

Little Griffin News

Hello Parents,

March was so exciting and our students and families enjoyed many activities. But now we are in the home stretch of the 15-16 school year and we only have about 8 weeks left. We are looking forward to all of the engaging activities that the teachers have planned and spending this last bit of time with your children.

Our final Parent-Teacher Conferences are this Friday, April 8th. Be sure to check with your child's teacher for an appointment time. The final parent reports will be handed out on the last day of school. If you have questions or concerns about your child's progress this conference is a great time to address them with the teacher. As always, I am available for additional support or private conferences as well..

Remember to plan for summer and look at our Summer Camp information flyers. You can choose a varied schedule that fits your vacation needs and sign up weekly. Our camp activities are fun and educational to keep your child busy all summer long.

Don't forget to check our calendar at www.southernhighlandspreschool.com for upcoming events!

Thel Jackson, Principal



TUITION DUE

April tuition is due now. The \$25 late fee will be assessed on April 10th.

Credit Card Processing fees

Fees are changing as of April 15th. Look for a letter from the office explaining the new policy.

APRIL IS POETRY MONTH!

Ask your child's teacher which author they suggest during poetry month.

THIS MONTH

April 8th NO
School-Parent
Teacher
conferences

April 11-15-Week of
the young child

April 22-Earth Day

April 29-Field day

LOOK AHEAD

May 2-6 Teacher
Appreciation Week

May 3 -
Preschool-8th Art
Exhibit

May 20-Pre-K &
Jr. K Graduation

May 30-No school-
Memorial Day

SUMMER CAMP
Packets are available
in the front office. Sign
up today- schedules
are weekly.

FALL 2016-2017
Registration is still
open. **ENROLL NOW!**

Development & Play

Children of all ages need time to play and be active each day. Children have a natural tendency to run, jump and climb, and while it may seem like they are just having fun, they are actually going through critical physical development.

Physical play includes activities that use physical movement to allow children to use their energy, and it gives children the chance to develop gross and fine motor skills, learn new things, and socialize.

Play supports emotional development by providing a way to express and cope with feelings. In addition to expressing feelings, children also learn to cope with their feelings as they act out being angry, sad, or worried in a situation they control. Pretend play allows them to think out loud about experiences changed with both pleasant and unpleasant feelings.

Play contributes to children's fine and gross motor development and body awareness as they actively use their bodies through play. The natural progression in small motor development is from scribbles to shapes and forms to pictures. Playing with writing tools helps children refine their fine motor skills. Gross motor development develops in a similar fashion. When children first learn to hop, they practice hopping on different feet or just for the pure joy of hopping.

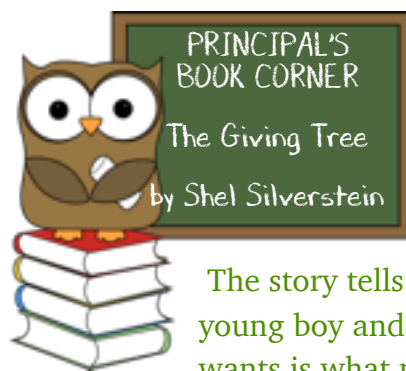
Sigmund Freud (1958) suggested that every child at play "behaves like a creative writer, in that he creates a world of his

own, or, rather, rearranges the things of his world in a new way which pleases him...the creative writer does the same as the child at play. He creates a world of fantasy which he takes very seriously— that is, which he invests with large amounts of emotion."

Play is ideal for supporting children's creative and imaginative thought because it offers a risk-free environment. Research supports the notion that play and creative thought are related behaviors because they both rely on children's ability to use symbols. When young children use their imaginations in play, they are more creative, perform better at school tasks, and develop a problem-solving approach to learning.

The importance of play in children's lives is well documented. As children grow and change, play develops with them according to a developmental sequence.

<http://www.education.com/reference/article/importance-play--social-emotional/>



Shel Silverstein takes a moving and gentle look at the art of giving and unconditional love in *The Giving Tree*.

The story tells of the relationship between a young boy and a tree. Giving the boy what he wants is what makes the tree happy, a function it serves throughout the boy's life. Although, the book is interpreted many ways it still finds a special place in each reader's heart.