent-up energy and permits the expression of ideas and feelings. Growing up is stressful, and good mental health – which includes a sense of humor – allows children to cope with sources of conflict and distress.

## Check out the DeForest Library

### Upcoming Events

#### Fairy House Decorating

Wednesday, May 17 -  
6:00 PM in the  
Children's Room

#### Registration is required.

A house is provided along with some supplies. Please bring any special embellishments to personalize your house.



Summer Reading Program  
May 30 – July 31, 2017

This year's program will have an online option to track reading with your child to earn prizes!

#### Garden Stones

Thursday, June 8 -  
5:30PM in the  
Children's Room

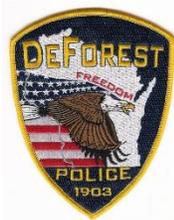
#### Registration is required.

What would you put in a garden stone? Your hand print, sea shells, pretty stones? You decide.

I'll have the wet cement, and forms you bring the treasures for your garden stone.

## Partnering with Our Community

### Guest and Visitors



Wishing Well is fortunate to be in such an amazing community with so many resources! We recently had Ashley from the State of Wisconsin Office of the Commissioner of Insurance talk with the children about Money Smart Week. Louise Valdovinos from the DeForest Public Library read to the children during Week of the Young Child. Officer Berger from the DeForest Police Department has reached out to us about coming to read to the children in the future.