



Discovery Tree (DT) Monthly September 2006

Director's Corner

Dear DT Families,

TUITION

The increase in tuition is effective as of September 11, 2006. The small yellow paper that you received is for the first six days in September of the old rate (prorated). If you wish to continue paying monthly please pay the first of the month. Just make sure that you count the number of Mondays that are in that month.

THANK YOU!!!

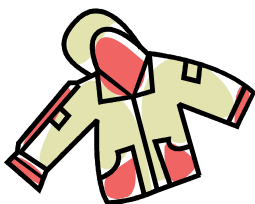


The multicultural potluck was wonderful and delicious. The

children, parents and teachers all had a terrific time sharing different foods and recipes. Thank you to all the parents that made the potluck such an excellent experience for us all!

CHANGING SEASONS

It is going to start getting cooler in the morning. So, please dress your children in layers. As always, please remember to label everything as we all shop in the same stores.



PARENT ORIENTATION

We will be having our annual parent orientation and back to school night in October. If you have any questions please give me a call. This will be a time to hear all of the information about the school and policies as well as meet your child's teacher and find out about all of the exciting things that your children are doing in school.

SMILE FOR PICTURE DAY!



Picture day is scheduled for mid-October so look for the information in your child's book.

SHARE DAY REMINDER

Please remember that share day is on Wednesday. We ask that your child does not bring in toys from home during the week unless it is for share day. When your child brings in toys daily it causes problems for the teachers. Children become upset if they cannot find the toy, if the toy is broken or if they see another child playing with it. So we ask that they stay at home unless brought in for share day.



LEARNING OR PLAYING???

As we continue to learn about Discovery Tree's philosophy of "learning through play," we move right into the kitchen for *Cooking Projects*.



When I do cooking projects I learn:

- About nutrition, tastes, and food groups;
- How heat and cold change things;
- Concepts of volume and measure;
- Vocabulary;
- Whole-art relationships, math concepts; and
- Awareness of my own and other cultures.

If you have questions or would like more information about DT's cooking projects or how we implement the DT philosophy of "learning through play," just let me know and I will be happy to discuss it with you further.

~Becca

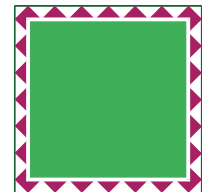


Important Dates:

Tuition Due	1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th
Share Days	6th, 13th, 20th & 27th
Kid Ease Board Mtg.	13th 5:00 p.m.
Tuition is Late	5th, 12th, 19th & 26th
Gymnastics	11th & 25th
Piano Man	15th

Learning Themes

The shape of the month is a square.



The color of the month is yellow.

Our learning theme for the month is *Discovery Days, Safety and At our School and Neighborhood*. We will review :

- ☉ New friends;
- ☉ Rules at our school; and
- ☉ What we might see and hear around our neighborhood.

Preschool News



LEARNING THEMES

This month's theme is *Discovery Days & Safety* at our *School & Neighborhood*. We will discuss new friends, rules at our school, and what we might see and hear around our neighborhood. We will be learning about the color *yellow*. The shape for the month is *square*.

LETTER LEARNING

The letters for the month are *A, E, F & H*. We will be starting over with the letters of the week. Please remember that we learn the letters a little differ-

ently at DT. We start with straight letters, then learn how to write curved letters, and finally we learn to write letters that are curved and straight.

SOUND BOXES

Many parents have asked about the sound boxes. These are boxes that the middles & pre-K children bring to help learn about the sound of the week. Each Wednesday the children meet in their small groups to talk about the sound of the week. The night before, the child and parents may collect items that start with the letter of the week.

This activity is designed to help the children learn how to make the sounds of the different letters.

FIELD TRIPS

The teachers will be scheduling field trips in the community for this month; so, if you have any ideas please feel free to let them know.

SMALL GROUP CHANGES

Look for your child's new small group, as they will start September 5th. You should be receiving a letter from your child's teacher by September 1st.

Infant and Toddler News

INFANT NEWS

We have a new radio/CD player in our room. We love playing CD's for the infants. If you have a special CD your child enjoys please feel free to share.



FRIDGE REMAINDERS — We need all food & bottles to be clearly labeled with your child's name & date. The bottles need to be labeled on the base, nipple & cap. We have had bottles parts going home with the wrong child. So, we are trying to prevent further bottle mix-ups. Thanks!

MOVERS AND SHAKERS — Gavin D., Arwyn & Jack are crawling and starting to pull themselves up. Ben is moving from a sitting position onto his hands and knees. Good work everyone!!!

TODDLER NEWS

It's hard to believe that summer is nearly over. Water play has now come to a close. We will still be doing fun & messy activities inside and outside. It is also a little cooler in the morning, so please remember to bring and label your child's clothing and jackets.

THANK YOU — We would like to thank Andrew for all of the wonderful paper he brought in

for the children to use. We have had so much fun using it during our art and sensory activities. Thanks!!!

TRANSITIONS — Noah has transitioned to the toddler side and is very much at home. Riley N. will be moving over at the beginning of the month. He has been visiting and is anxious to be here full-time. Vivien has completed her transition to the preschool. She is having a fantastic time. We will miss her. Linnea will be going to preschool at the beginning of the month. She has been visiting in the afternoons and is having so much fun.

Kid Ease Parent Board

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY/BIRTHDAY!!

Thank you to all the parents and children who helped celebrate the 5th anniversary/birthday of the Discovery Tree learning center here in the CalEPA building. It was a delightful afternoon.

CONTRACT RENEWAL COMMITTEE

Both the lease agreement with Department of General Services and the contract with Discovery Tree have been completed. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Marshall Graham at 341-6270.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE UPDATE

At last month's meeting, the Board approved the new scholarship program for the continuing education of our terrific teachers. This program will be implemented this Fall in honor of our beloved teacher and friend Julie Kuhn. In addition to the funding provided by Kid

Ease, a number of our families have also contributed to this fund in honor of Teacher Julie. This is a really special way for us to celebrate the many gifts she shared with us — by sharing with others and supporting one another. If you have any questions about this opportunity, please contact Terri Wyels at 924-9378 or Terri.Wyels@erm.com. Otherwise, for more information about the scholarship program, please contact Dave Mehl at 327-1512 or dmehl@arb.ca.gov.



SILENT AUCTION PLANNING

The Silent Auction is coming up in a couple of months (December) and the Committee *really* needs volunteers. Specifically, volunteers are needed to take charge of themed baskets (e.g., assembling the basket and adding any

last minute items). Additionally, you will soon see sign-up sheets and tear off strips for specific tasks and needed items. Please take this opportunity to help. This is our largest fundraising event and it truly takes a team effort.

BOARD MEETING

The next Board meeting will be held September 13, 2006, at 5:00 p.m. in Training Rm. 2 E&W (CalEPA building). If you are not a CalEPA employee, please check-in at the security desk. The meeting agenda will be provided via the Google Group e-mail list. Additionally, the agenda and August's meeting minutes will be posted on the bulletin board to the left of the sign-in binders. If conference call opportunity becomes available, we will include the information (phone number and conference code) in the meeting agenda. Thanks!