

Dear Families,

Now that it's May, we would like to you know that on our last day of school is Wednesday, June 5th. Please save the date for our end of the year picnic and PM class graduation on this day. During the AM class, all families are invited to come in to school from 9:00AM-11:00AM for our class party and awards ceremony. During the PM class, all families are invited to come in to school from 12:30PM-2:30PM for our class party and graduation!

Highlights from this Week

We are totally loving our ABC countdown so far!
This week please look forward to:

Monday: F for Fitness

Tuesday: G for Games

Wednesday: H for Happy Birthday

Thursday: I for Ice Cream

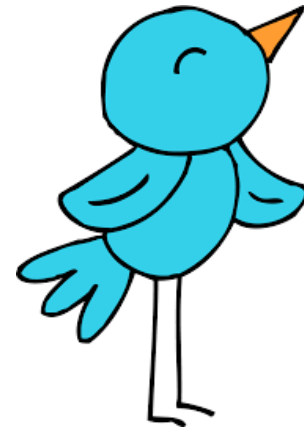
Friday: J for Jokes

Also check out the preschool Facebook page to see pictures from each day of our countdown!

www.facebook.com/avocaprek

May Family Field Trip: May 23rd

The field trip letter was sent home in backpacks! It's on a bright green paper. Remember, our field trips are family field trips and every student needs to be accompanied by an adult. If you are unable to attend the field trip, please remember there is no regular preschool at Marie Murphy that day. We hope to see you there.



Science Tip for Preschoolers: Sunny day activities

Exploring Shadows

Invite children to look at the shapes of shadows cast by trees and other objects. Show them how to make chalk outlines of shadows. Half an hour later, suggest that they revisit their outlines. They can make new outlines in a new color. After 30 more minutes, check again. Each time, ask them to notice where the sun is in the sky. Talk about possible explanations for the changes they see.

Evaporation

Provide buckets of water and large paintbrushes or rollers. Invite children to "paint" sidewalks, bricks, trees, etc. After a few minutes, ask them to notice which of the places they painted have begun to dry. They will probably see that sunny areas dry faster than shaded areas. Discuss their ideas about what happened. ny other feeling words that children should learn to express, such as the following:

Centers and Reminders

Center	Activities	Why are these activities so important?
Blocks	Cars Garages ABC Parking lot	Creative play; turn taking; strengthening fine and gross motor skills; task persistence and problem solving
Table Toys and Games	Stringing beads and shoelaces Pokey pictures- pushpins and cork boards Initial sound sort Rhyme flowers	Visual discrimination; measurement and size; turn taking with a peer; hand-eye coordination
Dramatic Play	Flower Store -Flowers sorted by color -Building bouquets -Cash register and money	Developing language and social skills; socialization and building friendships; imaginative and pretend play; sharing materials and turn taking
Writing	Stickers, markers, bingo dabbers, scissors and paper	Fine motor skills; early literacy; language development
Library	Spring-related books Cardboard "reading" castle	Book-handling skills; social interactions; imaginative and pretend play; early literacy
Sensory	Colorful pebbles Shovels Toy CAT trucks Buckets	Sensory; fine motor development; volume and measurement; science concepts- sink/float, solid/liquid, hard/soft; sharing materials with peers
Snack	Self-serve during center time Ice Cream Thursday	Self-help; language development and social skills
Art	Mother's Day project Painting at the easel	Expressing creativity; developing fine motor skills; Applying new knowledge
Tech	Music and iPad games during some days	Turn taking; developing hand-eye coordination and fine motor skills; practicing various cognitive skills (literacy, math, science concepts)
Science	Developing butterflies Mirrors and geometric shape blocks	Exploring cause and effect; making observations; turn taking with peers

Important Dates:

May 17th- Mrs. Hale's Birthday

May 23rd- Field Trip to River Trails Nature Center

May 27th- No School (Memorial Day)

June 5th- AM Field Day/PM Graduation

