



## *The Giving Nest Preschool May Newsletter*

May is an action-packed month at the Giving Nest! The children are excited to spend more time outdoors and are treated to an extra special Cast Ice Cream Sundae Party as a reward for their hard work and the wonderful job they did performing at the Spring Shows! Everyone did great and we are so happy we were able to watch them perform!

### *May Day Celebrations at the Giving Nest*

We begin the merry month of May by singing songs while dancing around a May Pole decorated with brightly colored streamers. We continue our May celebration by improvising on an old tradition believed to have originated



in Roman Times. These ancient people welcomed the long-awaited Spring month by filling May baskets with flowers and secretly giving the baskets to neighbors. Each class will be given a flowering plant to share with another class. During the morning the classes take turns tiptoeing to another room, knocking on the door, leaving the plant and scurrying quickly back to their room. They then peek out to see the delighted faces of the children in that class when they find the flowers outside the room.

Each class then will design a flower arrangement in a clay pot. The first plant planted will be the one they received on May Day. The children will take turns watering and tending to their petite garden.

## *Admission Packets for September 2021 Sent Home*

If your child is enrolled for the following school year you will receive this important packet. Please open immediately, there is important time sensitive information included. If your child is enrolled and you do not receive one, please call the school immediately.



### *Caterpillars are Coming to the Giving Nest*

Four to six caterpillars in a plastic cup will be given to each class. The children will observe these caterpillars busy eating and eating and growing and growing. The children will eagerly wait for them to spin a cocoon. The cocoons will then be placed in a butterfly house. Soon the cocoons will open and to your children's delight butterflies will emerge. At the end of the month each class will pick a special day to release their butterflies.

## *Trike-A-Thon*

It's time for our trike-a-thon! We are looking forward to an exciting and fun filled day!

For those of you who may be new to the school the Trike-a-Thon is a twofold event. First, it is a fun and unique way to raise money for a very



good cause, and second it is an opportunity for the children to learn bicycle safety. The money we raise will go to St. Jude's hospital. This is a special hospital for children only.

At Sing Time, starting in May we will be reading a delightful story about a bear who is learning the rules for riding a bike. On your child's class' designated day, each child's parent will bring his or her riding toy or bike to school along with his/her helmet. (check class calendars for designated day). All riding toys and helmets must be clearly labeled with first and last name. We will send an email as to the exact location for each class to drop their bikes to- the class name and teacher will be written in chalk specifying where to leave the bike or riding toy on that day.



After all the cars are gone the parking lot will be closed to cars and a riding course will be set up. Students will come up, five at a time, and the riders will negotiate the course using the rules that we had pointed out to them in our lessons. It really is a fun day! Parents are asked to collect and return the pledge money to the school as quickly as possible, so we can distribute the prizes before the end of the year.

St. Jude's is devoted to the treatment and research of childhood catastrophic diseases. The hospital opened its doors in 1962. Since then, children have been treated from across the United States and 60 foreign countries. St. Jude has brought overall cancer survival rates from less than 20 percent to better than 70 percent. Procedures originating at St. Jude's are now being used to treat children throughout the United States and other parts of the world.

How does all this work? Giving Nest parents give permission for their children to participate and obtain sponsors. These sponsors donate \$2.00, \$5.00 or more to the St Jude cause in name of the trike rider. **PLEASE NOTE: the children are allowed and encouraged to participate whether or not a donation is submitted! Simply sign and return the permission form. We understand that this year has brought many hardships, including financial, to so many, so please do not feel obligated to donate.**

In the past we have had several children who have just learned to ride two-wheelers bring in these bikes. The course involves turning and it was very difficult for the helpers to run after and support the children on two wheelers. Please, please bring in tricycles or riding toys if your child is not totally proficient on a two-wheeler.

## *Memorial Day Weekend*

Please note, the Giving Nest will be closed on Friday, May 28<sup>th</sup> and Monday, May 31<sup>st</sup> in observation of Memorial Day.

## *Looking Ahead... Bluebird and Cardinal Graduations*

This year our Bluebird and Cardinal Graduations will be following a similar process to the Spring Shows. This means that they will take place outdoors, will adhere to social distancing guidelines, and will allow a limited number of guests (4



per child). More information will be sent out regarding all of the particulars in the coming weeks.

**Save the Date...**

Monday June 14<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM – Class L (Rain date 6/18)

Tuesday June 15<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM – Class J (Rain date 6/17)

Wednesday June 16<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM – Class K (Rain date 6/28)