



## The Preschool Post Ms. Erica & Ms. Claire

### A Peek into Last Week!

Last week was full of maps, a nature scavenger hunt, a discussion about hygiene, a three little pigs collaboration project, watching a butterfly emerge from its cocoon, and flowers, all in 4 days! We started our adventures with maps. We read various books introducing maps, the various types of maps, and learned about legends/keys on maps. To support their learning, they created beautiful art using real maps as a canvas and were challenged to create their own map in the writing center. We also went on a nature scavenger hunt. Everyone had their own clipboard and page of items to find in nature. This activity was a hit and your children were very serious about finding all of the items in nature that were on their page. This activity also taught them to be observant of their surroundings in order to help them add more detail to their future maps. However, the week wasn't just about maps. Ms. Charley, mom to Miles and a Nurse, led our science unit and discussed the importance of hand washing to help prevent the spread of viruses. We also read a retold version of "The Three Little Pigs," afterwards they split into 3 groups and worked together to build a straw, stick, or brick house. All week there was a buildup of anticipation as we noticed the cocoon had a small crack, showing us that we would soon have a butterfly to release. Well, on Thursday around 11:45am, all of the children watched a butterfly emerge from its cocoon! We released, 'Crystal' as she was named, Friday morning. Finally, Friday we talked about Claire's upcoming wedding, so most of the children drew flowers for her wedding, a map to her wedding cake, and a few versions of her in her wedding dress! Your children have very big hearts!

Oh, per your children's request, I am attaching the Butterfly song they learned last week: [Butterfly Metamorphosis Song](#)



"I made Liork" inspired by the city of New York



Nature Scavenger Hunt



Nature Scavenger Hunt



Maps in Art



Maps in Art



Counting in the Math Center



Examining a deceased butterfly (not ours!)



Identifying letters



Sorting letters by color and identifying letters



Building a house of sticks



Building a house of straw



Building a house of bricks



Flowers for Ms. Claire



A dress design for Ms. Claire



Risk play on the playground



Anticipation as the butterfly was almost ready to emerge



Anticipation as the butterfly was almost ready to emerge



Newly emerged butterfly, wings were still wet



Ms. Charley's Introduction

## Hygiene & Hand Washing

We are quickly approaching the flu season and have already had a few sniffles in the classroom. So, it was a teachers dream come true when Ms. Charley, mom to Miles and a Nurse, asked if she could lead a discussion about hand washing and hygiene. Therefore, on Wednesday, our science unit was all about germs, viruses, hand washing, and the importance of hygiene to decrease the spread of germs.

Ms. Charley was a phenomenal speaker. She introduced herself and profession, explaining that she helps care for people in the hospital who are sick. She then read a book titled, "Germs Are Not For Sharing," by Elizabeth Verdick. This led to a wonderful Q&A discussion about being sick and the children shared about times they were sick. Ms. Charley also explained how it is important to wash their hands after using the restroom and blowing their nose, before and after eating, and after playing as well. She also taught them how to cough and sneeze into their shoulder and not their hands



Ms. Charley Reading



Passing Around a Toy



Showing 3 Different Illnesses

and it is very important to keep their hands out of their eyes, nose, and mouth to help decrease the spread of germs.

After the discussion, we did an experiment to visually show how germs are actually shared. I created 3 illnesses, the cold virus, the flu virus, and strep throat. Each illness was labeled and in the form of a specific color of glitter. The children took turns picking 1 virus, then afterwards they were told to give their friends a high-five. That's when the magic began, they realized they not only had a cold, but also strep throat, and sometimes all three. Then I passed around a toy zebra for everyone to touch and see how their glitter (aka germs) were spread even further. Immediately, 2 children jumped up to go wash their hands. This quickly caught on and pretty soon everyone wanted to wash their hands. As your children washed their hands, they also practiced a new hand washing song to help remind them how to wash.

### Hand Washing Song

Tops and bottoms  
Tops and bottoms  
In between  
In between  
All around your hands  
All around your hands  
Now they're clean  
Now they're clean

(tune Frere Jacques)

# Reminders & Suggestions

- If you have any older **hand towels, kitchen towels, and/or cloth napkins** that you are looking to donate, feel free to send them our way. It is helpful to our environment to use towels instead of paper towels to clean up small spills and help keep our hand washing area clear of extra water on the counter.
- Going to the chapel and she's, going to get married...**Claire is getting married** Saturday the 15th!! She will be out Wed. - Fri. We are very excited for your big day!
- **Field Trip & In-School Experience Permission Slips** will be going home throughout the month of September, please check your child's backpack often. I will also do my best to send a quick email blast letting you know to look in the backpack.
- **Please send in a shoebox** to help the children make treasure chests as part of our extension of maps and introduction to pirates.

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## Dates to Remember

- **Friday, Sept. 14th, Show & Tell (aka Public Speaking).** Your child may bring one (1) small item that starts with the first letter of their first name. If your child attends M-W, they will share on Wednesday.
- **Field Trips:**
  - **September (in-school experience)** Note: Sept. 28th was just added
    - Wed., Sept. 12th @ 9 a.m. - Police Officer visit
    - Thurs., Sept. 13th @ 9 a.m. - Fire Department visit
    - Tues., Sept. 25th @ 9 a.m. - Lexington Humane Society visit with a child friendly dog
    - Thurs., Sept. 27th @ 9 a.m. - Wildcat Guide Dogs visit
    - Fri., Sept. 28th @ 11:45 a.m. - Lansdowne Veterinarian Clinic visit with a child friendly dog
  - **October**
    - Fri., Oct. 12th @ 11 a.m. - Evans Orchard
  - **November**
    - Fri., Nov. 9th @ 10 a.m. - Lexington Children's Theatre's Production: The Snowy Day
  - **December (in-school experience)**
    - Mon., Dec. 10th @ 10 a.m. - Lexington Philharmonic visit with their interactive Instrument Petting Zoo
- **Notes Regarding Field Trips:**
  - **All preschool students** are encouraged to attend all of the field trips. We would love to have everyone be able to enjoy these cultural experiences and create wonderful memories.
  - If an in-school experience is **schedule on your child's off day**, please bring your child for the time period of the visit, we

simply ask that you stay during this time as well.

- **Permission Slips will be sent out for all field trips with due dates.** Please turn in the permission slips before or on the due date, as reservations will need confirmations with specific numbers of attendees with the venues.
  - We love having **more family members and siblings** on field trips; however, we will ask you to please pay for the extra members prior to the scheduled field trip for reservation confirmations with venues.
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- **September 18th** - Redwood Night at Chile's
  - **October 3rd-5th** - Fall break, no school

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## Working Parents September 10 - 14, 2018

**Monday:** Zonio (Substitute)

**Tuesday:** Bishop (Luke)

**Wednesday:** Cox (Quinn)

**Thursday:** Hankins (Eliza)

**Friday:** Abbott-Emen (Noah)

[Working Parent Schedule of Expectations](#)

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*Thank you for sharing your children with us!*  
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