



Milford Cooperative Preschool Newsletter

February 2010

In this Issue:	Time Capsules
Open House	Winter Parking
Pre-K Info	Reading Series
Spring Brunch	Thanks
Conferences	Tax Info

MCP Spring Open House

Sunday, February 21st

2-4pm

During this time of year, all pre-schools are working diligently to market their school to the general public. Through an All School Open House, two Library Open Houses, and Craft nights at Milford's McDonalds we are working toward getting the word out about our school. Our best marketers, though, are our own happy families. If you enjoy being a part of MCP, please tell your friends and invite them to attend the Open House on February 21. A \$35 referral bonus will be given if someone you refer registers for class. We have an updated brochure in the box on the front porch of the school. It includes class times and requirements, along with tuition information. Take one & give it to a friend!

Pre-Kindergarten Program

We are pleased to offer an additional choice to families for the 2010-2011 school year. Our new Pre-Kindergarten class will be offered five days a week, from 1:30 to 4:00 pm. Tuition will be \$225/month, paid in 10 monthly payments. This class is open to children who will be 4 years old by July 1st, with a minimum of 10 children required. For additional program details, please feel free to speak with Miss Susan or Miss Joyce.

Spring Brunch

Be sure to mark your calendar for our annual Spring Brunch on Saturday, March 27th, 8 to 10:30 am. This fun event offers something for the whole family. We will be serving pancakes, scrambled eggs and sausage, yum! There will also be an Easter egg hunt, craft time and some adorable spring-time animals to see. This event is open to the community, so feel free to invite your friends and family. Tickets will be on sale beginning March 1st.

Mid-Winter Break

Reminder: There will be a mid-winter break February 16 & 17, no classes. Looking for something to do? Why not pick up a Museum Adventure Pass brochure at your local library & experience a local museum for free! All that is required to attain one of these museum passes is a valid library card. Brochures are available at our local libraries or visit www.detroitadventurepass.org for additional information.

SUMMER CAMPS

We are currently planning this year's summer camps. If you are interested in running a camp, or have suggestions for one, please contact Jessica Molli at 248-390-0761 or jsam1020@yahoo.com

Ready... Set... Let's Talk!

Since the beginning of the school year, the staff have been working diligently to observe your child as they talk, learn and work. We then take that information and write anecdotes. Those anecdotes will provide the information that we will present to you the week of February 1st as we meet to discuss your child during Parent/Teacher Conferences.

The idea behind doing the evaluations in this way is that we don't set up a "test" atmosphere! We catch them doing what they do naturally. This will give us a more honest reading of the development of your child.

Your part of the conference is to come in ready to discuss your child's development and give us

your feedback about the school. Educating your child at MCP is a team effort...It's time for a team meeting. See you at conferences!

If you haven't made your reservation yet, there is a schedule of available conference times inside the front door of the school.

Miss Joyce

"It is becoming increasingly clear through research on the brain as well as in other areas of study, that childhood needs play. Play acts as a forward feed mechanism into courageous, creative, rigorous thinking in adulthood." -Tina Bruce, Professor, London Metropolitan University

Time Capsule Project

Have you been working on those time capsules? **The capsules are due on March 1 or 2 (Dad's Night).** You can bring your capsules with you. We will decorate and seal them as one of our centers. Then you can take your capsule home and tuck it in a safe place until you open it at a later date.

Here are a few more suggestions of things that your child could include:

- **List your favorite outdoor activities.** What sport do you play? What do you do outside for fun?
- **What will the world look like 10 years from now?** List things that will be different in the year 2020.
- **The best so far...** Draw a picture of your best day ever, best vacation, best teacher, best party.
- **Make a map...** your room, your house, your yard.



Winter Parking Procedure

During snowy weather, only one row of parking spaces is routinely plowed in the parking lot across from the school (the front row). We have permission during these times to park in the front row, even though the sign posted says preschool parking is only allowed in the back row.



Helping Your Preschool Child Become a Reader Part 4



In this multi-part series, we will feature information from author Ann S. Epstein, Ph.D. and the High/Scope Educational Research Foundation, an internationally known non-profit organization whose work centers on the learning and development of children.

As a parent or guardian, you are your child's first teacher. There are many things you can do to give your child a solid and enjoyable educational beginning.

Call your child's attention to reading and writing in everyday activities:

- Involve your child in making grocery lists and finding matching coupons. Let your child think of items for the "to do" list, help write notes and reminders, and so on.
- While riding in the car, point out letters and words on road signs, buildings, license plates and trucks.
- Read maps before you go to places. Find the

names of the beginning and ending streets and landmarks in between, and trace or highlight the route.

- Read the daily weather report in the newspaper or online. Match weather symbols and pictures with words.
- Read menus at restaurants. Make up menus for meals at home.
- Label the pictures in the family photo albums. When you are putting pictures in the album (for example, after a vacation or birthday party), ask your child to suggest a short caption to put under the pictures.
- Write thank-you notes and letters. Leave notes and reminders for each other.
- Help your child write, illustrate, and mail fan letters to your child's favorite performers or athletes. Your child will most likely receive a letter and photo in return.

Make a message board!

- *Make a message board to let your children know the plans for the day. This is especially helpful on weekends, when the routine may change.*
- *Hang the board at your child's eye level, for example, on the bottom half of the refrigerator. That way your child can see it, point to it and add his or her own messages.*
- *Use a dry-erase board, chalk board, or just a pad of paper. Each day, draw a few simple pictures and label them with easy words.*

EXAMPLE: *Suppose you are going to the playground and then grocery shopping. Draw and label a picture of a swing on one line, then put a picture of a grocery cart with the word "store" on the next line.*

- *Encourage your child to use the pictures and words to predict what will happen that day. At the same time you are helping your child learn to read, you are also promoting learning about sequences, an important concept in math.*



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Milford Cooperative Preschool is a
Non-Profit organization and does not
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creed, ethnic or national origin.

2009-2010 School Board

President: Phil Beesley, phil_beesley@yahoo.com
Vice-President: Amy Earl, amye610@yahoo.com
Treasurer: Kim Troger, kimberlytroger@comcast.net
Assistant Treasurer: Amy Fortin, amyfortin@sbcglobal.net
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Joyce Schonscheck, Director & Lead Three Year Old Teacher:

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Susan Osterhart, Lead Four Year Old Teacher:

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Tax Time

If you are a single, working parent or married where both parents work, you may be eligible to claim your MCP tuition as a childcare deduction on your taxes. Please contact Amy Fortin, Assistant Treasurer for a yearly payment receipt and see your tax professional for additional information.

Thank you to Carnival Bounce Rentals in Farmington Hills for donating the Cotton Candy Machine for a Classroom activity! You can contact Carnival Bounce for your own party fun at 248-231-5421 or www.carnivalbounce.com.



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A big thank you to Chef Joe and the Comeback Inn for our classroom pizza making experience on Feb. 1st and 2nd!