

SOME "DOWNTIME" – UNSTRUCTURED, LEISURE TIME PLAYING TOGETHER.

PLAY AND ITS' IMPORTANCE HAS BEEN A HOT TOPIC IN THE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION FIELD FOR QUITE SOME TIME. IT SEEMS AMAZING THAT WE HAVE TO EXPLAIN THAT CONCEPT! OFTEN PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS ASK THE QUESTION: "HOW DO I PLAY WITH MY CHILD?" OR "WHAT IS MY ROLE?" THESE ARE WONDERFUL QUESTIONS FOR THOSE UNSURE OF THE DYNAMICS INVOLVED.

A RECENT ARTICLE IN THE HIGH TECH MAGAZINE, "WIRED", INTERESTINGLY LISTED THE FIVE (5) BEST TOYS OF ALL TIME:

1. STICK
2. BOX
3. STRING
4. CARDBOARD TUBE
5. DIRT
6. BALL

AREN'T YOU JUST THRILLED TO HEAR THAT AFTER ALL THOSE NEW TOYS ARE FILLING YOUR CHILD'S CLOSET! THE REASON THIS RINGS SO TRUE IS WE AS ADULTS SOMETIMES FORGET WHAT IS TRULY FUN FOR OUR CHILDREN – AND MOST BENEFICIAL!! SPONTANEOUS PLAY OCCURS WHEN CHILDREN DO AN ACTIVITY FREELY. IF CHILDREN ORGANIZE A BALL GAME, DRAMATIC PLAY, OR A GAME OF HIDE-AND-SEEK, THEY ARE MEETING THEIR NEEDS FOR SPONTANEOUS PLAY. SPONTANEOUS PLAY IS DIFFERENT FROM ENROLLING CHILDREN IN LITTLE LEAGUE OR SIGNING THEM UP FOR DANCE LESSONS. CHILDREN BENEFIT MOST FROM A BALANCE BETWEEN PLANNED ACTIVITIES AND SPONTANEOUS FREE PLAY.

PLAY CAN BE AN EFFECTIVE AND ENJOYABLE WAY FOR CHILDREN TO DEVELOP SKILLS:

*LANGUAGE SKILLS - WHEN THEY PLAY NAME GAMES, SING SONGS, AND RECITE JUMP ROPE RHYMES.

*THINKING SKILLS - WHEN THEY CONSTRUCT A BLOCK TOWER, FOLLOW DIRECTIONS TO A GAME, OR DO A PUZZLE.

*CREATIVE SKILLS - WHEN THEY MAKE UP STORIES, PUT ON A PUPPET SHOW, AND PLAY DRESS-UP.

*SOCIAL SKILLS - WHEN THEY TEAM UP TO PLAY BALL GAMES AND DECIDE WHO WILL PLAY WHAT PART IN DRAMATIC PLAY.

IT IS IMPORTANT TO REMOVE BARRIERS TO CHILDREN'S OPPORTUNITIES TO PLAY, SUCH

AS TOO MANY STRUCTURED ACTIVITIES AND TOO MUCH TELEVISION. IF A CHILD SAYS, "I'M BORED," HE/SHE MAY NEED MORE UNSTRUCTURED TIME FOR PLAY. PARENTS OFTEN HEAR CHILDREN COMPLAIN ABOUT BOREDOM WHEN ACTIVITIES ARE NOT SCHEDULED FOR THEM. CHILDREN NEED "DOWN TIME" AND TIME TO BE ALONE. THESE ARE THE OCCASIONS WHEN A CHILD'S IMAGINATION AND CREATIVITY TAKE HOLD.



"PLAY IS NOT A LUXURY BUT RATHER A CRUCIAL DYNAMIC OF HEALTHY, PHYSICAL, INTELLECTUAL AND SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AT ALL AGE LEVELS." - DAVID ELKIND

DIRECTOR FROM YOUR DIRECTOR, EVA RAMOS

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!! I HOPE EVERYONE HAD A FESTIVE AND ENJOYABLE HOLIDAY SEASON. SPENDING THE HOLIDAYS WITH THE ONES YOU LOVE IS WHAT TRULY MAKES IT SUCH A SPECIAL TIME. A SPECIAL "THANK YOU" TO EVERYONE WHO THOUGHT ABOUT US OVER THE HOLIDAYS, YOUR GIFTS WERE THOUGHTFUL AND VERY MUCH APPRECIATED.

AS WE WELCOME A NEW YEAR, WE ARE EXCITED TO PLAN MANY NEW AND FUN ACTIVITIES FOR THE CHILDREN TO PARTICIPATE IN AND ARE ANXIOUS TO SEE WHAT'S IN STORE FOR US IN THE UPCOMING YEAR. HOPEFULLY, IT WILL BE A PROSPEROUS YEAR FOR EVERYONE.

ALTHOUGH WINTER IS IN FULL FORCE, WE WILL BE TAKING THE CHILDREN OUTDOORS WHENEVER POSSIBLE. NOT ONLY DO THEY LOVE GOING OUTSIDE, BUT IT IS SO BENEFICIAL FOR THEIR HEALTH. BREATHING IN THE NICE CRISP, CLEAN AIR AND GETTING EXERCISE WILL HELP US ALL STAY AS HEALTHY AS POSSIBLE. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD IS READY TO HEAD OUTDOORS BY PROVIDING THEM WITH A WARM WINTER COAT, GLOVES/MITTENS, AND APPROPRIATE SHOES. IF YOU SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL WEARING SNOW BOOTS, PLEASE SEND IN A CHANGE OF SHOES FOR THEM. OFTEN TIMES THEY MAY BECOME OVERHEATED OR BOOTS MAY NOT BE THE MOST COMFORTABLE SHOES TO WEAR ALL DAY LONG.

DON'T FORGET TO KEEP YOUR MONTHLY CALENDARS HANDY. THIS WILL KEEP YOU UP TO DATE ON WHAT'S HAPPENING DAILY

THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL. IF YOU MISPLACE IT OR DIDN'T RECEIVE ONE, STOP BY THE OFFICE FOR A NEW ONE. ALSO, DON'T FORGET TO READ THE NEWSLETTERS. THEY ARE FILLED WITH IMPORTANT INFORMATION. IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY GOTTEN YOUR NAME ON OUR EMAIL LIST, PLEASE DO SO. WE EMAIL THE NEWSLETTERS EVERY OTHER MONTH. IF YOU DON'T HAVE ACCESS TO A COMPUTER, PICK UP A COPY ON THE TABLE LOCATED IN OUR MAIN ENTRANCE. IF YOU NEED AN EXTRA MENU, PLEASE LET US KNOW AS WELL. WISHING EVERYONE A HEALTHY AND PRODUCTIVE NEW YEAR!

TUITION

WE OFFER A VARIETY OF PAYMENT PLANS TO MAKE IT AS CONVENIENT AS POSSIBLE TO PAY YOUR TUITION. WHATEVER PLAN YOU HAVE CHOSEN, IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT YOU PAY YOUR TUITION ON TIME. WE NEED TO KEEP EVERYONE CURRENT WITH THEIR TUITION. AS WE HAVE SEEN IN THE PAST, IF YOU GET BEHIND IT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO CATCH UP. PLEASE SPEAK TO MANAGEMENT IF YOU ARE HAVING ANY PROBLEMS WITH YOUR TUITION. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR TUITION EXPRESS OPTION, STOP INTO THE OFFICE. YOU ARE STILL ELIGIBLE FOR THE 5% CHECK DISCOUNT IF IT IS DEDUCTED FROM YOUR CHECKING ACCOUNT. IT IS VERY CONVENIENT AND YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT REMEMBERING TO PAY YET ANOTHER BILL.

WINTER WEATHER ALERT REMINDER...

IN THE EVENT OF INCLEMENT WEATHER, PLEASE CALL THE SCHOOL BEFORE HEADING OUT TO FIND OUT OUR OPENING STATUS. YOU CAN ALSO CHECK THE WEBSITE AT WWW.PRIMETIMESCHOOLS.COM FOR UP TO DATE INFORMATION. WE WILL DO OUR BEST TO REMAIN OPEN AND ON TIME. HOWEVER, IN THE EVENT OF TREACHEROUS WEATHER WE MAY HAVE TO DELAY OPENING OR CLOSE FOR THE DAY. WE UPDATE OUR SCHOOL ANSWERING MACHINE TO REFLECT THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE PROGRAM. IN THE EVENT THAT WE NEED TO CLOSE THE SCHOOL EARLY, PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT WE HAVE CURRENT CONTACT INFORMATION FOR YOU. IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT WE CAN REACH YOU ANYTIME THROUGHOUT THE DAY. IF YOU TRAVEL A LONG DISTANCE TO WORK, IT MAY BE WISE TO HAVE SOMEONE CLOSE AS YOUR EMERGENCY CONTACT. WE GIVE YOU PLENTY OF ADVANCED NOTICE; HOWEVER, IF THE WEATHER IS EXTREMELY INCLEMENT YOU MAY WANT TO HAVE YOUR CHILD PICKED UP

A.S.A.P. IF YOU WOULD BE INTERESTED IN SIGNING UP FOR A PARENT PHONE CHAIN TO BE NOTIFIED OF ANY SCHOOL CLOSINGS OR DELAYS, PLEASE STOP BY THE OFFICE.

MEDICATION POLICY:

OUR PROGRAM IS CERTIFIED TO ADMINISTER MEDICATION. THERE ARE STRICT GUIDELINES THAT WE HAVE TO ADHERE TO REGARDING ADMINISTERING MEDICATION. WE MUST HAVE A WRITTEN CONSENT FORM (PROVIDED BY PRIME TIME) FILLED OUT BY THE PEDIATRICIAN PRIOR TO ADMINISTERING THE MEDICATION. THE MEDICATION MUST BE IN THE ORIGINAL CONTAINER. IF YOUR CHILD HAS ASTHMA AND IS ON A NEBULIZER AND A TREATMENT IS NEEDED IN SCHOOL, WE MUST OBSERVE THE VISIBLE SYMPTOMS THAT REQUIRE A TREATMENT. WE CANNOT GIVE A TREATMENT BASED SOLELY ON A PARENT'S REQUEST. IF YOUR CHILD DISPLAYS SYMPTOMS DURING HIS/HER TIME IN SCHOOL THEN WE CAN ADMINISTER A TREATMENT. AGAIN, THESE ARE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND THE OFFICE OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICE REQUIREMENTS, AND THEY ARE MADE TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF THE CHILDREN.

**DIRECT FROM YOUR EDUCATION DIRECTOR,
SHARON WOHLTMANN**



I HOPE EVERYONE HAD A WONDERFUL HOLIDAY SEASON. IT IS, UNFORTUNATELY, TIME TO START BUNDLING UP FOR THE UPCOMING WINTER SEASON. THE WINTER SEASON IS A GREAT TOPIC FOR THE TEACHERS TO DISCUSS WITH YOUR CHILDREN. THERE ARE A LOT OF FUN ACTIVITIES TO DO SUCH AS CREATIVE ART AND SCIENCE. AS I WALK THROUGH THE CLASSROOMS, I AM SURE TO SEE SOME ART ACTIVITIES; SUCH AS SNOWMEN, MITTENS, SNOWFLAKES. I ALSO SEE MANY SCIENCE EXPERIMENTS; SUCH AS FREEZING AND MELTING WITH SNOW AND ICE. WINTER IS ALSO A GREAT TIME TO INCORPORATE SOME FUN GROSS MOTOR ACTIVITIES TO HELP WITH THE WINTER BLUES. I KNOW THE ANGELS CLASS LOVES TO DANCE TO THE DRAGON SONG. WINTER IS ALSO A GREAT TIME TO UTILIZE OUR INDOOR GYM WHERE THEY ARE ABLE TO DO ACTIVITIES SUCH AS RIDE BIKES, HOOLA HOOP, AND CATCH WITH OUR BOUNCY BALLS. THE TEACHERS INCORPORATE GROSS MOTOR IN THEIR EVERYDAY ACTIVITIES; HOWEVER, AT THIS TIME OF YEAR IT'S A GREAT TIME TO KEEP THEM MOVING!!!

*AVERY

-DINOS-3

YRS



*SAVANNAH - DINOS- 3 YRS

*RYDER -DINOS- 1YR

*LIAM -DINOS- 1YR

*JULIO -PRE-K- 1 YR

*ALEXANDER -PRE-K- 4YRS

*PARKER - PRE-K-4YRS

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

WHAT DO YOU LOVE TO DO IN THE WINTER?

*NICHOLAS (PRE-K) "PLAY OUTSIDE"

*REILLY (DINOS) "MAKE A SNOWMAN"

*ALEX (PRE-K) "SLEDDING"

*ANGELO (DINOS)- "HAVE SNOWBALL FIGHTS"

*MICHAEL (PRE-K) "PLAYING IN THE SNOW"

*SAVANNAH (DINOS) "MAKE SNOW ANGELS"

*MARIAH (PRE-K)- "BE OUTSIDE"

*JAYLA (DINOS) "CHRISTMAS TREES"

*JULIO (PRE-K) "MAKING SNOWMEN"

*GEORGE (DINOS) "PLAY IN THE SNOW WITH DADDY"

REMINDERS:

*PRIME TIME IS CLOSED ON JANUARY 2ND.
HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

*ST. JUDE TRIKE-A-THON WILL BE HELD ON
JAN. 27TH (MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW)

*TAX SEASON IS HERE! OUR TAX ID# IS **13-3626720**. IF YOU NEED AN END OF THE YEAR STATEMENT, PLEASE LET THE OFFICE KNOW.

*PLEASE UPDATE YOUR CONTACT AND ADDRESS INFORMATION. IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT WE HAVE CURRENT PHONE NUMBERS WHERE YOU CAN BE REACHED DURING THE TIME YOUR CHILD IS IN SCHOOL.

*YOUR CHILD'S IMMUNIZATIONS MUST BE KEPT CURRENT. IF YOUR CHILD RECEIVES A NEW IMMUNIZATION, PLEASE BRING IN A COPY FOR HIS/HER FILE.

*IF YOU NEED TO ADJUST YOUR CHILD'S SCHEDULE IN ANY WAY, PLEASE SPEAK TO MANAGEMENT. WE MUST REMAIN IN RATIO AT ALL TIMES; THEREFORE, I STAFF MY TEACHERS ACCORDING TO THE CHILDREN'S CONTRACTS. THIS INCLUDES COMING IN EARLY AND/OR STAYING LATE.

*ALL CHILDREN NEED AT LEAST ONE COMPLETE CHANGE OF CLOTHING TO BE KEPT IN THEIR CUBBY AT ALL TIMES. PLEASE MAKE SURE THEY ARE WEATHER APPROPRIATE AND THAT THEY ARE REPLACED IF USED.

CHILDREN ANNIVERSARIES



*CONNOR & CAMRYN - KITTIES-1 YR

*AMIRAH-PUPPIES-1 YR

*ANIYAH- ANGELS- 1YR

*DEREK -ANGELS- 1YR

*MADILYN - ANGELS- 2YRS

*JOSEPH -ANGELS- 3YRS

JANUARY

MONDAY, JANUARY 2ND – SCHOOL CLOSED –
OBSERVANCE OF NEW YEAR'S DAY

MONDAY JANUARY 16, 2012- MARTIN LUTHER
KING B-DAY- SCHOOL OPEN

MONDAY- JANUARY 23RD- CHINESE NEW YEAR

FEBRUARY

TUESDAY- FEBRUARY 14TH – VALENTINE’S DAY

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH – SCHOOL CLOSED – PRESIDENT’S DAY

Enfamil recall: As most of you may have heard, Wal-Mart pulled Enfamil from their shelves following the death of an infant in Missouri. They are still investigating whether or not the water used in the preparation of the formula was a factor in this recall. However, below is a section on recalls that Prime Time includes in every newsletter. We do this to protect the children in our care as well as inform our parents. You may also follow the link below to read about this recall from the American Academy of Pediatrics. Ctrl click to follow link.

<http://www.aap.org/en-us/Pages/Default.aspx?nfstatus=401&nftoken=00000000-0000-0000-0000-0000-000000000000&nfstatusdescription=ERROR%3a+No+local+token>

PRODUCT RECALL WEBSITES

IT SEEMS THAT EVERY DAY WE HEAR OF A NEW BABY ITEM OR FOOD ITEM BEING RECALLED! WE HOPE THE FOLLOWING WEBSITES WILL HELP PARENTS KEEP TRACK OF RECALLED PRODUCTS. YOU CAN EVEN HAVE RECALLS SENT TO YOUR CELL PHONE OR EMAIL.

*CLICKCHECKANDPROTECT.ORG (CONSUMER REPORTS)

*CPSC.GOV (CONSUMER PRODUCTS SAFETY COMMISSION)

*T SAFEPRODUCTS.GOV

*TEXT ALERTS – TEXT THE WORD “SAFE” TO 76666

WE HOPE YOU WILL FIND THESE WEBSITES HELPFUL.

PARENT REFERRAL!!!!

OUR GOAL HAS ALWAYS BEEN TO PROVIDE QUALITY CARE AND A “HOME AWAY FROM HOME”

ATMOSPHERE FOR CHILDREN. WE KNOW THAT LEAVING YOUR CHILDREN IN THE CARE OF OTHERS IS A VERY DIFFICULT DECISION, AND WE HOPE THAT WE HAVE MADE IT EASIER FOR YOU. OUR FAMILIES ARE OUR BIGGEST ADVOCATES AND ADVERTISERS. IF YOU KNOW OF ANYONE IN NEED OF A QUALITY EARLY LEARNING CENTER, PLEASE TELL THEM ABOUT PRIME TIME. THEY ARE WELCOME TO VISIT ANYTIME BETWEEN 9:00AM-5:00PM, NO APPOINTMENT IS NECESSARY. IF ONE OF YOUR REFERRALS REGISTERS AND REMAINS IN THE PROGRAM FOR A MINIMUM OF THREE MONTHS, YOU WILL RECEIVE A REFERRAL CREDIT; IT’S OUR WAY OF SAYING “THANKS.” BE SURE TO LET US KNOW WHEN YOU REFER SOMEONE SO YOU CAN TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE CREDIT. IF YOU CAN DROP SOME OF OUR BROCHURES TO YOUR HUMAN RESOURCE OFFICE, PLEASE LET US KNOW. WE WOULD BE MORE THAN HAPPY TO PROVIDE YOU WITH SOME. WE WOULD LOVE TO INCLUDE PARENT TESTIMONIALS IN OUR BROCHURES AND ON OUR WEBSITE. PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO DROP ONE OFF IN THE OFFICE OR YOU CAN EMAIL IT DIRECTLY TO THE SCHOOL. WE ARE ALSO GATHERING LETTERS OF PRAISE FOR OUR STAFF AND/OR PROGRAM TO SHARE WITH POTENTIAL PARENTS. WE REALLY APPRECIATE ALL KIND WORDS. THESE LETTERS ARE ALSO PUT INTO PERSONAL EMPLOYEE FILES. THANK YOU.



PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE

PLEASE TAKE A FEW MOMENTS TO PROVIDE US WITH YOUR FEEDBACK TO HELP US BETTER MEET YOUR NEEDS. FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE, YOU MAY E-MAIL US AT PT1SCH@AOL.COM, FAX US AT (201) 236-2966, OR YOU MAY GET A STAMPED ENVELOPE IN THE OFFICE. WE APPRECIATE THE TIME TAKEN. THANK YOU!

OPTIONAL: SCHOOL: _____

YEARS AT PRIME TIME: _____

CHILD'S GROUP: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

REGARDING OUR PROGRAM:

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT US? _____

WHAT ATTRACTED YOU TO US AND WHY DID YOU STAY? _____

WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN OUR SUMMER CAMP AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS? _____

DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS ABOUT OUR POLICIES? _____

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT OUR FIELD TRIPS AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES? _____

HOW MAY WE IMPROVE OUR SCHOOL/CLASS NEWSLETTERS AND OTHER FORMS OF COMMUNICATION? _____

STAFF: _____

HEALTH AND CLEANLINESS: _____

SUGGESTIONS: _____

COMPLAINTS: _____

APPLAUSE: _____