

## Preschool Weekly News

from Ms. Lauren & Ms. Megan's Class



**Working Together to build a Fort!**



**"I'm making a dirt angel!"**

### Last week at Redwood: Intro to our Dinosaur Project

This was the first week of our new dinosaur project and we used this week to transition and design how we would organize learning and playing during this fun theme! To drive our dinosaur project, we started out by creating a Preschool friendly KWL chart. For the first part of this, we created a web together titled "What do we **KNOW** about dinosaurs?" Throughout the project, we will add to this web in different colors to show what we are learning.

Then, we created a list based on the driving question "What do we **WONDER** about dinosaurs?" Children came up with a great list of questions such as...

- Did dinosaurs have feathers?
- What did dinosaurs eat?
- Why did a Triceratops have horns?
- Where did the dinosaurs live?
- Could dinosaurs swim?

We are going to use these questions to organize our unit and we are going to have a lot of fun in the process.

Here are the **some** of the fun things we did together this week:

- Shared some great books together during read aloud time! (*If the Dinosaurs Came Back*, *Howdo Dinosaurs Stay Safe?*, and *Mamasaurus*) as well as non-fiction books all about dinosaurs. We reviewed parts of a

book, author/illustrator, and introduced the difference between fiction and non-fiction literature.

- Began an art project with water color paint, crayons, cutting paper, and using shapes (circle, triangle, rhombus, and rectangle) to create our own dinosaurs). This activity goes along with the book *If the Dinosaurs Came Back* by Bernard Most that we read together at the beginning of the week.
- Painted dinosaur tracks by dipping plastic dinosaurs in paint and stomping them across paper.
- Dug for dinosaurs in sand in our sensory center and created a dinosaur world with dinosaurs, sand, rocks and plants.
- Completed our Human Body paper bag projects.
- Played a cooperative, whole group game called "Dinosaur, Dinosaur, what do you see?"
- Participated in new songs and dances at Morning Meeting like "We are the Dinosaurs" and "I'm a Stegosaurus".
- Used our flip book of famous buildings in the world and replicated them in the building center.
- Practiced the "Pickup a Crayon" song from our Handwriting Without Tears curriculum to teach children how to hold their writing utensils correctly with the pincer grasp. During this activity we also reviewed names for the different fingers that we use to hold a crayon or pencil when writing.

**My thumb is bent  
Pointer points to the tip  
Tall man uses his side  
I tuck my last two fingers in  
and take them for a ride!**

- For our whole group science lesson, we talked about GERMS and how they are spread and to emphasize the importance of hand washing and keeping our fingers out of our mouths. To demonstrate this, we used 2 different colors of glitter (we pretended one was the cold virus, and one was strep throat). We sprinkled glitter on everyone's hands and then had them give high fives and shake hands with their friends. When we were done, they realized they had BOTH colors of glitter all over their hands and had to wash their hands in order to get rid of the "germs". Here is a hand washing song that we taught them:

**Tops and bottoms, tops and bottoms  
in between, in between  
wash all around your hands, wash all around your hands  
now they're clean, now they're clean**



**"Pickup a Crayon" working on our pincer grasp!**





### Our Human Body Projects



### Learning about GERMS!

### Coming up...

Next week at Redwood we will focus on different types of dinosaurs! Each day we will read a fun dinosaur related fiction book and also do some dinosaur research with non-fiction dinosaur books in our classroom to learn about different types of dinosaurs. We will also introduce what a Paleontologist is and do some

archaeology work to dig up dinosaur fossils. We have a great cooperative art project planned as well!

In addition to our dinosaur work, we will also host a visit from the Lexington Police Department as well as the Fire Department and see a fire truck! It is important, interesting, and fun to introduce children to helpers in our community and teach them important lessons about safety as well.

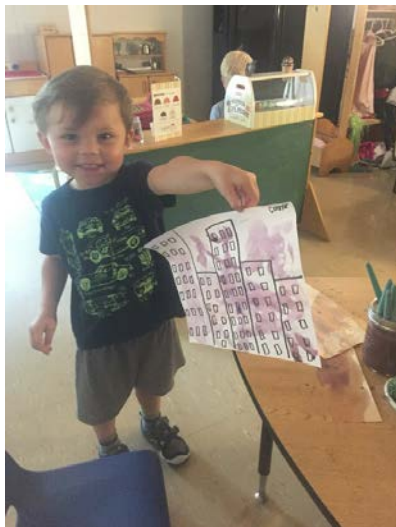


### Working Parents for 9/4-9/7

- Mon 9/10: Coning (Eleanor C.)
- Tues 9/11: Ayoroa
- Weds 9/12: Pierce
- Thurs 9/13: Stump (Chloe)
- Fri 9/14: Min (Oliver)

There is a schedule for working parents posted on our classroom cabinets. Rest time is at 1:00. We try to save things to work on for our working parents, but at the beginning of the year, we usually do not have enough to fill that entire time period (we have a lot of nappers in our room and they sleep til 2:15!). So, if you are a working parent and would like to bring along a book or something for the time period when children are resting, you are welcome to.

**We are so appreciative of all our families!  
Thank you for partnering with us!**



**Showing off their Artsy Sides!**



**Digging for Dinos!**

## Reminders & Important Dates

- On Friday, we sent home folders with your child's name on it. Your children work very hard on their free artwork as well as class projects. We will be using this folder to send these things home at the end of your child's week. We also included our first field trip permission slips in these folders. Many of their projects are displayed in our classroom and will go home when we take them down to put new projects up. **Please return your child's folder to school on their first day back the next week! Field trip permission slips have a due date on them and should be returned by the date listed on the form.**
- **Field Trips:**
  - **September (in-school experiences)**
    - 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
  - **October 12 @ 11 a.m.: Field Trip to Evans Orchard.**
  - **November 9 @ 10 a.m.: Lexington Children's Theatre's production of *The Snowy Day* by Ezra Jack Keats**
  - **December (in school experience): An Interactive Musical Petting Zoo with The Lexington Philharmonic.**
- **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**, you are welcome to 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.
- Thank you for labeling! Please continue to label all of your child's items and food. Please mark which food items are for snack.
- **Show and Share is every Friday! Your child may bring an item on Friday to share with the class at share time. This item must be able to fit in your child's back pack. If your child only attends school on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, they may bring their item to share on Wednesday instead.**



**Meet Austin! Austin joined our classroom last week and we are overjoyed to have him. Please help us welcome Austin and his family to our classroom community!**

**Thank you for sharing your special children with us!**

**Love, Ms. Lauren & Ms. Megan**

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