



Pointing the Way

September 2009



A Publication of Fishers Pointe Cooperative Preschool

Calendar of Events

September

- 8 - First day at FPCP
 - 14 - Board Meeting @7pm
 - 15 - Parent Ed: Coping with Separation Anxiety @7pm
 - 21/22 - Heartsaver CPR Class
 - 28/29 - First Aid Training
- ### October
- 12 - Board Meeting @7pm
 - 14 - "Getting to know FPCP" @7pm
 - 15/16 - Lions' Club Vision Screening
 - 20 - Parent Ed: Classroom Conflict @7pm
 - 27 - Fall Break Begins

Presidents Prose
August 27, 2009

Welcome to Fishers Pointe Cooperative Preschool! We are really looking forward to a fun and exciting school year. The beginning of the year can be very overwhelming to both new and returning members, so please remember that the Board of Directors is here to help with any questions or concerns you may have. Your member folder contains a complete listing of contact information for every Board member. Please feel free to contact any one of us if you need help!

We'd like to remind everyone that TB testing will be available at the school next week. The Visiting Nurses Service will be at FPCP from 11:00 to noon on Tuesday, 9/1 to administer the tests, and they will return on Thursday, 9/3 to read the tests. If you have a TB test done on Tuesday, you **MUST** return to have it read on Thursday. The testing will be completed on a first-come, first-served basis, but priority will be given to parents who have children in kindergarten. The fee of \$13 is payable by cash or check only. If you would like to take advantage of this convenient service, please contact Rachel at rjbyrne3@comcast.net so we know how many people to expect.

We are pleased to announce that we have several Parent Education events scheduled for September! Teresa Hinkle will present a program on Separation Anxiety on September 15 at 7:00 p.m. We are also offering CPR classes on September 21 and 22, and First Aid classes on September 28 and 29. Watch your school mailbox and the bulletin board for details from Courtney Floyd, our Parent Education chair.

Be sure to save the date for our Fall Festival, to be held on Friday, October 23. We'll have fun games and crafts for everyone, along with delicious snacks.

Thank you for choosing FPCP!

Cooperatively,

Rachel Byrne and Meredith Pfligenstofer
FPCP Co-Presidents

Birthdays and Notes

Welcome all new and returning families!!!

Teddies
Zayd O. 9/5

Koalas
Katrell R. 8/23
Kindell R. 8/23
Ava H. 8/24

Bears
Chase B. 8/9

Pandas
Owen C. 8/4
Collin T. 8/14



Welcome to all the new families to FPCP. I hope you all had a great summer. Just a quick reminder that if you have not taken the CPT training (the required training for all classroom participants) that it is scheduled for September 28th and 30th. Each day will start at 9:00 and go until 12:00. Babysitting is provided for those in need. Please contact me if you haven't already at annie_liner@hotmail.com to sign up for this training. I am looking forward to a wonderful pre-school year with you!

Annie Liner
New Member Liaison

Get Ready for a Brand New Bears Year!

This is my third year as a Bears parent, but this year I have taken on a new role in the classroom. I am so excited to be teaching the Bears class! All the other teachers, Teresa, Carla and Judy have been so supportive. Thank you for all of your help so far and in the weeks to come! I can't wait to meet all the new families and to welcome back those from last year. I know we are going to have a great time learning and growing together! Let's get ready for a Brand New Bears Year!!!!!!

Marlo Landis

Fishers Pointe Cooperative Preschool was established in February 1996 by eight families willing to put in the time and effort to start the first (and still only) cooperative preschool in Hamilton County. Today, we are one of the largest and most successful co-ops in the Indy area by providing a quality preschool for almost 70 children.

The first cooperative nursery school was started in Chicago almost 100 years ago. Since then they have expanded and spread around the world. The first co-ops begin opening in the Indianapolis area by the mid 1950s and currently 12 co-op schools offer preschool and kindergarten programs. Cooperative preschools across the country and around the world are connected together through Parent Cooperative Preschools International (PCPI). In April 2010 co-op members from the across US and Canada will be in Indianapolis to celebrate PCPI's 50th anniversary!

We along with our local sister co-ops are members of the Indiana Council of Preschool Cooperatives (ICPC). ICPC is a non-profit organization whose volunteer board supports schools and teachers, unites and facilitates communication between all the co-op schools. Member schools must operate under educational and business standards established by ICPC. These standards guarantee every school and their teacher's offer a safe and appropriate play based early childhood educational program and a sound functioning of the co-op business. ICPC provides the highly qualified facilitators for Classroom Participation Training program that all new co-op members must attend. ICPC's group insurance program, school board training/support, teacher training, advertising and referrals are an important service that all ICPC co-op schools benefit from.

ICPC was instrumental in assisting Fishers Pointe to open in the fall of 1996, by providing funds, equipment and administrative support. With that strong foundation FPCP has been able to expand and grow because of all the hard work and dedication of hundreds of co-op families. Who, together lived up to the true definition of a cooperative: People working together for mutual benefit of each other.

Carla Bidwell

Back to School Thoughts from your Panda Teacher

O.K., O.K. I'm ready to accept that summer is ending and that I must come back to school. Don't get me wrong. I love school. But I also love summer! I love the warm weather, the long daylight hours, and the robins hopping in my yard at dusk. I love swimming, visiting my sister's boat, and eating ice cream. I also love farmers markets, long walks, and the Indiana State Fair. So now that I have enjoyed all of these things, and seen baby cows, pigs, and bunnies. Seen giant pumpkins, draft horses, and corn dogs, I'm ready to pull out the planner and the class roster and think about the new school year ahead. I look forward to welcoming all of the FPCP families to the school year. I hope you will enjoy our school time together and know that your children are in good hands as they explore, discover, experiment, and learn many new and exciting things! Co-op years are fun for us all. We learn new things, contribute to the school, help each other out, and make good friends. It really is a great little place we have here and I'm thrilled to be part of yet another year at Fishers Pointe Co-op Preschool!

Happily your panda teacher,
Judy Barmann

Parent Reminder

All school forms must be completed and turned in prior to your child's first day of attendance. The only exception would be the TB test forms, which may be turned in within the first 30 days of school.

Upcoming Parent Education Events

Please mark your calendars! One Parent Ed credit will be earned for each of the following events:

Coping with Separation Anxiety

Tuesday, September 15

7pm



Please join FPCP's very own Teresa Hinkle as she discusses how to cope with separation anxiety in preschoolers. She will also address how we, as parents, can cope with our emotions as we send our children off to school.

Heartsaver CPR

Monday, September 21st or Tuesday, September 22nd

6-10pm



Cost: \$35 for Heartsaver course
\$13.95 for Student workbook

First Aid Training

Monday, September 28th or Tuesday, September 29th

6-10pm

Cost: \$35 for First Aid course
\$13.95 for Student workbook



Provided that we have enough participants, CPR and First Aid will be offered on two nights.

Please choose the evening that works best for you. If we don't have enough participants signed up, we will hold the session on the evening that was most requested.

"Getting to Know FPCP" Classroom Orientation

Wednesday, October 14th

7:00pm

Presented by co-presidents Rachel Byrne and Meredith Pfligenstofer



Join us for a question and answer session regarding school policies and by-laws. Take a tour of the school to learn how things work and where things go.

Children are welcome to attend this event!

Classroom Conflict

Tuesday, October 20th

7pm



Teresa Hinkle will be discussing how to handle classroom conflict, while staying within the co-op philosophy. Learn how to address challenging classroom behaviors, as well as techniques to use to promote a positive classroom environment.

Bring your questions—Teresa will attempt to address all of your concerns.

Lion's Club Operation KidSight



The Lion's Club will once again be offering free vision screenings at FPCP. A consent form will be placed in your mailbox.

Koalas and Bears screenings will be held on Thursday, October 15th 9:30-11:30am.

Teddies and Pandas screenings will be held on Friday, October 16th 9:30-11:30am.

Parent Ed credits will not be earned for this event, however we will need two volunteers each day to help coordinate the screenings. Volunteers will receive service hours for participating.

If you have any questions or suggestions regarding Parent Education, please contact Courtney Floyd