



Preschool News
March 2019

Looking Back	Looking Forward
♥ Conferences	♥ Volcanoes
♥ Dragons	♥ Rock Museum
♥ Big/Small	♥ Fire Fighters
♥ Spring Break	♥ Music

Letter from the teachers:

Dear Preschool Families,

You might remember that the last Friday in February, preschool was not in session so teachers could attend a conference. This event was offered by the local branch of a national organization, the Association for the Education of Young Children, AEYC, an outstanding group of administrators, advocates and educators. This year's conference was titled "Hands On, Minds On" and over 2 days Mary, Ana, Laurel, Rachel and Linda participated in workshops of hands on approaches to music making, dramatization, doing art, nature study, and literacy. We brought back some new ideas to implement in our classroom and lesson plans.

The keynote speaker was Dr. Walter Drew, who has focused his professional interests, for several decades, on the field of play and play research. We also attended several of his sessions. From lecture style presentations on brain research, to small group activities in which we all engaged in open ended creativity with diverse materials, participants were encouraged to examine their own programs, and thinking, around this topic.

Following is a quote from Dr. Drew:

"When I play my mind opens up to new possibilities, I see things differently, rendering moments of intense insight and reverie that send my spirit soaring. So it is with children, refreshing their spirit, allowing them to feel the flow of inner power, the capacity to create harmony and order. Amazing as it seems, relaxing and fiddling with open-ended materials focuses the mind and leads to self-discovery".

Recognizing that the term "play based" can have a variety of presentations in different programs, his words were affirming to this foundational principle and daily practice at JCP. Sometimes, when I see work parents building with blocks, or doing art, or engaging as characters in kid's dramatic play, I wonder if all of us might benefit from a short time each day, to let our brains shift into play mode...even if it makes us look a bit like preschoolers!

Thank you for sharing your kids, and your play, with us.

Mary, Linda, Ana, Laurel, and Rachel



Messages from the Board:

Spring is almost here which means it's time to start thinking about our last two fundraisers! JCP will be running a **food stand at Folk Fest** again this year selling hot dogs, chips, baked goods, etc. Keep your eyes posted for a sign up sheet in the next week or so asking for volunteers to cover shifts and bake items to sell on the Thursday, Friday, Saturday of Folk Fest (April 11-13). Additionally, **Family Farm Day** is scheduled for May 18th this year and all families will be asked to cover one shift. All of your time and efforts fundraising are essential for keeping JCP running and we are so grateful for the energy, talent and commitment you all have made to your child's early education experience.

Speaking of thank yous, JCP has printed note cards if any families would like to write **thank you notes** with their children to individuals or businesses that they solicited silent auction items from. If you are interested, ask one of the teachers and they can get you materials.

JCP is still in need of **substitute teachers!** If you are someone who loves spending time with your child at preschool and is available to help assist the teachers due to absence or travel, please let Mary, Linda or Laurel know.

We will be celebrating the end of our school year on Saturday, May 4th at Sandy Beach with an **end of year picnic**. You'll hear more about the picnic as the date nears from our class reps. Also, start thinking about registration for the 2019-2020 school year. The **registration deadline** for the lottery for returning students is April 10 and for new students is April 24. A huge thank you to Corey Murphy for digitizing the registration process. A link to those forms will be emailed out soon.

The next **board meeting** will be held at 6pm on April 8th in the preschool room. If you have any interest in serving on the board, feel free to reach out to the teachers or any current board members (Taylor, Pat, Eliza, Olga, Corey, Tatianna, Lily, Geraldine, Talea, Maressa). Thanks!

2019-2020 Registration:

It's time to begin thinking about next year. **The deadline for returning students to register is noon of April 10th.** If you know any new families who might be interested in joining us next year **the deadline for new students is noon of April 24th.** Registration forms will be available soon on our website at www.juneaupreschool.org



Upcoming Events

SPRING BREAK:

March 18—23

No Preschool
Attendance
Enjoy!

PARENT EDUCATION:

Kindergarten Night
Date/time TBA

BOARD MEETING

Monday, April 8
@6:00 p.m.
Preschool Classroom
All are welcome!

END-OF-YEAR PICNIC

Saturday, May 4
Sandy Beach

FAMILY FARM DAY

Saturday, May 18

Hello and Goodbye:

We recently learned that Alice Klacza and her family will be moving to Chicago in early April. We'll miss everything about them but we know how much they're looking forward to new adventures and possibilities there. Safe travels Alice, Peter, Pat, and Kathy. Thanks for enriching our community and we all wish you the very best as you move on.

On another note, we've welcomed the Hofman family to the T/Th class. Twins Thisbe and Cressida, along with parents Kali and Jacob, have quickly come to seem like an experienced preschool family though they joined us only recently. We're looking forward to sharing preschool traditions and learning from them as well. Every child and family brings something valuable to our community which might sound corny but time and time again proves true. Join us in making them feel welcome if you see them around preschool.

Welcome Laurel ~

I am so excited to have joined the JCP team! I've had a passion for working with children from a young age. Throughout high-school I served as a peer mentor assisting in Elementary School classrooms and working as a personal tutor. I pursued a degree in Elementary Education, taking a special interest in Child Development. I received training in Creative Art Teaching courses including Art, Drama, Music, and Dance. I went on to teach fifth-grade and am now the busy mom of two active boys. When I'm not chasing after them, I enjoy being outdoors, trying new fitness classes, and tackling an array of creative projects. I also lead a community Art & Science program. I look forward to learning from the wonderful staff at JCP and engaging in many creative projects with students. Please feel free to reach out to me to introduce yourself or with any questions. I look forward to getting to know all the families involved in our wonderful preschool.

-Laurel Marsh



Birth Announcement!



Estela Rose Spado was born (a little early) on March 15, 2019. She weighed 5.2 oz. Congratulations to the Spado family!



Fun Photos



Kid Quotes

After reading about the giant, Abiyoyo, and Issun Boshi, the one inch boy, we asked the T/TH class whether it was better to be big or little:

Esmé: "Little, to squeeze through things and fit in small things.

James: "Big, because you can reach high stuff and fight better."

Arlo: "Big, because I like to be big."

Morgan: "Little, because we need to fit through little tunnels."

Matilda: "Big, to get Lego (her stuffed dog) things."

Eoghan: "Big, because you can fly."

Owen: "Big, because if you're little your pets might step on you."

Alice: "Little, because some people can reach stuff and I'm strong."

Nadia: "Big, because unicorns are big."

Levi: "Big, because dogs are big and they're happy."

Thisbe: "Little."

Cressida: "Big, to carry big stuff."

Adeline: "Big, because things are funny."

Mary H. "Big, to drive cars to the market."

Ella: "Little, because I can do baby stuff."

Isaac: "Like a cat."

Hazel: "Little, because my brother is little."

Feray: Still thinking about it.



After reading Dragon stories we asked the MWF Class what they would do if they were a dragon:

Otis: "breathe electrical webs.

Nora: "breathe fire.

Jack: "eat people"

Gleb: "help with things"

Ocean: "dance"

Oliver: "rake leaves"

Ernie: "throw snowballs"

Audrey: "have a dance party"

Feray: no response

Ella: "eat candy"

Calder: "have wings"

Mary H. "play"

Mason: "eat chocolate"

Kájaa: "breathe fire"

Evelyn: "they don't crack their own eggs"



A Dragon Story by Alice

Once there was a dragon named Mino flying and blowing smoke. And another dragon named Bado was dancing in ice skates. I don't like to ice skate.

The End

**THANK YOU * GUNALCHÉESH * SPASIBO * TESEKKÜR EDERIM * GRACIAS * KHX
KHXBKHUN * TAKK * GRAZIE * MERCI**

Kudos, gratitude, and appreciation this month to the following folks in our preschool community:

- ⇒ Selena Hanvold (Elias's mom), Patrick Klacza (Alice's Dad), Tana O'Leary (Mason's mom), Taylor Beard (Otis's mom), Antonia Elstad (Ocean's mom), Laisne Waldron (executive treasurer and former preschool mom), Ana Spado (beloved teacher, Liana's mom), Corey Murphy (Eoghan's mom), Teacher Linda and others who contributed their time and talents to make our Parent Night Out fundraiser a success.
- ⇒ All the businesses, artists, preschool family and friends who contributed prizes to the silent auction and everyone who made delicious desserts for the dessert auction.
- ⇒ T.K Maguire's for once again hosting this event.
- ⇒ Anonymous person who fixed the spout on the play yard water barrel.
- ⇒ Shannon Seifert (Calder's mom) for pirate ship and Twigs donation.
- ⇒ Antonia Elstad (Ocean's mom) for water bead donation.
- ⇒ Rachel Disney (Preschool Plus teacher, Xenali's mom) for graciously filling in while Linda was gone and Laurel was ill.
- ⇒ The Beard family for sharing their "molecules" with the MWF class and inspiring us to get some for preschool.



Newsletter submissions welcome! Please submit any pictures you may have taken while visiting the preschool since the last newsletter. If you have any announcements or know of any upcoming events that would benefit the preschool community, I'd love to include them in the newsletter. Thank you!

Newsletter Editor: Christal Higdon newsletter@juneaupreschool.org

Juneau Cooperative Preschool

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The Juneau Co-Op Preschool is a non-profit organization run by involved parents and dedicated teachers. Although preschool families pay monthly tuition, 30% of the preschool's budget comes from other sources, primarily fundraising. Fundraising is vital to the success of our school!

Community Rewards:

About AmazonSmile

Set up AmazonSmile to give a small percentage of your purchases to Juneau Community Preschool – an easy way to help out the school!

What is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support Juneau Community Preschool every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to preschool.

How do I shop at AmazonSmile?

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.

NOTE: Smile donations do NOT work from the Amazon App – you must

Supporting: Juneau Community Preschool Inc ▾

go to smile.amazon.com in a web browser to make your final purchase. I use the App to shop and add items to my cart, and then go to the web browser to finish checking out. Create a link on your home screen to make it easier.

Fred Meyer Community Rewards



Support Juneau Community Preschool just by shopping at Fred Meyer with your Rewards Card! All you have to do is link your Rewards Card and scan it every time you shop at Fred Meyer.

1. Go to fredmeyer.com
2. Click the Savings & Rewards drop down Fred Meyer Community Rewards
3. Under Are You A Fred Meyer Customer?

[Re-enroll or link your Rewards Card now](#)

Organization Name: **Juneau Co-op Preschool**
Organization Number: **SD033**

Pick. Click. Give.

Don't forget to include Juneau Community Preschool with your annual **Pick. Click. Give.** donation when you apply for your PFD online.

<https://mypfd.alaska.gov/>

Pick.
Click.
Give.

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IDEAS TO BUILD CHILD'S CONFIDENCE

— FREE PRINTABLE —

1

Ensure they know your love is unconditional

2

Give age-appropriate chores around the house or classroom

3

Address them by their name

4

Give them age-appropriate "special tasks" to help you out

5

Join their play (and let them lead)

6

Focus on improving your own confidence

7

Ask them for advice or their opinion

8

Make special time together

9

Let them make age-appropriate choices

10

Set aside time when you give them undivided attention

11

Encourage them to try a theater class

12

Praise them the right way

13

Let them overhear you speaking positively about them to others

14

Resist comparing them to others

15

Practice positive self-talk with them

16

Hang their portraits or artwork around the home or classroom

17

Teach them how to set and achieve goals

18

Encourage to try new things to develop new skills

19

Help them discover their interests and passions

20

Help them overcome the fear of failure

21

Encourage them to express their feelings

22

Make sure they know you're upset with their choices, not who they are

23

Surround them with positive, confident people (including their friends)

24

Create a Wall of Fame to recognize their achievements

25

Show them with hugs

Big Life Journal - biglifejournal.com