



Hinsdale Community Preschool



A Parent CO-OP School Since 1942



## Director's News

What's in a word? Relatives... "Who are your relatives?" asked Ms. Kathryn? "What are relatives?" asked the child. "Relatives are family members, like your Aunt, Uncle or Cousin." said Ms. Kathryn. "Oh" said the child, "we have none." "Does your mother have a sister or brother?" asked Ms. Kathryn. "Oh yes!" said the child. "My Auntie Kathy is my mother's sister!" "Then she is your relative" said Ms. Kathryn.....and so on it went. So much discussion, learning and understanding surrounded our story *The Relatives Came* during the Week of the Young Child! The connections that were made and the way the children related this story to their own lives was just beautiful to watch! Just the discussions that took place around the word "Relatives" was thought provoking for the children. I am sure you will agree that our teachers did a beautiful job of preparing activities around the book *The Relatives Came* that engaged and enlightened our little learners! Many thanks to the parents for sharing their travel journeys with us and their stories about their relatives. It was so much fun to learn about your extended families.

As we wind down to the end of this school year, my staff and I are so very appreciative of the support, dedication and love that all of our parents have given to us and the children throughout the year. Many thanks to Eric Makstnieks and the members of the Executive Board for the countless hours they have put into supporting our school this year! Thank you to all of the Board Members and families who spent many hours organizing, planning and participating in the fund-raisers, special projects, Scholastic books, publicity, work parties and so many other activities throughout the year that are too many to name here. Your support is invaluable to us!

I hope all of you have enjoyed your special time in the classroom with your child. These moments are so very precious. It is time well spent strengthening the parent/child relationship and building a strong foundation for a love of learning!

Many thanks to my teaching staff for their dedication, love and support this year. As each year goes by, I feel so blessed to be a part of this exceptionally dedicated staff. It is truly a gift to be surrounded by such educational talent! My gratitude is unending!

Thank you for entrusting your child to us this year. It is our hope that we have made a difference in his/her life. It has been a pleasure to watch your children grow and learn with us!

I wish all of you a safe, happy and healthy summer. For those families "moving on" to new adventures, I wish you much success in your new journey! Please come back to visit!

Ms. Ann Marie

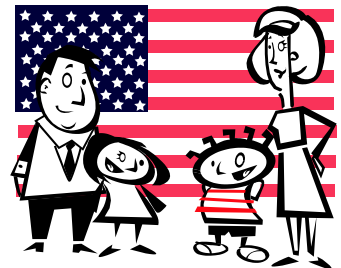
*It is good to have an end to journey towards; but it is the journey that matters in the end.*

~Ursula K. Le Guin

## Important Dates

- May 22 – Back to School Forms Due
  - May 5-9 – Teacher Appreciation Week
  - May 8 – Vision and Hearing Screening
  - May 16 – Just for Me Last Day of School
  - May 19 – Parent and Me Last Day of School
  - May 22 – Juniors/Seniors/JrSr PM Last Day
  - May 22 – End of Year Picnic at Robbins Park @ 11:20... Pack a Lunch!
  - May 27 – Dads Move Out Party
  - July 4 - Hinsdale's Independence Day Parade
  - June, July, August - Summer Long Fundraiser at Chuck's
- \*Important back-to-school dates, play groups and class lists will come out this summer via email.

## Hinsdale 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade 2014



Please watch your email over the summer for news about HCP's participation in the Hinsdale Fourth of July Parade! Mark your calendars! We look forward to having you joining us!

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## HCP Board News

HCP Families,

I would like to thank Ann Marie, the Executive Board and the rest of the Parent Board volunteers for their precious time this year. I have to admit the Presidency was easier than I thought it would be and that was the direct result of everyone's dedication to making HCP the best preschool for our children.

I would also like to thank our excellent teaching staff. All of our teachers work very hard to make HCP a first-rate early learning facility and I, along with all the parents, cannot be more grateful.

Finally I would like to thank all the families graduating this year for being part of HCP and wish everyone a wonderful summer.

Eric Makstenieks  
HCP President  
C# 630-484-6517

## End of the Year Celebrations!



You are invited to share in our HCP end of the year celebrations! **Our end of the year celebrations will be held the last hour of class for our Junior, Senior and Jr/Sr PM class on Thursday, May 22nd.** It has been a tradition in the Senior class to put on skits based on Classic Stories and the Junior class and Jr/Sr PM class will sing their favorite songs for you!

Just for Me and Parent and Me will have their own low key celebration on their day. Our Just for Me celebration will be at 10:45am on May 16<sup>th</sup> and our Parent and Me celebration will be during their class period on Monday May 19<sup>th</sup>.

The times are as follows:

**Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup>: Just for Me: 10:45am**      **Thursday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>:**  
**Senior Class: 10:00 am**  
**Junior Class: 10:00am**  
**Jr/Sr PM Class: 1:45pm**

Also, please join us for our end of the year picnic at Robbins Park on **Thursday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11:20!** Pack a picnic lunch, grab a blanket, and bring your family to enjoy a Spring afternoon with friends on the playground. We look forward to seeing you there!





## Vision and Hearing Screening 2014

On Thursday, May 8th the DuPage County Health Department will be offering Vision and Hearing screenings for our preschool children. The Illinois Child Vision and Hearing Test Act requires licensed childcare facilities to provide screenings for 3, 4 and 5-year olds and kindergarten students. The rationale for screening at these ages is two-fold: first, because parents cannot always detect their child is having trouble seeing or hearing and second, because early detection of vision or hearing problems leads to early treatment and potential improvement of outcome. For example, in the 2011-2012 school year, the DuPage County Health Department identified 1,200 children with vision problems. Of those identified with vision problems, forty-eight children were diagnosed with amblyopia or "lazy eye" - a condition which should be detected and treated by age six to prevent vision loss. Also of importance, approximately 80% of hearing problems respond to medical treatment if identified early.

HCP's main screening date this year is Thursday, May 8th during school hours – between 9am and 3:00pm. There will be a rescreening date on Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup> (also during school hours) for those who fail the initial screen or for those who are not available on the initial screening date.

If you are interested in having your child screened, you can choose vision screening or hearing screening or both (both are suggested). The screening fee is \$4 per test (thus, \$8 fee for both tests). Please make checks payable to "HCP." You will receive a card to fill out for your child prior to the screenings. If your child is under a doctor's care for vision problems, your child does not need to be screened.

We will need 2 parent volunteers from each class – Juniors and Seniors – and one from Jr/Sr PM class to help chaperone the children to the first floor of the Community House on Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup> during class time for the screenings. Last year, all the screenings (both classes) were completed in approximately 1 hour. Please email [jeanettehoenig@gmail.com](mailto:jeanettehoenig@gmail.com) to volunteer during the screenings. Thanks!

-Jeanette Hoenig, MD  
Board Certified Pediatrician and Neonatologist  
HCP Health and Safety Chair

Dear HCP Families,



From the bottom of my heart I would like to express my deepest thanks to all of the families who generously donated to the children of the Philippines.

Ever since Super Typhoon Haiyan/Yolanda struck Tacloban, Philippines last November, people from that city have been struggling to provide for their families. Homes have been destroyed and although almost 6 months have passed, the city of Tacloban is still trying to rebuild itself from the destruction. Your donations not only will provide comfort and clothing to children from that area, but happiness in their hearts knowing that people from across the world are still thinking about them. You all have truly touched my heart and am very fortunate to be part of the HCP family!

Your donations have been packed and will be shipped out to The Church of Christ in Tacloban City by the end of the week.

Thank you so much!  
-Ms. Sharleen Oca

## THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone on the Board and on committees for your contribution to HCP this year!

Ann Marie and the HCP teaching staff has dedicated this poem to you:

### The Parent Volunteer

A school is more than books and desks  
And learning two plus two  
It's people who share their skills and care,  
And try their best in all they do.

A helping hand, a willing heart,  
Sometimes that's all it takes -  
A simple gesture on someone's part,  
But what a difference it makes.

Thanks for all the little things  
The "done-and-then forgotten" things  
The "oh it's simply nothing" things  
That make our days much brighter

The un-obtrusive friendly things  
And "never mind the trouble" things

And "won't you let me help you" things  
You've made our hearts much lighter!

***HCP is a better place because of you!!***

***Thank you for your dedication and support!***



## 10 Easy Ways To Have Fun With Your Child This Summer

1. Make a rainy day clubhouse out of one or two large appliance boxes. Have your child draw doors and windows for you to cut out. Add pillows and carpet scraps.
2. Enjoy family pictures from previous summers.
3. Give your child recyclable materials – small boxes, plastic containers, fabric scraps to glue together as three-dimensional sculptures.
4. Start a summer time capsule to be sealed at the end of August. Brainstorm ideas for what to include. Examples: sand from the beach, a postcard from a friend, tickets to a children’s museum...
5. Layer sliced strawberries and yogurt in an ice-cream cone for a special treat!
6. Use water and a small brush to “paint” rocks, shells, twigs and other items collected from nature.
7. Mail a drawing and note from your child to last year’ teachers.
8. After drawing on a paper coffee filter with non-permanent markers of various colors, have your child brush water over it. Watch the colors blend and spread.
9. Go for a walk and look for geometric shapes. Ask your child if he/she can see a square shape on a house, a rectangle, a triangle etc.
10. Play a staircase beanbag game. Make five cards with a number on each card from 1 to 5. Put number 1 on the bottom step, number 2 on the next step up and so on. Take turns throwing the beanbag on the steps, starting at 1 and working up to 5. Then come back down again.

(The Well Centered Child-May 2002)



*Have a safe and happy summer!*