



THE ELLWOOD EXAMINER

Sept 2010



Newsletter for ELLWOOD HOUSE

TUCKAWAY'S 2nd ANNUAL

"DIVE-IN MOVIE NIGHT"

... RE-RE-RESCHEDULED!



One storm cloud came over just as we were about to show our movie. At the request of those that came out, and to give those that couldn't

attend last week another chance, we will be holding our "Dive-In" at Tuckaway-Barony, Wednesday, September 1st at 7:00pm. The movie will begin around 7:30pm.



If you have "Back To School" night at your elementary school, come on out afterwards! Bring your family, friends along with a float or chair, and enjoy "Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa" under the stars!

HOWILL'S EXCELLENT ADVENTURE CONTEST COMES TO AN END

During August, Howill met pirates, rock stars, a chef, a puppeteer and he is currently with master storytellers. Here are August's winners:

- Week 7: Pirates usually have a parrot on their shoulder, but this week Blackbeard had Howill! Although the Caribbean is thought of having pirates, Blackbeard spent most of his time off the coast of North Carolina. Sam M. of Tuckaway-Barony's Cardinals class guessed correctly that his ship was named the "Concord"
- Week 8: The Beatles had many hit records and albums, but Howill wanted to be a part of "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band"! Kara V. of Tuckaway-Barony's Eagles class guessed correctly... unfortunately, Howill was not able to find his way on the cover of the album.
- Week 9: Howill loves food, but usually the kind that scurries on the ground, so meeting Julia Child was a real treat. Sophi R. of Tuckaway-Barony's Falcon class guessed correctly that she wrote "Mastering The Art Of French Cooking". Howill was relieved that he wasn't on the menu.
- Week 10: Howill visited Jim Henson, creator of The Muppets. No one has correctly guessed correctly about what Howill learned, so check out his page and you may win movie tickets for your family!
- Week 11: Howill is currently visiting Brothers Grimm and hearing a lot of good stories. Check out his clues at his page to win!

These smart students won "Family 4 Packs" to Bow Tie Cinemas for correct answers.

Next week, Howill will pull a name out of his hat for the last summer winner. If you've guessed correctly, but haven't won, you're name is in the running!

BACK TO SCHOOL REMINDERS FOR ALL AGES

It's back to school time, and we all need to refresh and get ready for the fall! Here are some friendly reminders to help make everyone's days at Tuckaway smoother:

- Please remember to always sign your child in and out at the front desk. While our teachers take constant roll of children under their supervision, we need this document to be as accurate as possible in case of an emergency.
- Children who nap at Ellwood must have a *clean* sheet and blanket every Monday. **This is a Virginia State licensing requirement.** If you forget naptime linens on Monday, please be sure to bring it by the center by 12:30pm that day.
- All children (infants through school agers) need to keep a spare change of seasonally appropriate clothing at Ellwood. Once those temperatures start to drop, please exchange those shorts and t-shirts for something a little warmer! Also, please make sure that all clothing is labeled.
- School Age parents! Please let us know by phone or email if your child does not need to be picked up by the Tuckaway van that day. Our afternoon van pick-up schedule is very tight, and we simply cannot leave other children at other schools waiting.
- Friday is Share Toy Day! Please do not allow your children to bring toys from home (other than a soft naptime buddy) Monday through Thursday. Our teachers (and children) cannot keep track of individual toys, and more often than not, they end up lost or broken. Toys brought from home Monday through Thursday will be kept at the front desk.

HOME AND SCHOOL CONNECTION CORNER- NEW CHANGES

With the new school year among us, many of your children are in new classrooms, or new to Tuckaway Ellwood all together. While it can be an exciting experience, those "first day jitters" can last longer than the first day. To ease any nervous feelings (for both child *and* parent), here are a few tips to help drop-offs become a little easier:

- Talk about the new experience- Listen to your child carefully and answer all of his/her questions. If you don't know the answer, find out together. Reading books about a new classroom, school, or friends can also prepare your child for his/her new experience.
- Share your feelings- It's okay for your child to know you're nervous, too! The most important thing you can do is to share your feelings during drop-off, but reassure your child that today will be fun and you will see them later that day.
- Always say good-bye- Children need closure when you are leaving for work, and always saying goodbye reinforces the trust between you two. If your child is still upset when you need to leave, it's okay! Part of those first few weeks in a new classroom is allowing your child to form a bond with his or her teacher, too!
- Develop a routine- Departure routines help reassure your child when he/she feels stressed and nervous. When things happen at the same time every day, your child knows what to expect and how it will happen. Keeping a strict routine until departures become easier is the best way to help your child feel in control of the situation.

Don't forget to check out our Home and School Connection Corner Library in the front lobby. We have included books that relate to new experiences and feelings for you and your family to enjoy at home!

DAP: LETTERS, LETTERS, ALL AROUND

Walking into your child's classroom, you may notice that simple objects are labeled "door" or "sink". Of course, children at a certain age learn that this is a door or that is a sink, but why are they labeled?

Labeling our classrooms helps children learn Concept of Word. Concept of Word is the understanding that printed words hold meaning and represent an object, place, person, or idea. By labeling our classrooms' common items, children can begin to acquire Concept of Word at an early age. Children will often point to these words and pretend to read them or even point out familiar letters. Typically, children understand Concept of Word once they are able to point to words as they "read" them. For example, a child pointing to the words in a nursery rhyme may not truly be reading each individual letter, but knows that each group of letters represents a word within the rhyme. While Concept of Word is not typically formed until pre-k to first grade, labeling familiarizes young children with our language and helps them to understand that these strange symbols we call the alphabet represent real things!

One of the most important parts of Developmentally Appropriate Practice is classroom environment. By making the slightest changes (such as labeling common objects), children discover new things and build skills that benefit their cognitive, language, social/emotional, and physical development.

SCHOLASTIC IS BACK!

Every school year we bring back Scholastic Book Orders. Hard copy catalogs will be placed in your child's file folder monthly or you are free to place your order online at www.scholastic.com/bookclubs (class activation code: GM7GT). Even better, every time an order is placed online, Ellwood House receives one free book! We strongly encourage you to continue the emphasis on literacy at home by ordering each month!

Also, please feel free to check out books at the front lobby in our Home and School Connection Corner. Here you can find books relating to the seasons and even take-home games that promote literacy, science, and math skills. Help yourself!

WE'RE REORGANIZED!

Welcome to the 2010-2011 school year at Ellwood! We had a great summer, but we're excited to settle down and get back into our fall routine. Friday, September 3rd was Tuckaway's Annual Reorganization Day and our teachers took advantage of the day to clean, organize, and rebuild for the new school year and new students. Please feel free to take a look around your child's classroom to see the changes we've made, and we thank you for joining us this past summer!

DON'T FORGET!

- Friday, September 3rd- Tuckaway closed for Reorganization Day
- Monday, September 6th- Closed for Labor Day
- November 25th & 26th- Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday
- Friday, December 24th- Closed for Christmas Holiday
- Friday, December 31st- Closed for New Year's Eve

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Miss Kendall (OB) 9/5
Mr. Otha (E) 9/11
Lucy D. (OB) 9/12
Willie J. (OB) 9/12
Gavin M. (BB) 9/15
Cate G. (C2) 9/18
Mr. Eric (YB) 9/24
Celia A. (YB) 9/27
Elizabeth M. (E) 9/28
Sarah Grace T. (C2) 9/29
Miss Daihara (C2) 9/30

WELCOME TO ELLWOOD!

The Cox Family (S)
The Kobal Family (OB)
The Kwitchen Family (BB1)
The Gazzuolo-Thrun Family (GB)
The Johnson Family (E)
The Martin-Landy Family
The Morand Family (GB)
The Whitthoeft Family (BB)
Andrew G, brother of Cate (BB)
Welcome back, Camden M. (GB)
Miss Empress (C)
Miss Tenoiya (F)

LOOK AT WHAT WE DID TODAY...



ELLWOOD HOUSE - SEPTEMBER 2010