



Under the Oaks...

This week you may have seen us walking around and checking out our camera placements. We had 10 cameras mounted over the summer and as we have been using them or checking notifications, we found two gaps in areas not covered so we were planning the placement of two more cameras. So far these cameras have produced the most interesting content over the nighttime hours with many animal visitors on the campus. We have had opossums, skunks, a couple cats, and a fox! We do love our location near the park and our neighborly wildlife.

Not so neighborly are the mosquitos! We realized Monday that our barrels of Mosquito Nix were empty. They were refilled on Wednesday. This system sprays on a timer system daily and we can also use a remote when we notice an increase in activity. We also had our other mosquito control company Moxie come Tuesday evening—they use a back pack spray and bait program that lasts for about a month. The increase in the bothersome pests on Monday and Tuesday at least let us know that this combination of mosquito battle does make a difference! If you ever find you need their service, please share us as a referral and the school will get a credit on our account. Thanks!

Thank you to Yara Ortiz (Linnea's mommy) who spotted a great deal on sidewalk chalk and stocked us up with 8 large boxes. I think it may last all year!

We also got an Amazon delivery from our wishlist but we don't know who to thank! Please let us know if you sent us sand shovels and the books, If Picasso Painted a Snowman, If DaVinci Painted a Dinosaur, Daniel's Good Day, and The Perfect Square. We love them!

The staff appreciation committee has done a great job of brainstorming and planning; our first meeting and break room makeover delighted everyone and we really felt all the love that was poured into setting it up. Each month the staff have a planned meeting and different class groups will sign up and “host” the meeting and break room by providing a lunch and coffee/tea bar supplies and treats in the break room. We have some openings that maybe a few classes would like to partner up on. Please contact Kindergarten moms, Marci Hughes (Tori's mom) or Bonnie Garcia (Sebi's mom) to volunteer or if you have additional ideas. Thanks!

·9/19-The Kindergarten families hosted a pizza and salad lunch with cookies for dessert and got our break room stocked with coffees, teas, sweets, and savory items. They also gave the room a fall décor makeover and supplied the teachers with fall themed mugs to keep in their cubbies. So many sweet little details brought smiles to our faces!

Thank you!

·10/20-The Little Owls class has volunteered a soup bar and lounge treats! Contact Sarah Moore (Stockton's mom)

·11/4-The hummingbird class has volunteered a harvest theme. Contact Renee Gerald (Clara's mom) and Annalisa Lujon (Julian's mom)

·12/15-The Red Apple class has a holiday theme in the works! Contact Christina Prieto (Noah's mom)

·1/16-Teacher workday-open

·2/23- Kindergarten has volunteered again with a Baked Potato Bar, and restocking snacks and coffee bar! Contact Bonnie Garcia (Sebi's mommy) and Marci Hughes (Tori's mommy)

·3/27-open

·4/21-open

·5/19-Last day of school!-open

Finally, our Parent Watch Program (still working on a better name) is ready to go. Parents who want to volunteer for this will sign in the visitor log by the office and get an id badge. After volunteering a number of days/hours, you will earn a t-shirt or hat! These volunteers will monitor the playgrounds and campus, generally keeping an eye on things. Thank you!!

Spotlight on our Kindergarten Teacher, Leslie McCrary

This is Leslie's fourth year in our kindergarten class. Leslie loves children's books and is often scribbling down ideas to write her own! She already has one published and we just found out on the 21st that one of her more recent stories was a silver medalist in the Clavis Publishing Key Colors contest and it will be published in Fall 2023! We were able to watch the award ceremony online with the class and we were all excited to hear the news. As one kindergarten friend commented, "Second Place! That's pretty good!" We will certainly plan to host a book signing for her in the fall so mark your calendars to keep a look out for the date. For now, we want to share:



Top Ten Fascinating Facts about Ms. Leslie

1. She will have a new picture book published in Fall of 2023!
2. Her dream is to open a children's bookstore (a Walden Pond for child writers and specially chosen books).
3. She loves campfires almost as much as kids and picture books.
4. She received her BA in Social Work and is teacher certified EC-6 and Art.
5. She's an Aquarius born in New Orleans, Louisiana on Ash Wednesday.
6. She's always loved to write but she hasn't always been good (see "Horses").
7. She plays the nose flute (not professionally however).
8. She can only snap with her right hand.
9. She still has an actual baby tooth in her mouth (bicuspid, lower right side).
10. Her family is comprised of spouse of 28 years, three kids, 5 pets and worms.



How to Spot a Grampire by Leslie McCrary
and illustrated by Sharon Lane Holm

This very funny story explores the possibility that grandparents could be vampires. How can you find out if they are or not? What would they do? Normal habits of most grandparents are explained as vampire disguises. The pictures of this perfect Halloween book contain a lot of details and have a cartoony feel. They would surely create funny situations in the homes of many grandparents.