

Cats Class January 2019 Newsletter

Happy New Year

Welcome back Cat families! We hope that you all have had a relaxing break. We can not wait to see what the rest of the 2019 school year has in store for the Cat's Class. **Thank you very much for participating in the class meeting last Thursday!**



Welcome Denis

We are excited to welcome Denis Kececigil and his family into the Cat class. Denis has had a smooth and easy transition into the Cat Family. He has already embraced our class' routines and has started building relationships within his first few weeks.



Auction Project

The annual auction is approaching expeditiously. Due to our class strong interest in the studies of Light, Movement, Painting, and Building; we have decided this year's auction project will be the creation of two chandeliers. The children have been preparing for the auction all year during their work in small groups. Our time exploring Light and Shadow in small groups have given the children the opportunity to work with many different types of light. The children have access to light ropes, handheld flashlights, book lights, and rainbows that cast on our walls from prisms hanging in the Ladybug class. During the exploration of these small groups the main interest has been primarily on how light moves about the space. While painting in small groups we have begun painting on different mediums that will be similar to the final material we will use for the project. Using materials such as large stones, granite tile pieces, and plastic ornaments helps the children to experience painting on surfaces that are completely different than standard paper.



Field Trips - The High Museum

As a reminder, during the month of February, we will begin taking small group field trips to the High Museum of Art. The museum offers many different areas of exploration that

combine movement of light and color. Ashley has visited this area of the museum and we believe that this would be a great addition to our current thread of light work. These small group field trips would be in groups of 3 or 4. GPCP has the ability to transport two children at a time, but we would love a parent and child volunteer to meet us at the museum and experience this with us. Please let us know if you can accompany us, either on a day when your child is in school or a day when they are not in attendance.

Parent Helper Duties

We would like to remind Parents of the ongoing duties of the Parent Helper. For parents who have not gotten the opportunity to complete Parent Helper days or are unsure of the duties, the list is hanging inside of the classroom above the sink. We want to stress the importance of sanitizing both the cats and ladybugs classes during playground time. With the weather changing every other week this helps prevent the spreading of sicknesses that are already developing. Please read up on the Health Policies in the Family Handbook starting on pg. 40 to be informed on when a child should stay home to prevent the spread of illnesses. Here are a few points from the Health Policies :

- **When Should My Child Stay Home?** Fever: The child should be fever-free for 24 hours before coming back to school.
- **Strep Throat:*** The child should return only after 24 hours on medication. The child must be showing signs of improvement and be willing to eat and drink.
- **Colds/Runny noses/Coughs:** If your child's runny nose will require frequent attention from the educator or if the child is irritable or running a fever, he/she should not be in school.



A Few Reminders:

★ Please remember to sign your child in on both the computer and the paper log in the class.

★ Please make sure that all clothes, cups, and containers are labeled with your child's first name and last initial.

★ **Please remember that as the weather starts to get colder we will still be going outside. as long as the "feels like" temperature is 35 degrees or above. Please be sure that your child comes prepared and dressed accordingly everyday.**



Calendar:

- **Wednesday, January 30th - Child Talk Series at CT Campus 7:00 to 9:00pm**
(read more about it in gabriela's December letter)

- **Friday, February 8th - Grant Park Picture Day**
- **Tuesday, February 12th - Child Talk Series 7:00 to 9:00pm**
- **Monday & Tuesday, February 19th & 20th - Winter Break - NO SCHOOL**
- **Wednesday, February 21st - Planning Day for educators - NO SCHOOL for children**
- **AUCTION: Saturday, March 23th**