

Grant Park Cat Class September Newsletter

Hello Mommies and Daddies,

In the last newsletter we had proclaimed our mantra was, "Every day and every way we are getting better and better". It seems it was as magical as saying "abracadabra", because every single child is finding joy in their school day. We believe learning happens when we are relaxed, happy, and feel safe with our peers and environment. Inserimento is about finding that happiness and working through the stress that accompanies any new change. Now that we are happy and safe, we are free to start learning about school's routines, our friends, and ourselves.



The sands have turned to water at the sensory table, and it has been a slippery fun time learning how to keep the water in the table. We recently explored frozen water colors. We filled a small bin with frozen cubes of many colors and we got our hands cold and wet blending the cubes on paper. It was tempting for some children to not "taste the rainbow". It only took a try or two for them to realize that the colors look prettier than they taste. Thank goodness for non toxic paint.

After being gone a few days between labor day and hurricane Irma, we finally had a musical

Monday with Miss Mel. There was lots of dancing. Spanish class has also been a time to let loose and dance with our friends. Miss Clara does an amazing job of engaging the children in Spanish. We are so thankful for her. And we are so thankful that Fall is here and our Cat class is quickly shaking off their inserimento blues and getting into the rhythm of school.



We have been working on family collage placemats for the children to have for snack time and lunch. Please email brittany.gondolfi@gpcp.org 3-5 pictures of your family so that each child will have one. The placemats are a way for the children to begin forming their familial identity at school and share images of their family with their friends.



Recently, Miss Britt and an educator from CT Campus, went to a two day Conscious Discipline workshop. It was a life changing experience. Inspired by what we learned, we are working on revamping our safe space, increasing the amount of love rituals throughout the day, and creating visuals to accompany the daily routine. Love rituals are anytime we make a one on one connection with a child. It can be the "wash your hands song", clapping for each friend at snack time, a hug, high five, a song sung at the changing table. Any moment

we can take to stop, slow down, and let a child know that they are loved, valued, and appreciated, increases our class's level of serotonin, endorphin, and oxytocin, also known as Joy Juice. We believe the foundation of a successfully implemented conscious discipline practice is Joy Juice.

In addition to working on our Joy Juice classroom supply we are also aiding children in adapting to the routine by creating visuals that exemplify how to line up by the door, how we sit in the circle, how we dump our plates, wash our hands. The children love the applause and knowing that they lined up or put away their plate picture perfect.



Speaking of pictures. Thanks to everyone who helped at picture day. It was an amazing success. And speaking of success, each one of your children is doing fabulous at school. Everyday and every way we are growing a little bit more. Thank you for being a part of our growth.

A few reminders:

- **School closed for Fall Break:** Monday through Wednesday, October 9, 10 & 11 (children return to school on Thursday, October 12th)
- **Stroller-K Run/Walk Benefit:** October 21, 10am Roswell, GA Join GPCP staff in support of Project Infinity's first fundraiser

- **Family-Educator Conferences: Oct. 17th-20th**
- **Halloween Parade: Tuesday, October 31st @10:30am**

Thank you, Miss Britt & Miss Jamely