



Pointing the Way

September 2007

A Publication of Fishers Pointe Cooperative Preschool



Calendar of Events

September

- 17—CPR training
- 18—CPR training
- 24-First Aid Training
- 25-First Aid Training

October

- 3-Speech/Hearing Screening
- 4-Speech/Hearing Screening
- 8-Board Meeting
CPT Class 1
- 10-CPT Class 1
- 11-Vision Screening
- 12-Vision Screening
- 15-CPT Class 2
- 18-CPT Class 2
- 19- NO SCHOOL
- 22-26—FALL BREAK



President's Prose

Welcome to our new families and welcome back to our returning families! We are off to a great start at school! I have seen many familiar faces and quite a bit more new faces. I look forward to getting to know you all during the year. Over the past five years, this school has been like a second home to me and my kids. Even though during those five years, we changed locations three times, the heart and soul of our school- the kids, teachers and families-moved with us. I hope that each of you come away from Fishers Pointe with the same feeling of family and home that I have.

I need to say a big THANK YOU to Jane Harris and Shauna Roe who worked so hard during the summer to make the Water Balloon Fight such a great event. Also, a big THANK YOU goes out to each and every volunteer who came to fill water balloons, help with registration, or did any number of other tasks related to the water balloon fight. As you know, the water balloon fight is one of our major fundraisers and we raised a net total of \$2260.43! We were able to donate \$350.00 to St. Vincent's Children Rehabilitation Hospital. We could not have done it without the hard work of all our members.

I need to thank every one who came out the day after the water balloon fight to help us get settled into our classrooms again. Over the summer, the church completed some renovations on the school side of the building. They enlarged the Koala/Panda classroom and added a second floor over the Teddies/Bear classroom! I have really enjoyed the new space and I think the children love it too!

I am glad we are off to such a great start! I hope you are having as much fun as I!

Cooperatively,

Lynn Jones

President

Panda Mom to Ellie



...from the classrooms...

Bears

Wow! What a busy first few weeks! The Bears are really getting to know one another and are already practicing "using their words" to work out problems. We will continue to work on the routines and learning about our friends and families. In the next couple of weeks, we will learn about what happens during the Fall. We will start looking for signs of Fall. After learning about Fall, we will have Fire Prevention Week. We hope to have the fire department bring out the fire truck so we can see what it looks like close up. Don't forget to check your file folders each week for a copy of the plans for the week! It has been a lot of fun getting to know all your children and working with all of you! I truly am looking forward to a great year!

Teresa

Teddies

The first few weeks during Teddies has gone remarkably well! All the children have come in and have fully explored the classroom. Circle time has gone remarkably as well for this age group. We may add a second circle time if it continues to go so well. We will continue working on getting to know each other and the routine. We will start exploring Fall and the signs of Fall. We will then talk about Fire Prevention like the Bears. Hopefully we'll be able to have the fire department come out for us like the Bears. Just like the Bears children and parents, I have fully enjoyed a great start with all of you and look forward to a great year! Check your folders each week for a copy of the plans for our Class each week.

Teresa

Pandas

After our first two weeks of school, we are comfortable with our routine and are enjoying our busy days. There are fifteen eager "Pandas", all of whom have spoken aloud at circle, learned some silly songs, waited their turn for various things, used their good manners in class, thought about how to solve their problems, listened to stories, written their names, and have even begun to recognize their classmate's names. They all have painted, played, jumped, and run. They've counted, done puzzles, splashed in the sensory table, and squished the play dough. They are off to a wonderful start. I'm a lucky teacher to have them in my class room.

Thank you, parents for your attention and enthusiasm for school. You know, it is contagious, and happy children are so nice to have in the classroom!! All of you who have participated have been helpful, watchful, involved, and busy! Just as you should be. I hope you are feeling comfortable with our days, and as always, I welcome your questions or comments.

With the arrival of October, we will have two field trips. They are squashed into one week, but with Fall break taking a week away, I had to schedule them that way. Tuesday Oct.16, we will visit Reynold's Farm Equipment Store. On Wednesday October 17, we will go for our Fall walk in the woods with Danesa Stoiz, Naturalist for Ritchey Woods, Fishers Parks and Recreations Department. We will allow for free play time at school, as well, those days. These are nice trips that the children will enjoy.

Co-op Preschool parents are very often hardworking, caring, and generous people. You are no exception. I Thank you for that, and again appreciate your positive attitudes!

Sincerely,
Judy Barmann
Panda Teacher

...from the classrooms...

Koalas

The first few days of school have been wonderful. We've had a room full of quiet but very busy Koalas playing with EVERYTHING and exploring. The separation issues the first day were very minor and we had no tears. We've had a lot of painting, play dough playing and the kitchen area has been very active.

Little moments of cooperative play are happening in the dress-up area, and with the animals and wooden blocks. Over all a very quiet and happy start!

I'm very excited about the plans for our school year. I anticipate a joy-filled class packed with many learning opportunities for all the children. I plan on keeping my Koalas very busy learning through play. They will explore their world by touching, manipulating and pretending. It's going to be a great year!

Mrs. B.

Parent Education

Remember, each family needs a total of 4 Parent Education Credits per school year.

Upcoming Events to earn credits are:

CPR/First Aid Training = 1 Credit

ICPC CPT Training (new members only) = 2 Credits

Attend Class Coffee (one time only) = 1 Credit

Attend an FPCP Board Meeting (2nd Monday each month – one time only) = 1 Credit

ICPC Parent Palooza (held in November Date TBA) = 1 Credit



Fundraising

Dining For Dough...

September 17th —4-8 pm.— Mi Tierra

October 8th & 15th — ALL DAY — Marble Slab

October 11th — ALL DAY — Moes's Southwest Grill

5th Annual HollyDaze Boutique

November 17th 2007

Christ Community Church 131st & Allisonville

9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

Mark your calendars now, more information later!



Purchase your Kroger Card today and start earning money for our preschool!!! Use your Kroger Card like a gift card each time you shop and FPCP earns money each time! To receive a card, drop your payment of \$5.00 into Meredith Pfligenstofer's mailbox. You can purchase anything, including gas and prescriptions.!

Market Day is coming to FPCPI! Check out the website below to learn more.

<http://marketday.com/>

*“What I want for myself I must also want for you,
what I want from you I must be willing to give”*

Clair Cherry

Tiny Pizzas



Prep time:
about 15 minutes

Ingredients:

- 1 standard-sized bagel, cut in half
- tomato sauce
- shredded mozzarella cheese
- toppings like diced green pepper, chopped onion, or chopped tomato (whatever you like)
- seasonings like oregano, basil, and pepper

Directions:

Set the oven to low heat.

Spread tomato sauce on each bagel half.

Sprinkle the shredded cheese all over the tomato sauce on each half.

Add your favorite toppings.

Put a light sprinkling of seasonings on each half.

Put your bagel halves on a baking sheet.

Bake in the oven on low heat for about 5 to 8 minutes. You'll know they're done when the cheese is bubbly.

Let cool for a minute, then enjoy your tiny pizza

www.kidshealth.org

Class Coffee Information

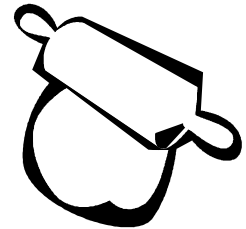
- Teddies:** Thursday, October 11th 7:00pm
Starbucks at 96th St. and Lantern Rd.
- Bears:** Monday, October 15th at 7 p.m.
Starbucks 116th Street & I-69
- Koalas:** Wednesday, September 19th 7:00 pm. at
FPCP in the classroom
- Pandas:** Monday, October 1st 7:00 pm. at the home of
Lynn Jones



Traditional Play Dough

- 1 cup flour
- 1 cup warm water
- 2 teaspoons cream of tartar
- 1 teaspoon oil
- 1/4 cup salt
- food coloring

Mix all ingredients, adding food coloring last. Stir over medium heat until smooth. Remove from pan and knead until blended smooth. Place in plastic bag or airtight container when cooled. Will last for a long time.



www.teachnet.com



Happy Birthday!!!

<u>Teddies</u>	<u>Bears</u>	<u>Koalas</u>	<u>Pandas</u>
Heather 6-14	Cooper 6-5	Hannah 6-25	Gavin 6-16
Meghan 6-14	Alex 6-14	Lindsey 7-23	Ben 7-6
Jack 8-6	Evan 6-14	Michael 7-28	Lillian 8-5
Christopher 8-16	Katelyn 7-14	Ella 8-1	Ralph 9-12
Luke 8-16	Alex 7-20	Logan 8-3	Trinity 9-19
Malaika 8-26	Alexander 8-19		Andrew 9-26
Emily 9-29	Grady 9-8		

Easing Separation Anxiety

Separation anxiety, what a freighting term to both the child and the parent and in most cases it's the mother who does the suffering. Mothers ask: why is this happening? There are a variety of reasons this happens to young children. One is the child just is not ready to face this big world all alone. And that's ok. Consider how difficult it is even for adults to enter a new situation or environment. Remember the anxiety you had when you started a new school or begin a new job? Why wouldn't a young child have these same feelings?

For the most part separation must happen on the child's terms. Only when they feel they are ready will it ever happen. You can encourage and reassure your child but you must not rush it. Like most early learning situations the child must be protected from failure. A child can form the attitude that they are not good at experiencing the world on their own. Rushing can cause an even longer process in separating and may even cause the child to carry these feelings with them into their later years.

Some children never experience separation anxiety. They are born that way. And others may face this fear over and over again during their developing years. You may first witness this in your child at the very young age of six months and then again around the time they are 18 months to two years old. During this time of your child's life they consider their mother an extension of them. When you leave you're taking a part of them with you. Now that has to be scary to a young child!

As they get older your child realizes you no longer are a part of them and this too is freighting. *What happen? Where is that nurturing feeling that surrounded me?* Children know they are growing up, they want to grow up (that's why by age 3 their age is so important!) but they also don't want to grow up. There lies the conflict these little people are struggling with. They want to continue to be a part of you, to be your baby. That's why you may have a 3-year-old reverting back to a baby stage or why your kindergartner may be "to sick to go to school."

What can a parent do? To start, you can avoid getting discouraged. While your child's anxiety may seem like a step backward, it gives you a chance to let your child know that you understand. Listening patiently to whatever your child says about missing you and acknowledging their concerns will help them feel secure and supported; which eventually will help them separate from you.

If the mother or other close family member stays with the child in the classroom for several days and even possibly several weeks, the transition would be less jarring. Parents should stay in close contact with the teacher. It's important that the child senses the mutual regard and trust you have for each other. Arranging play dates with other children from your child's class will strengthen the school-home connection.

Children will work through their anxiety in their own way, in their own time. These simple actions can help your child make a smoother transition:

- ❖ **Pay attention to and accept your child's feeling and needs.** Listen and respect what is said.
- ❖ **Be available to your child, and show them that you can be counted on.** Don't make promises you can't keep.
- ❖ **Stay in the classroom for as long as your child needs.** Don't slip out when you think they are not looking. After a period of time discuss with your child a compromise of staying out in the hall in case you are needed.
- ❖ **Create good-bye and pick up routines.** Avoid being late, and always let your child know if there is to be a change.
- ❖ **Help your child find a special buddy to make them feel more at ease.** Someone for them to look forward to playing with.
- ❖ **Guide your child into sharing their feelings with the other children and to realize that they're not the only ones with those feelings.** It always helps to know others feel the same way.
- ❖ **Never compare your child's behavior to the other children.** Don't point to another child and say, "Why can't you be more like Billy."

Continue to remember everyone is sensitive to your feelings as a parent separating from your child; we know it's scary for you too! Take one day at a time and have a great school year. Carla Bidwell