



THE SCHOOL SHED

AUGUST 2008

A Message From the Director

Welcome! Whether you are a returning family or a new one, we would like to welcome you to Town and Country.

This is very exciting for us to be going on our second successful year. We know that a successful school has many components. In addition to the directorship, the outstanding teaching staff and their experience, the stimulating curriculum and the safe environment, there comes the need for family involvement. Whether you are observing in the classroom, volunteering your time at school or at home, donating snacks or supplies, or just having a friendly chat with the staff; your involvement is important to the success of our school as well as the success of your child's preschool experience. We want you to know that you are special and we couldn't do it without you. Thank you for your support.

August brings new things. We have new friends, new families, new staff, new routines and new experiences. We start the school year with learning about, "Me and My New School." The children will be exploring parts of the body, learning their friends names and getting to know all about the rules and routines at school. We will celebrate red day by wearing red to school and making a red snack and the children will have the opportunity to share family pictures with the class on "show & tell" day.

Don't forget to take time to visit the classroom, peak at the bulletin boards and ask your child to have them tell you about their day.

ALLERGY AWARENESS

Town and Country has several children with allergies. These allergies can be life threatening, yet they are manageable. When donating snacks, please refrain from sending any items that contain peanuts or those that have been processed in a facility with peanuts. We also have two children that have wheat allergies. These can be serious as well, but again they are manageable. If you are bringing in a special snack for a birthday, party, etc.. If you could let us know in advance we can have the parents of these children bring in a snack for their child so that they do not feel excluded. For those children that eat lunch with us, please do not send any peanut butter sandwiches, trail mix, etc...Thank you for your cooperation.

Who's Who at Town and Country?

Due to the growth this year (we have already exceeded last year's total enrollment) we have hired new staff. Please welcome Ms. Alison and Ms. Olivia.

Ms. Alison

Hi, my name is Alison. I come to Town and Country with extensive education, training and experience in childcare, child education and child health. I love kids! My experience has allowed me to guide children through the hands on experiences to develop skills necessary for a useful and rewarding life. I have worked in a NICU and maternity unit nursery, in grade schools and in residential care facilities with special needs children. I have taught children and adults many subjects including knitting, crocheting, geography and biology.

My husband of twenty-one years and I have home schooled our two biological children through graduation. We are now looking forward to our new phase of life which is a long process of adopting three children from an orphanage. I look forward to serving your children with the respect and care I would like for my own children. Blessings to your family for the school year.

Ms. Olivia

Hello, my name is Olivia. I am a new employee here at Town and Country Preschool. I am a home-schooled graduate. As a career, I am planning to pursue either maternity or pediatric nursing. I have a number of years experience working with MOPS, general church child care, baby-sitting and as a crew leader in VBS. As part of my high school training I have studied early child development. I have current CPR and first aid training and I have taken American Sign Language for seven years. I enjoy signing to my sister, friends and neighbors. I have participated in 4-H for many years and have a herd of prize winning dairy goats with my sister. Last year we won overall State Grand Championship in the creative cooks category.

I enjoy spending time with my family and friends. I consider children to be one of my passions in life and I am so looking forward to being a big sister! I am also looking forward to helping your children learn in a fun and safe environment. I can't wait to meet you and your children.

Please say hello and welcome our new staff!!

So Long

Along with welcoming new staff, there comes a time when we have to say so long. Ms. Lin has recently informed us that her husband has gotten orders to go back to Guam. This came as a shock to all of us. Ms. Lin came to us shortly after we opened last year and has been a tremendous asset to our program. She will be missed by her children, families and her co-workers. Ms. Lin's last day of school will be Friday, September 26.

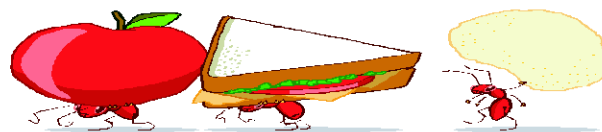
We love you Ms. Lin.

We would also like to say so long to Ms. Sari. Sari was a summer employee who worked in the extended care program. Ms. Sari will be leaving us on Friday, August 15 to go off to college. Ms. Sari has expressed an interest in helping out over school breaks and during the summer. Good luck Ms. Sari.

Why Are Healthy Lunches At School So Important?

A healthy lunch provides children with the energy and nutrients they need to grow, learn and play at school. Without adequate energy from food, children at any age, may feel sluggish, become more susceptible to illness and find it difficult to concentrate. It can also make rest time more difficult which in turn denies them of the proper rest children need to grow and develop. Below is a list of helpful hints you may want to consider when packing your child's lunch.

- Capture their attention with lunches that include a variety of shapes, colors and textures
- Use a variety of whole grain breads and cut them into triangles, diamonds or other fun shapes
- Decrease portion size. Few preschoolers will eat a whole sandwich, especially when he knows there are sugary items to choose from
- Consider the sugar content when you place a yogurt, pudding, granola bar and fruit juice in one lunch serving.
- Have your child be a part of the planning. Give your child several healthy choices and let him choose
 - Children are more likely to eat a food if they have helped with the preparation
- Consider packing lunches after dinner rather in the morning before school when you are rushed
- Consider packing water instead of fruit juice. Juices are loaded with sugar which decreases your child appetite



What's Happening at Town and Country?

On Thursday & Friday, August 14th & 15th we will have "red day" Everyone will be wearing red and we will have a red snack. On Thursday & Friday, August 21st & 22nd each class will have "show & tell." Bring in a baby picture, family picture or a picture of your pet.

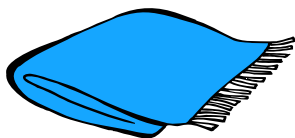
For other calendar events and details, please see the calendar section of our web site at www.TandCPreschool.com

THANKS

A big thank you to those of you that have already offered your time to volunteer, work from home or those of you who have donated snack and even napkins, tissue and cups. Although these items are not required of you, donations of any kind are always welcomed and greatly appreciated.

Nap Time

The Health Department requires child care facilities to separate blankets and sheets when not being used. Due to space limitations we are not able to accommodate pillows, large blankets, or stuffed animals. Please provide only ONE small blanket for nap time. This blanket must be able to fit into a 2.5 gallon ziplock baggie. Thank you for your cooperation!



August Birthdays

Devin L. 8/4

Alex G. 8/7

Amy W. 8/12

Treyvon A. 8/15

Jed P. 8/18

Ms. Laurie 8/20

Kael P. 8/22

Ryker A. 8/27



Happy Birthday!!