

Neighborhood News

The Neighborhood Learning Center's monthly newsletter

The Director's Corner *Marcie Peterson, Director*



Wow! Many thanks to all who participated in our annual survey! So many good things have come from your comments and concerns.

For example, last year one concern dealt with more communication from the administration and one parent suggested a weekly update on current and future reminders. So we added the Friday Footnotes the next week. We were so pleased to read this year, "The addition of the Friday Footnotes have drastically increased the communication...this was a great add."

Another parent commented, "I'd like to see some focus on the children learning to be "community helpers" and teaching empathy about helping those (people and animals) less fortunate."

We like to start teaching this skill by helping the children to be independent and to do more things for themselves while helping at the same time. Chores are a great way to teach preschoolers about responsibility, and children who learn to complete their chores often develop better decision-making skills and grow up to be more independent. Over time, children are able to finish chores independently, which boosts their self-esteem and provides them with a sense of accomplishment. Since every child is different, be sure to take into consideration your child's age, natural characteristics and abilities:

- At ages 2-3, children are most interested in helping just for the sake of helping. If your child wants to "help" you vacuum, sweep, dust or mop, encouraging their efforts now will pay off big later.
- At ages 4-5, motivate your preschooler with a reward chart. Take the time to teach them step-by-step exactly what you want them to do and give them some independence once they have mastered it.

Accept the fact that your child is probably never going to do the chore as well as you do it. The lesson here is not about perfection. Focus on what is acceptable and let them settle into their own way of doing things. If we as adults are role models and set the example, we see our children grow and develop into caring, independent, and self-assured individuals.

God Bless,

Ms. Marcie

July Highlights

July 4:

-NLC CLOSED in honor of Independence Day

July 7:

-Patriotic Parade

-Visit from a REAL American Hero

-National Chocolate Day

June 8:

-American Symbol Scavenger Hunt

July 11:

-Cheer Up the Lonely Day

July 16:

-Parents' Night Out

July 19:

-Visit from a REAL Superhero

July 22:

-Dress Like a Superhero Day

AUGUST 26:

-NLC CLOSED for Teacher Workday

This Month at School...

July is full of American spirit and patriotism, which naturally leads us to superheroes! Moving towards exploring our world wraps up the month, with an exploration of the rain forest.

- Patriotic Parade & Visit from a REAL American Hero—July 7th—The children will make patriotic hats and will parade through the building showing their best American spirit! Also on this day, an active duty parent will be coming to speak with the children.
- American Symbol Scavenger Hunt—July 8th—American symbols will be hidden throughout the school for children to find and discuss with their teachers.
- Visit from a REAL Superhero—July 19th—A visit from the Purcellville Police Department will remind the children of the real superheroes who keep them safe every day.
- Dress like a Superhero Day—July 22nd—The school will be the safest and most extraordinary place on the planet with all those superheroes visiting us! Wear your best costume!

Congratulations!!

Frog Hollow teacher Ms. Samantha is announcing her happy news—she's expecting! Ms. Laura and Ms. Samantha's daughter Ava announced the news with their matching, "Keep calm!" t-shirts.

Congratulations, Ms. Samantha!



Annual Re-Enrollment Fee & Rate Changes

Our annual re-registration fee of \$55 per child is due in July. This includes all children who were in attendance at the NLC before 1/1/2016. Children who started attending after the first of the New Year will have this re-registration fee waived this year. This fee will be collected using our automated banking system unless you request otherwise. The invoices will be sent via email the week of July 5th and the fee will be collected the following Monday, July 11th.

Also, the NLC Board is looking at the current rate structure and we anticipate a potential rate increase at the beginning of the school year. We will keep you informed as this information is finalized.

The Chaplain's Corner:

I love the little Facebook App that pops up on my news feed. It shares a picture or a word from years ago. "On this day...." This week has been filled with some good ones. June and July are busy for me personally and for the church corporately. This week I was flooded with past Vacation Bible School pictures and notes. I was given a trip down memory lane to previous mission trips to Rosebud Reservation in South Dakota, Philadelphia and our last time to Belize.

Then, I scrolled down yesterday's memory list to discover how 5 years ago the Neighborhood Learning Center was just about to be birthed. It was my big announcement on Facebook to my friends, our congregation, and community!

Wow, 5 years! Five years ago our school was just a concept waiting to be filled with students, teachers

and families. It was months and years of a labor of love for me and the congregation. We had no idea that it would live up to the dream we had for our building to be a place of



hospitality, care and learning for children and their families. We couldn't be more delighted to see what God has done in and through us together as church and school.

Thank you for allowing us to be part of your lives. We find it a privilege that we can interact with your children in such special ways. Each Monday I am blessed to enter the sacred story with them, reminding them again and again that Jesus loves them. Here's to another five years!

Blessings,

Pastor Jessica



This Month at St. Andrew...

Weekly Worship: Saturdays 5pm; Sundays 10am

NOTE: Child care is available at all worship services for the littlest ones. For children age preschool and up, Sunday School is provided during Sunday worship services—your child starts the service sitting with you, will leave for Sunday School and then will return to you before the service concludes. The first Sunday of every month is Family First Sunday, when children remain in the service and their joyful noises are welcomed!

July 8—15th—Mission Trip to Belize—Please keep the 23 mission trippers in your prayers as they travel to Progresso, Belize to serve.

July 10th—1st Day of Summer Sunday School—Bible Olympics: Stories of Courage and Strength. Sunday School will follow the same procedure as listed under "Weekly Worship" in this article.

July 16th & 17th—Mission Trippers Share Their Stories During Worship Services



The School Ageds enjoyed a trip to Volcano Island Water Park to cool off in the pool



While Moses (the 11 week old camel) was a favorite animal visitor at VBS, the other critters got lots of love (and carrot chips)



Hollywood Week—we have some very talented kids!

The Summer Kick-Off Picnic was a blast!



Reminders...

We hope that you read the weekly “Friday Footnotes” which include information about the past week, the coming week’s adventures, as well as a friendly reminder. Here is a reminder recap:

- The NLC will be CLOSED on Friday, August 26th, for a Teacher Workday.
- Make sure your child has a water bottle at school every day. Hydration is vital as the temperatures begin to climb.
- If you are unsure as to bus departure times for any field trips, please call! We don’t want to leave anyone behind!

Mosquitos in Virginia & Zika Virus

Zika virus infection is a viral disease primarily spread to people through bites of infected mosquitos. Mosquitos become infected by feeding on infected people.

THE BAD NEWS:

Yes, Zika has arrived in Virginia. According to the Virginia Department of Health, as of June 30, 2016 the VDH had reported 27 cases of Zika virus to the CDC.

THE GOOD NEWS:

So far, infections have only been reported in travelers returning to the US from infected areas. Those who do not travel to affected areas are not currently at risk of becoming infected because local spread by mosquitos in the continental US has not been reported.

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

If you will be traveling to an area where Zika is actively transmitted (see the CDC website listed below), take every precaution to avoid being bitten by mosquitos, including wearing long sleeved pants and shirts, and using insect repellent.

The mosquito species most common in Virginia are Yellow fever mosquitos and Asian tiger mosquitos. These local mosquitos **are** capable of transmitting Zika if they themselves become infected.

The mosquitos that are capable of spreading Zika are unique in several ways:

- These mosquitos fly and bite during the day and will enter homes through any open door or window and will bite indoors.

- These mosquitos lay their eggs exclusively in containers of water (i.e. containers made of plastic, glass, ceramic, metal, concrete, wood, or stone). They do NOT lay their eggs in “ground” bodies of water such as puddles, flooded ditches, ponds, or streams.

According to the CDC, in order to protect yourself from mosquitos:

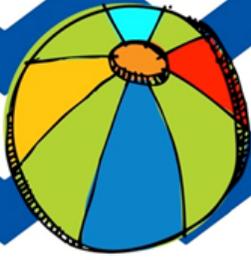
1. Eliminate standing water in and around your home. **Once a week**, empty and scrub, turn over, cover, or throw out items that hold water such as tires, buckets, planters, toys, pools, birdbaths, flower pots or trash containers.
2. Use screens on windows and doors and repair any holes in screens.



3. Prevent mosquito bites by using an EPA-registered insect repellent. If you are using insect repellent AND sunscreen, apply the sunscreen FIRST. Reapply insect repellent every few hours.

For more information visit the CDC website at: <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/>

NOTE: If you would like NLC staff to apply insect repellent to your child, you must complete an OTC Permission Form, which is available from your child's teacher or at the Front Desk. After completing the form please supply your child's teacher with the repellent, ensuring the bottle is permanently marked with your child's name.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
Outer Space					Yoga	
3 Proud to be an American	NLC CLOSED 	5	6	Chocolate Day 7 Patriotic Parade Music	American Symbol Scavenger Hunt Yoga	8 9
10 Road Trip USA	11 Cheer up the Lonely Day	12 Story Time	13	14 Music	15 Yoga	16 Parents Night Out
17 Super Heroes	18	19	20	21 Music	Dress like a Super Hero Day Yoga	22 23
24/31 Rain Forest	25 Chapel	26	27	28 Music	29 Yoga	30

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Giggle Corner!

- July 4th is Independence Day or also known as America's birthday.
- The Declaration of Independence began as a letter to King George to explain why the Continental Congress voted to declare independence from Great Britain.
- Presidents John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, and James Monroe all died on July 4th (Adams & Jefferson died the same day, within hours of one another).
- Independence Day was not declared a holiday until 1870. But that didn't stop people from celebrating!
- Fireworks were made in China as early as the 12th century! The Chinese originally used them for war rockets and explosives.
- Benjamin Franklin wanted the turkey to be the national animal of the US, but he was out-voted and the bald eagle became the national animal.
- The stars on the original American flag were in a circle so all the Colonies would appear equal.
- Approximately 150 million hot dogs and 700 million pounds of chicken are eaten on the 4th of July every year!
- Every 4th of July the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia is tapped (not rung) 13 times in honor of the original 13 Colonies.