



# Sapphire Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 2

September 1, 2011

## Dear Sapphire Families:

We were so thrilled to have many of you attend the kindergarten ice cream social yesterday afternoon. It was a wonderful way to meet and socialize with fellow kindergarten families. As we strive towards normalization and moving from “random activity to a ‘normal’ state of inner peace” (Maria Montessori), we hope that you are using this time to establish your routines and satisfy parent requirements necessary to volunteer in the classroom.

### ANNOUNCEMENT:

With some fervor and dedication, Preston and his mom Penny have donated a tree frog and supplies to get him started. The class brainstormed and voted on a name, so stop by before or after school and meet “FROGHOP”. (Gotta love kindergarten creativity!) We are learning firsthand what a living creature needs in our afternoon cultural time. Once we learn how to care for FROGHOP, we will be inviting students to sign up to care for him on the

We can be reached at [jbullock@cacmp.org](mailto:jbullock@cacmp.org) or (916) 714-9699 and leave a message

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## Curriculum

As we continue to assess students' knowledge in the areas of Math and Language, we have begun some language (/s/ sound) and math lessons (counting and ordering numbers). If interested, please sign your student up for the Relationship Building hour. This time gives us insight into your child's learning modalities. Handwriting instruction will begin when assessments have been completed on all students. We have also introduced the “peaceful person” and the notion of a love light that shines within each of us. This introduction will lead us into other lessons that build upon a peaceful classroom environment. Our afternoon cultural lessons will focus on the following:

- Thurs: Plant needs
- Fri: Music & Art (puzzle piece)
- Mon: Labor Day holiday
- Tue: Overview of 7 continents & oceans
- Wed: Vertebrates vs Invertebrates

### Reminders

Thurs, Sept 1<sup>st</sup> Me Museum starts

Thurs, Sept 1<sup>st</sup> Book Orders due

Thurs, Sept 1<sup>st</sup> 5:30-6:30 7 Habits Training

**Fri, Sept 2<sup>nd</sup> Field Trip \$/forms due**

Fri, Sept 2<sup>nd</sup> Rosetta Stone preference due

Mon, Sept 5<sup>th</sup> Labor Day holiday

**Please turn in the two Field Trip forms, \$ for Fog Willow, and notify a teacher if you are able to drive. We still need at least 4 more drivers!**

## KUDOS

Parents: we want to thank you for your superb commitment to your child's attendance. With the exception of beginning of the year illnesses, all students have been present at school since the first day!! As we say to the students, "pat yourselves on the back!" Being at school every day helps your children establish a routine and achieve normalization.

Thank you also for your continued support with washing our classroom placemats, towels, and job rugs. With your efforts we hope to keep illnesses down to a minimum!

Also, you can use your receipts from donations of extra classroom supplies (provided they are separate from personal purchases made) and turn them in to count toward parent hours. Every \$23 counts toward one hour!!!!

Education is not something which the teacher does, but that it is a natural process which develops spontaneously in the human being.

(Absorbent Mind: p. 8)



Please remember to bring booster seats for your child.

**Yolanda** has volunteered to head our Walk-a-Thon Theme Basket, which is Arts and Crafts. We will be collecting donations relating to Arts & Crafts to create a desirable basket to be auctioned off at the Walk-a-Thon!

Please sign up to help on the day of the Walkathon, Fri, September 30<sup>th</sup>. We are in need of many volunteers to make the day successful. Sign-up sheets are on the door

### Homework Policy

Homework is not assigned at the kindergarten level.

On our class website, we have posted an OPTIONAL reading log if you would like to use it. As your children learn to read, they will be able to utilize the Accelerated Reader computer program. Books can be referenced from your child's reading log.

Additionally, at Back to School Night, we handed out Mystery Word List I. We would prefer that your students first focus on learning their sounds before learning the words on the list (sight words). If your child can successfully sound out and read CvC (consonant-vowel-consonant) words, you can begin helping him/her to learn the words on the list. As s/he masters those words with automaticity, you can notify us. We will then assess them and move them on to the List II and so forth from there.

Your Sapphire Team,  
Ms. Joann & Ms. Terra