

WEE Center May/June Newsletter



Woodbrook Early Education

A ministry of Woodbrook Baptist Church

We have reached the end of another school year. It always feels like it flies this time of year. I saw a quote the other day from Terry McMillan (who is a best-selling author) that said, "I pray for my children. That they stay safe and make good decisions. That they be happy, thoughtful, and caring human beings. That they have the strength to get up if they fall down". It made me start thinking about what kind of children we want our children to be. We have just finished Parent/Teacher conferences and for some of that time, we may have focused on academic readiness (especially for our Pre-K students). However, here at WEE school, we always want to make sure our children are not just academically ready for school but that they are socially and emotionally ready for that next step. That process does not begin just in pre-K or just in school. It is a process that begins so early in life. We do not even think about it sometimes. I think that kindergarten readiness really should focus more on the social-emotional readiness and less on the academic readiness. First children need to know themselves and have the confidence and emotional skills to be able to move into the next step in school. We can help our children get ready for that in several ways.

- Encourage their own individual interests. If your child enjoys music, art or sports, I encourage you to find extra activities to cultivate that interest.
- Use words like, you can't do that YET but if you keep practicing, it will get easier.
- Praise your child's effort, not their outcome. Talk about how hard they worked on their art and ask them to tell you about it. Try hard not to say, "What is it" which I know can be hard. You can use words like, tell me about your picture.
- Help your child compliment and be proud of themselves.



WOODBROOK
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- Help your child know that being away from you is okay. We want them to feel confident when they are not with you and that you will also be okay. Reassure them that you will always be back.
- Encourage your child to try new things, maybe even together so you can show them that we never stop learning and growing.
- Help them label their emotions all of the time. This can seem monotonous but understanding their emotions can be so important in the next steps.
- We want our children to ask MANY questions and you should ask them questions too but try to make them as open ended as possible. If you ask only yes or no questions, that might be the only answers you get.
- Role-play situations. This can help them know how to handle difficult situations.
- Help your child become more empathetic. Talk about different situations and ask them how people might feel when that happens. Ask them how they could help that friend.
- Give your child lots of opportunities to work on cooperation. This can be in play, like building together, but can also be in responsibilities or chores at home. Work together to get the “to do” list done.
- Most important, be a good role model. How you interact with them, your significant other, your friends, family, they are watching. If you want them to ask for things nicely, model that to them. How you interact with your child is how they'll interact with others.

We know that our friends have grown and learned so much this year. Each of them have worked on different areas of development and have all made strides forward. We know that for some of our families, this will be “see you later”. We don't want to say goodbye because the door is always open for visits and we hope you all keep in touch. We love hearing and seeing how all of our WEE graduates do in the future!

With Love,

Ms. Angela



What our families said about the WEE Center

Thank you all for submitting your surveys and recommendations on how to improve our WEE Center. Here are some thoughts that were shared:

STRENGTHS

- ◇ My child has thrived at WEE. Our family is greatly appreciative of the curriculum and structure provided.
- ◇ We LOVE everything you have been doing in the classroom. So much learning, love, activities, cultural diversity learning - I can't say enough of how much I appreciate how you've cared and loved and taught our kids.
- ◇ Love all the pictures and daily updates. I'm able to talk to my child about their day and use the Dojo to guide the convo :)
- ◇ Great variety of activities to use and play with. Playground is great.
- ◇ The WEE staff are exceptional at communicating up and coming events, daily reports, community outreach and health updates.
- ◇ Love the new playground! I am always amazed at all the tools and toys that are utilized for each lesson plan.
- ◇ we love the teachers at the wee center!
- ◇ I really appreciate the way the teachers and staff help teach the children to be so kind to one another. It's one thing to see it in school - but when we run into friends outside of school, they never hesitate to run and hug each other to say hi! I don't think that's a common thing, and I really appreciate it.
- ◇ I wish there were a higher rating available for "your child's happiness". The smiles are HUGE every day.
- ◇ I could not be more satisfied with the staff and teachers. The level of care, nurturing and positivity that I see every time in the school/on the playground is exceptional.
- ◇ Every WEE Teacher we've had has been off-the-charts wonderful. We couldn't be happier with their teaching abilities and their positive attitude toward the kids!
- ◇ Ms. Elise is always helpful, ready to help, willing to help, friendly, easy going, makes you feel comfortable about asking anything.
- ◇ Thank you for the care you give to the kids and your attention to the culture/climate of WEE. the school is such a fantastic place and reflective of your excellent leadership and vision.
- ◇ These directors (both of them) have gone above and beyond checking in on our family, working with us paying tuition late, sending gifts when our baby boy was in the hospital. Beyond! We feel heard and cared for and confident that they have our child's education, health and safety as their top priority.

SUGGESTIONS:

- ◇ It would be super helpful to be able to edit forms in PDF format and sign electronically/submit by email (rather than printing).
 - ◇ Wee notes hard to read on Class Dojo
- ◇ It's often difficult to read the daily WEE note when there's a picture taken of it. If the teachers could please take the picture in a well-lit place that'd be so helpful.
 - ◇ Some of the rooms could use a paint job.
- ◇ It would be great to have an orientation component to before/aftercare. I didn't know where to go, the people involved, etc.
- ◇ More frequent communication on individual student progress, especially if there are concerns; facilities (A/C and heating has been an issue multiple times since we have been at WEE)
- ◇ Better opportunities for families bonding. Class chairs to organize class events. Parents nights for parents to get in touch.
- ◇ I think it'd be great to perhaps start a parents' group -- not exactly a PTO, but something that could help the parents get to know each other and make it easier to set up playdates, etc.
 - ◇ It would be great if signups for party donations and conferences could be done online

WORDS TO DESCRIBE WEE

- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| ◇ A treasure! | ◇ Happy |
| ◇ Community | ◇ Loving |
| ◇ Diversity | ◇ Wonderful |
| ◇ Excellent | ◇ Nurturing |
| ◇ Genuine | ◇ Unmatched |
| ◇ Great | ◇ Home |
| ◇ Joyful | ◇ Enriching |
| ◇ Dependable | ◇ Fun |

RED Room

Wow, I can't believe it is already May. I guess the saying is right; time flies when you are having fun. We sure are having fun in the Red Room this year. We have been enjoying the warmer spring weather we have had lately. We love seeing all the changes that happen this time of year. Lots of animals are moving around in the nice weather. Squirrels are moving around collecting seeds and birds are flying all around us. There are many flowers growing around our school. All the children in the Red Room have grown so much this year. Each child has learned so much this year. We are so proud how each child is becoming more independent as they are putting on their shoes, putting their lunch away, and putting their cot sheets away all by himself or herself.

In May, we learned about insects that live in our world. Insects are very useful in the world we live in. Our real caterpillars formed their chrysalis and a couple butterflies have come out of their chrysalis. It is so amazing getting an up close and personal look how caterpillars turn into butterflies. We will release the butterflies into their home in nature soon. During insect week, we watched some real crickets hop around in a net and we listened to the crickets rub their wings together to make a chirping sound. Next, we will learn about Eric Carle who is a well-known author and illustrator. We will learn what an author and illustrator do in a book and we will see how Eric Carle illustrates his books using collage technique. After learning about Eric Carle, we will we will learn about dinosaurs. Even though they are extinct now, we will learn some of the dinosaurs' characteristics, what they eat, and what they looked like. Dinosaurs were enormous creatures that lived long before we ever stepped forth on this earth. To finish off May, we will travel to outer space. We will learn about what an astronaut does and we will learn about some of God's creation in our world. In June, we will start off talking about camping. We will talk about forest animals and we will do some pretend play as we set up camp in the Red Room for the week. We will finish off our school year learning about the ocean. There are so many fascinating creatures that live below us in the water. We will look at a map and learn about the oceans around the USA. Thank you for letting us play and learn with your children this year. We have had a fun filled year. Each child grew so much from the start of the year in September to nearing the end of the year in May and June. We are so proud of each one of them.

Have a great summer!

Love, Ms. Michelle, Ms. Karen, Ms. Aleia, and Ms. Sharon

Happy Summer Birthdays to Ms. Karen (6/9), Georgia (6/11), Kaisei (6/24), Ms. Sharon (7/20), Kathleen (7/21), Cole W. (8/10), and Wells (8/25)!



YELLOW Room

This fantastic year has flown by! Thank you so much for all of your support in the Yellow Room. We have really enjoyed working with your children and watching them grow. It was so great to have a chance to meet with you all on conference day! We have lots of fun activities planned for the remainder of the school year. During our insect unit we will be learning all about bees, ladybugs, ants, and fireflies-where they live, what they eat, etc. We will learn how bees make honey for us and will look a beekeeper tools. We will also be celebrating the ABC's this month with special snacks and we will practice putting the letters in the correct order. For our ABC celebration we ask for each family to send in a snack that begins with the first letter of your child's first or last name. Please see the sign up sheet on the clipboard.

- The next two weeks will be full of adventure as we learn about sea life.
- Jellyfish, sea stars, crabs, etc. This unit will lead right into our fun pirate week. We will be making a treasure map out of recycled paper. We hope to follow the map to find the WEE treasure. We will have fun walking the plank dressed as pirates and making our own pirate faces on a paper plate!
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The last two weeks we will be talking about summer fun as we do lots of water activities. The children have done an amazing job this year, working so hard on learning to write their names, learn the letters of the alphabet, opposites, rhyming words, and so many other skills. It has been a true pleasure and blessing to teach your children this year!

We wish you all have a relaxing, safe, and happy summer!

Happy Birthday to Grace (6/12), Niko (6/22), Neo (7/13), and
Arthur (7/20)!



Love, Ms. Bev, Ms. Jordan, Ms. Bess and Ms. Judi

Blue Room

Where did this school year go?!?! The next few weeks will be filled with fun themes including weather, camping, ocean, rainbow, and summer fun! We will continue working and reviewing everything we have learned this school year. These last few weeks we will be finishing and reviewing the entire alphabet since we be finishing all of the letters. We hope to have an alphabet celebration. Stay tuned for details.

- It has been so much fun and such a pleasure having your
- children in our class. They have grown in so many ways, learned so
- many new things and have created so many friendships. We wish you and your family and wonderful and safe summer.

Love and prayers,

Ms. Dominique, Ms. Angela, Ms. Ellie, and Ms. Celina

Happy Summer Birthdays to: Ms. Dominique (6/4),
Ella on 6/10, and Aria on 8/8!





Green Room

Hello Families,

It was so great meeting with all of you during parent-teacher conferences and sharing all the progress your children have made. Thank you so much for the thoughtful gifts and delicious food during Teacher Appreciation Week!

Reminders for Warm Weather: Please provide a filled water bottle for your child each day. Please apply sunscreen in the mornings. If you would like us to reapply sunscreen later in the day, (especially for after care), please send in a permission slip and labeled sunscreen.

For the rest of May we will learn about space, the sun, moon, and the planets! This is always a favorite topic for Pre-K children. In June, we will focus on Types of Animals and Where Do Animals Live?

Pre-Reading and Reading: The Green Room class is ready for Kindergarten Reading lessons! We will be using a comprehension story, Sophie's Boat Ride, to introduce Story Elements and answer Who, What, Where, When and Why. We will also learn the Sequence of the Story, the Characters, Conflict and Resolution, and True or False. We will continue using our Readers to practice reading sight words. Please save these little booklets and practice reading the sight words at home.

Math: We will continue to identify double digit numbers by using ten frames and tally marks. We will also work on simple addition and subtraction. Some children will use counters to help them solve simple equations, while others are ready to solve the equations using numbers.

Upcoming Events:

Pre-K Water Day - Date to be announced soon.

Pre-K Graduation and Last Day of School- Friday, June 14th. Noon Dismissal.

Thank you so much for bringing your children to WEE. They bring us joy, love, and hope every day! May God bless your families this summer and in the future.

Sincerely,

Ms. Betsy, Ms. Carol, and Ms. Dawn

Happy May and Summer Birthdays to: Shane (5/4), TJ (6/4), Claire (6/5),
Vivian (6/7), Luka (7/8), and Sam (8/12)!



This is where our Green Room Pre-K students will be continuing their learning journeys next year for kindergarten:

Leeland Cvach

Luka Czawlytko

Brian Doyle

Shane Fallon

Vivian Glover

TJ Hanson

Luke Heller

Miyu Hirose

Joseph Hyman

Brooklyn McDonnell

Annabel Ortenzi

Felix Rivera

Sam Roemmich

Claire Stanley

Corey Witherspoon

Prettyboy ES

Halstead Academy

Rodgers Forge ES

Stoneleigh

Rodgers Forge ES

Rodgers Forge ES

West Towson ES

Wellwood International

Rodgers Forge ES

Rodgers Forge ES

Rodgers Forge ES

Riderwood ES

Stoneleigh ES

Roland Park ES

Gardenville ES

Purple Room

Dear Purple Room Families,

While we can't believe that this is our final newsletter of our school year, we are grateful to have the rest of May, and part of June together, as we still have lots of fun learning left! We will be focusing on the vowels, their job in words, and reviewing the 2 sounds each make, as well as the "th", "sh", and "ch" sounds. We will also review the other letters over the next weeks, with recognition, sound, and formation. We will continue with our weekly/biweekly reader booklets as well. We will continue work with both rhyming words and opposites, as well as build simple 3 letter c-v-c (consonant/vowel/consonant) words (cat, bat, rat, sit, bit, pit, bed, red, fed...). We will review our patterns from throughout the year, continue recognizing/ordering #'s 0-20, counting by 5's, skip counting, and more than/less than. We will do simple measurement with rulers and connected links to practice length and height. We're hoping to play some board and/or card games to practice taking turns and good "sportsmanship".

Our door tags will continue to be the phone numbers that you provided, and the children will work on recognition (and perhaps) memorization. In May, we began a new morning prayer, as well as a new prayer before snack and lunch. Our patriotic song is "God Bless America". We will continue learning about Baby Animals, Maryland, the USA, and summer!

We could not be prouder of your children... in their individual growth, their gained independence, and in all their accomplishments. They have gained confidence, curiosity, and determination. It has been our great pleasure to have them in our class this year to help nurture and grow. We will miss them each tremendously.

Thank you for your support, generosity, and kindness throughout the school year. Thank you for a fantastic 2023/24 school year in the Purple Room! PLEASE come back to visit and/or send updates. We love keeping in touch with our students!

Love, Ms. Stacie & Mr. Nate

Happy May and Summer Birthdays to: Brady(5/4), Jace (5/26), Paxton (6/14), Phoenix (6/15), Hank, 7/20, Ms. Stacie (7/24), and Mr. Nate (7/30).





This is where our Purple Room friends will continue their learning journeys next year for kindergarten:

Kaulder Butterfield

Fullerton ES

Renny Clark

Calvert School

Micah Cordner

Roland Park ES

Hank Duke

West Towson ES

Brady Fallon

Stoneleigh ES

Clara Hart

Jacksonville ES

Phoenix Johnson

Tunbridge School
or Roland Park ES

Nathan Robley

Park School

Tilghman Shamer

West Towson ES

Elijah Simmerman

Rodgers Forge ES

Wyatt Simon

Redeemer School

Olive Snyder

Roland Park ES

Jace Tully

Gilman School

Kallie VanWyngarden

Lutherville Lab ES

Journey Wallace-Fowler

Redeemer School

Paxton Weishaar

Medfield Heights ES

Art



Thank you everyone for coming out to the art show. It was great to see so many families there. The children were so proud to show off their amazing artwork that they worked so hard on. It's hard to believe that the school year is almost over. We will be finishing up the year with some spring art projects and trying out some new mediums. The Red Room will be doing some collage while learning about Pablo Picasso. They will also be applying paint with some unconventional tools in the style of Jackson Pollack.

The threes will be learning about artists Roy Lichtenstein and Joan Miro. Pre-K will be learning about a wide range of artists from Renaissance sculptor Donatello to modern day nature artist Andrew

Goldsworthy. We will be creating some temporary nature sculptures while learning about Goldsworthy's unique way of making art.

The children have grown so much in their skills and appreciation of art over the year. I really encourage everyone to continue to create art with them over the summer. There are so many things that you can do and explore with them. Just have fun with it!

Love, Ms. Carol

Music

The children and I have had so much fun in music-learning songs, moving, marching, some sign language and instruments. The pre-K classes have been busy practicing their songs for graduation!

We wish all of you a great summer!

God bless your families.

Love, Ms. Claire



Science

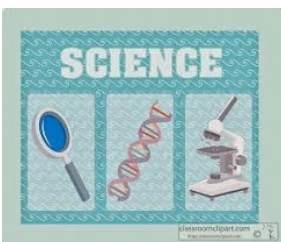
We have had so much fun learning in Science this year! Your children are amazing, natural scientists! They have observed, documented, guessed, hypothesized, and explored lots of things! We have experimented; some worked and some didn't. It was awesome when they worked, but it was still exciting when they didn't! We have seen and used different tools used by scientists (the 2's and 3's have become comfortable with pipettes, mixing and using lots of Science tools. We have used many of our vocabulary words in other appropriate situations (liquid for example, a friend asked if I would pour him some more liquid at snack). Pre-K has grown so much in their observation skills! They have become so amazingly proficient in documenting our experiments through drawing. When their Science journals come home in June, look at the growth from September to the end of school. They are seeing the big picture with great detail! I am so proud of them! They have worked so hard and it shows!

As we end the year we will be making Seed balls from homemade paper. We will catch bubbles and The Lego Lady will hopefully make an appearance!

All of the children have made connections to their every-growing world. My goal is always that they realize science is an exciting way to learn things about the world around them and that sometimes things work and sometimes they do not. We just keep trying to figure it out. I also hope that the children have grown in the confidence that there are very few problems that we cannot solve or at least manage if we just take a breath and think for a minute. We have also learned the mantra if we make a mess.... We can clean it up. And your children of all ages can clean up a spill themselves! It has been my joy to share my time with your children in science! They always remind me that God is amazing, and his creation is remarkable and often mind-blowing. To see the world through their excited eyes makes life so much fun! Please take time to look through their eyes, even when it is sometimes inconvenient. They are building their perspective of being a person by watching you. Do you literally stop and smell the roses? Do you unplug and turn bath time into a science experiment, a car ride into an adventure in the environment, cooking into research for the new thing I might like to try to eat. A mess into an opportunity to solve a problem and have the family work together as a team?

Thank for sharing your amazing children! It has been a pleasure and a privilege to see the them grow and learn and play! Have the bestest summer ever and remember...SCIENCE ROCKS!

Love, Ms. Dawn



BOX TOPS

Please continue to save your box tops. You can download the Box Tops app on your Smart Phone and choose Woodbrook Early Education Center as the school. This is an easy way to help raise money for the WEE Center. Also, if you shop at Shoprite, be sure to register your Price Club Card as we get additional money when you buy participating General Mills products.



Need labels?

Check out www.campaigns.mabelslabels.com and search in the box on the right hand side that support a fundraiser.. These labels last for years!

Find Woodbrook Early Education Center and enjoy shopping!



Coming soon!

The St. Jude's Trike-A-Thon!

More details to come!

You are invited!



Join us for a Greatest Hits program of musical theater tunes by Rodgers & Hammerstein, Irving Berlin, and Kurt Weill; art songs by Ralph Vaughan Williams, Samuel Barber, Libby Larsen, Jean Sibelius, and more, plus favorite operatic moments from Verdi's *La traviata* and Bizet's *Carmen*. Featured artists include Thea Tullman Moore, Annie Gill, Claire Galloway, Min Jin, Michael Manganiello, Jason Widney, Ellie Yeonjung Kim, Jarrod Lee, Ka Nyoung Yoo, and Patricia McKewen Amato. Come dressed in festive attire from your favorite decade and enjoy an afternoon of music, poetry, raffles, sing-alongs, Musicales trivia, and more! Please visit their website for more information: <https://www.baltimoremusicales.org/>

Tickets are half-price for WEE Families! You can buy tickets using this link:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/our-favorite-things-tickets-739438549607?aff=oddtcreator>

Woodbrook Baptist Church (WBC) invites you to be a part of ...

the WBC / WEE Family Yard Sale

Saturday, June 1st

8:00am - 12:00pm



Vendor Spaces
Available
at just \$10 - Reserve
your spot NOW!



Set up your table and
transform your pre-
loved items into
CASH!

For more information:
wbcweeyardsale@gmail.com

Registration closes Friday, May 24th

Dates to Remember

Monday May 27th

WEE Closed Memorial Day

Friday June 14th

WEE Closes at 12:00 Noon

Last day of School

Pre-K Graduation 11:00 am

(No tickets needed, please feel free to bring family).

Monday June 24th

First Day of Camp

Thursday, July 4th &
Friday, July 5th

Camp Closed

● Friday, August 9th

Last Day of Camp

LOOKING AHEAD...2024-2025

Thursday, August 29th

Parent Orientation

(7:00p.m.-8:30 p.m.)

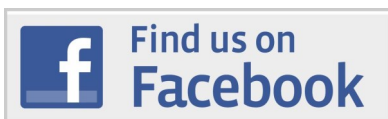
Friday, August 30th

Open House for Students

(10:00a.m.-12:00p.m)

Tuesday September 3rd

WEE First Day of School



The Woodbrook Early Education Center

<https://www.fb.com/TheWEECenter>