

Parent Newsletter



Wishing Well Preschool
& Childcare

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4K 2019 – 2020

Enrollment Information

The DeForest Area School District will have 4K registration on Thursday, March 7th from 2:00 – 6:30 PM at the Holum Education Center. Families will be asked to provide their child's birth certificate and proof of residency. You will also complete registration and placement / transportation forms.

There will be free vision and speech screening available as well as 4K staff who can answer questions for you. Every child gets a free t-shirt and book for attending.

If you are unable to attend, please contact Gail at Eagle Point Elementary School.

To be eligible for 4K this coming year, your child must be 4-years-old on or before September 1, 2018.

Our 4K program is located next to our main building at 529 W North Street and is considered part of our school age program. Parents are encouraged to set up a time to tour our program and meet our teachers if you are interested. There will also be a Sneak-a- Peek day in late August.



Get Together for Kids

One big change next year is that all families are required to provide a healthy sack lunch every day for their child. Our school age facility does not have a kitchen to prepare food. Resources regarding what to pack will be available to all families in the fall.

Dates to Remember

March 7th – 4K
Registration

March 17th – St. Patrick's
Day

April 1st – April Fool's
Day

April 8th – 12th - Week of
the Young Child; watch for
a separate flyer regarding
special days and events

April 19th – Annual Egg
Hunt

Annual Training Day Lots of Learning

The staff all gathered on Friday, February 15th for an all-day training session with 4C's and participated in team building activities at Escape This!

The morning was spent working on outdoor environments with Jenny Sweeney from 4C's. We spent several hours discussing and developing plans for how to best utilize

our outdoor classroom and take responsibility for its use.

In the afternoon, we worked on working as team trying to escape one of three challenging rooms. I believe we all learned something about our co-workers by the time we escaped.

We thank all of you for your support as we strive to be the best we can be!

Playground Reminder Look out for mud

We are all hoping spring is around the corner. With that, our playground will get muddy and we let the children play in the mud. This type of play is important for young children. (check our Facebook page for supporting articles). A good way to keep your child from getting everything wet and muddy is to invest in a Muddy Buddy. We highly recommend them!

Spring Reminders:

- Check the Lost and Found located in the upstairs hallway.
- Items left will be donated on March 31st
- Keep an extra set of weather appropriate clothes in your child's cubby.

The Importance of Mud Play

Oh! The joys!



With mud, there is something for everyone and there are no wrong answers.

Since the dawn of time children have been drawn to mud puddles and dirt as a part of their play. Mixing soil, water, and other natural materials provides children endless possibilities for learning and fun. Many of us have fond memories of creating mud pies, digging for worms, or making streams and valleys in the mud. But it's not just about fun. Children benefit from messy, muddy play.

Scientists have now confirmed something that children have always instinctively known; playing in mud is a joyful experience. Recent research has shown that dirt contains microscopic bacteria which stimulates the immune system and increases the levels of serotonin in our brains, an endorphin that soothes, calms, and helps us to relax. In short, playing in mud makes you happier!

Playing in mud can make you healthier too. Science shows that today's sanitized world is contributing to increased levels of childhood allergies and asthma. Exposure to dirt and germs works to prime a child's immune system to prevent allergies. Yes, it's healthy for children to get muddy!

Mud is also an excellent medium for learning. The rich, engaging sensory play children partake in while playing with mud allows them to express their creativity while enhancing their fine motor skills. Children practice social skills such as cooperation, negotiation, communication, and sharing as they work together.

Emergent math and science skills are practiced as children make before and after comparisons, solve problems, test theories, and measure and

count ingredients for their mud pies.

This is the scientific process in action! Mud is a wonderful art medium, it is in ample supply, can be easily molded to create endless sculptures, and responds differently than clay or play dough. The open-ended nature of mud encourages creative thinking and allows children to freely create without fear of making mistakes. This also contributes to a child's sense of self, helping to build a strong inner sense of competency.

But maybe the greatest benefit of mud play is the memories being created by the children. Mud play and the wonder and joy associated with it are the stuff that fabulous childhood memories are made of!

From:
<http://www.communityplaythings.com/resources/articles/2016/the-benefits-of-mud-play>

Check out the DeForest Library

Upcoming Events

Happy Birthday Dr. Suess!

Saturday, March 9th
10:00 AM
in the Children's Room

Games, Treats, Crafts and
Special Visitors!

Trinity Irish Dancers

Tuesday, March 12th
6:00 PM
in the Community Room



Magic of Isaiah Earth Day Magic

Saturday, March 23rd
11:00 AM, 1:00 PM

Kid's in the Rotunda series at
the Overture Center



Be a Healthy Role Model for Children

Listen to Your Child

If your child says he or she is hungry, offer a small, healthy snack – even if it is not a scheduled time to eat. Offer choices. Ask “Which would you like for dinner: broccoli or cauliflower?” instead of “Do you want broccoli for dinner?”