



The Neighborhood Learning Center



The Director's Corner

Marcie Peterson, Director

Dear Parents,

Power is something we are always striving for in our world today. We want to have the power to be in control of anything that comes our way. But as Christians, we must take a slice of humble pie. Only God has the power. Only Jesus Christ has the power and authority to overcome all things and deliver us from all things. Whatever our

struggle, whatever our temptations-Jesus has power over it. Just take a look at his resume. He has been to the cross and conquered sin and the devil. He has been to the grave and conquered death. As children are taught to sing in chapel, "Our God is so great, so strong



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April HIGHLIGHTS

- April 1st—No LCPS
- April 19th—Wear Yellow Day
- April 20th—Parent's Night Out
- April 22nd—Earth Day-Children plant flowers
- April 26th—National Pretzel Day—we will make pretzels at school
- May 1st—Picture Day

Forever Yours Portrait Studio will be at The NLC on Wednesday, May 1st. We are excited to offer individual and class pictures to the families.

Staff Spotlight



Hello! My name is Melissa Karr. I live in Hamilton and have a husband and two daughters, both of whom are in college. I have spent the last 10 years in the public school system. The first five years were as a substitute teacher. The last five years were as an Education Tech with Title One services. My specialties were reading comprehension

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This month at school.....

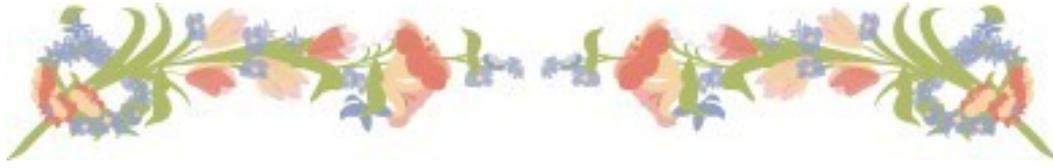
In April we the children will be studying about New Life - Christ is risen, and soon, so will our incubating eggs! We will also learn about insects - bees, lady bugs and crickets. We will celebrate Earth Day by planting flowers, visit the Rust Sanctuary and practice Reduce, Reuse and Recycle! We will finish the month digging for dinosaurs and fossils and prepare for Cinco de Mayo. What a fun-filled month!

In-house Improvements

As some of you may already know, we have partnered with a local software company, Spin Systems Inc., to provide the next generation of child care management software. Spin Systems is located in Sterling, VA and has clients including Fortune 500 companies, Federal agencies, and the Department of Defense. We are participating in the pilot program of their new cloud-based application Sky ChildCare. You may have noticed that a tablet has been

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Director's Corner (From Page 1)

and so mighty, there's nothing our God cannot do!"

Power is something that kids discover early on. They see the power in the parental role. They discover the power of siblings, often dictated by birth order; and they also explore ways in which they can assert their personal power. A lot of the nurturing process in raising children has to do with understanding the role of power in life.

Children who are overpowered, or who feel powerless, will often seek to gain power through revenge. They will seek to hurt others as they feel hurt and will often engage in behavior that ultimately hurts themselves. Revenge at age two looks a lot different than revenge at age 16 or 17.

When children act out in power struggles and revengeful behavior, they are most often feeling powerless. They feel discouraged about finding a positive way to contribute and know that their actions count. Most parents' goals are to raise a child who becomes a self-reliant adult, can make good decisions and has the confidence to be whatever he or she chooses. Your child will see the future more clearly if you allow him or her to practice at being powerful in useful and appropriate ways.

Staff Spotlight (From Page 1)

and mathematics for grades K thru 6. I also ran the after-care program at my school. I am First Aid and CPR certified and also certified to give medications. It is very exciting to be here at the Neighborhood Learning Center. I look forward to getting to know all of your children and work with them.

Parent's Night Out

Our next Parents Night Out will be on April 20th from 4:00pm to 8:00pm. The cost is \$30/child or \$50/family. Watch for the sign-up sheet or email:

Marcie@theneighborhoodlearningcenter.com.

Parents who can shift to seeing their child's struggle for power as a positive sign can find useful ways for the child to feel powerful and valuable and deal with power struggles in ways that reduce fighting and create cooperative relationships that empower both the child and the parents.

Effective and positive ways to deal with power struggles include side-stepping, i.e. neither fighting nor giving in; offering choices, not orders; finding useful ways for your child to be powerful; doing the unexpected. Power struggles often feel like someone has to win and someone has to lose. A win-win solution is where each party comes away feeling like they got what they wanted.

Parents often have the attitude that children should not say NO to or question authority. However, it is interesting that most of us parents buy into the media campaign of "Just Say NO." It is best to hear a child's NO as a disagreement rather than a disrespectful response. Teach children to say NO, or disagree, respectfully and appropriately. Keep in mind that you want them to say NO when faced with peer pressure and inappropriate situations.

God bless you through Jesus' resurrection Power,

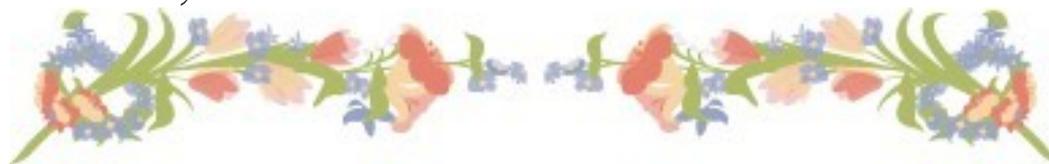
Ms. Marcie

In-house Improvements (From Page 1)

placed in the entrance way on the front desk. The NLC staff have been clocking in/out using the tablet for a couple months now. In the near future, we will begin allowing parents to log in/out using the tablet as well. This will allow us to provide more granular reporting and metrics and get rid of all the paper we are currently using. The tablet works with PINs and we have come up with a system that should make them pretty easy to remember. We look forward to rolling out additional features to parents such as online statements and payments as well. We will keep you updated as things progress.

Parents Alert

Watch for a Parent Survey, coming out soon, so that you can share your feedback on our program.



The Chaplin's Corner

Celebrating the Full 50!

Although Easter baskets filled with goodies come but just one day, the good news of Easter, celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus, is that it gets 50 long days for celebration. In the church, we call this season, Eastertide. The season of Easter runs all the way until Pentecost, when the gift of the Holy Spirit was given to the early church.

How might you help your child continue to discover the joy of Easter? What if we simply kept pointing out for the next 50 days the signs of new life, resurrection happening around us? Spring is upon us, and after our long winter, we will be rejoicing to see the signs of spring popping up through the ground and on the limbs. Talk with your child about how the winter allows for the dying of things, so that



in spring, plants and animals can come to have new life.

Some practical ways of searching for Easter may just be in your backyard. Plant a garden to see how something unexpected grows from a tiny, lifeless seed buried in the earth. Look for cocoons and chrysalis that hold wrapped up moths and butterflies anticipating their new life. Search for nests of all kinds so that they may see the wrestling of new life in eggs and little babies. And, in all cases, point to the one who gives new life. Be sure to point to God, who is the same God who brings to life hatchings and Risen life to Jesus!



Happy Easter!

Pastor Jessica

A Parent's Perspective

When I first dropped my son, Crawford, off at the NLC, he was 9 months old and we had been living in Purcellville for 2 days. From day number one, I have always known that he is loved and safe at the NLC. As he transitions from the infant to toddler to preschool rooms, I also know that he is learning so much. He loves his teachers and friends. As a working mother the confidence I have in the NLC in caring for my son is invaluable.

Clairborne Moore

Ways you can help...

If your child does not need to be picked up from the elementary schools on his/her scheduled day, you must call NLC to let us know. There will be a \$5.00 charge every time our bus goes to a school and your child does not need to be picked up.

Do not park near the fire lane or leave your car running when it is unattended.

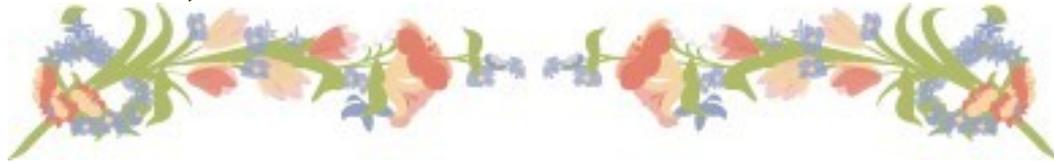
Please place your child's name in the memo line of your tuition check.



MEDICATION FORM REQUIRED



NLC will NOT administer a non-prescription medication unless it is accompanied by a physician's request to do so. The center will administer physician-prescribed medication and non-prescription medication only upon the request of the child's parents or guardians on our "**Medication Authorization**" form. Tylenol or other over the counter medication that does not list required dosage, must be accompanied by a doctor's signature. This is a license requirement by the Department of Social Services and must be adhered to.



Pastor's Corner

2013 seems to have brought a number of new families to the Neighborhood Learning Center.

Welcome. We are delighted that you are entrusting your children to the care of our caring teaching staff. It is our commitment to do everything we can to nurture your children through learning opportunities, play, rest and nourishment.

We value the leadership of Ms. Marcie Peterson, our Neighborhood Learning Center Director. She is a capable guide to our school – adept at setting a good course for developmental learning found-

ed on the teaching of kindness, generosity and faith out of our Christian commitment. There's nothing better than to see your children bringing home their treasures and experiences, especially if they have a smile on their faces and joy in their hearts.

The Neighborhood Learning Center is a church ministry in that we seek to set a good direction for the school, encourage stories that tell about Jesus and insist on wonderful care for the children. Marcie and the staff accomplish these efforts in a consistent and creative way. We also are glad to invite Neighborhood Learning Center families to participate in our church activities – from joining in our Wednesday

youth and children's program called After School Café to special events like our Children's Sunday worship service at 11:00 am on Sunday, April 7th. We look forward to joining in special activities which the NLC will do, like an upcoming picnic in June.

Know that you are always welcome to chat with me, to see St. Andrew as a resource for you and your family. Thank you for choosing the Neighborhood Learning Center as a place for the nurture and growth of your child.

In Christ's love,

Pastor Dave Milam

Pastor Dave

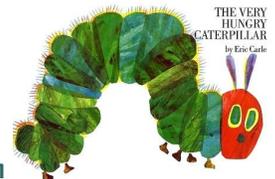
April 2013

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

	1 No LCPS	2	3	4	5 Tuition Due	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 Tuition Due Wear Yellow Day	13
14	15	16	17 Scholastic Book Club Orders Due	18	19 Tuition Due	20 Parent's Night Out
21	22 Earth Day	23	24	25	26 Tuition Due National Pretzel Day & Arbor Day 	27
28	29	30	May 1 Picture Day			

Author of the Month

This month's author of the month is Eric Carle. He is acclaimed and beloved as the creator of brilliantly illustrated and innovatively designed picture books for young children. Born in NY and educated in Germany, he returned to the US in 1952 where he started working at the NY Times. His art work is distinctive and instantly recognizable. His art work is created in collage techniques using hand painted papers, which he cuts and layers to form bright and cheerful images. Check out *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, *The Lonely Firefly*, *The Very Quiet Cricket* and *Brown Bear Brown Bear* Just to mention a few!



Attention Preschool 3 and Pre-K parents - Please watch for an invitation to see Preschool 3 and Pre-K's production of *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* later this month!