



# Nursery School News

## Back to School Days

The first day of school will be Wednesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>. This will be a visiting day for everyone in a Monday, Wednesday, Friday class or any of the 4 day classes. Thursday, September 6<sup>th</sup> will be a visiting day for everyone in a Tuesday, Thursday class. A visiting day permits parents to stay with their children and makes the separation easier. Parent Toddler classes will begin on their regularly scheduled day after September 5<sup>th</sup>.

### VISITING DAYS:

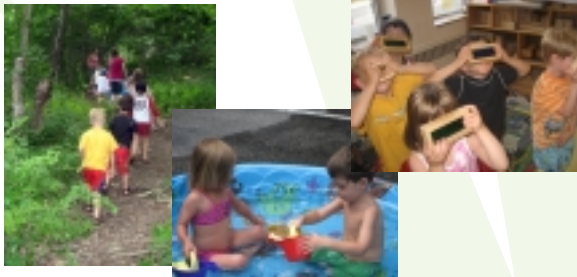
**Wednesday, September 5th**

Monday / Wednesday / Friday OR 4-Day Classes

**Thursday, September 6th**

Tuesday / Thursday Classes

Welcome Back!



## Backpacks

Don't forget to send a backpack or some type of book bag for your child to transport artwork home from school. Often children like to bring a special blanket, stuffed animal, or toy to school, especially in the beginning weeks of school. This is fine and it helps many children with separation. BUT, don't forget to put these "precious" items in the backpack so they are not forgotten or worse – lost!

## Director's Dialogue

by: Jane Adams

Summer program is quickly moving to an end and I am once again reminded of how gratifying it is to see the growth and development that has taken place in the children over the past year. It serves as a reminder of how fortunate we are to engage in young children's lives and what a powerful responsibility it is for all of the staff. As a staff, we continue to learn from each child that we interact with, and hopefully become better teachers as a result of that experience. In turn, it is our goal to provide your child with a strong foundation for their next step in life, whether it is on to kindergarten or to an older class here at St. Paul's.

I can now turn my thoughts to September and the changes that will occur as new groups of children are formed and new friendships are made. The staff and I look forward to welcoming the new children that will be coming in September, and of course we look forward to seeing the children and parents who will be returning.

You will be getting a call from your child's teacher to arrange for a home visit in late August. The purpose of the home visit is for the teacher to begin to make her first connection with your child in order to help them make a more comfortable transition to a new situation. It is also a time for the teacher to speak with you on a one to one basis to hear what your expectations are for the school year, to begin to educate you about what we do here with the children, and to hear any concerns that you may have about your child in school. In the mean time, I hope everyone enjoys the rest of the summer and has a safe and relaxing time.

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# SUMMER PLAY CAMP A HIT!



Summer 2007

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Volume XXXIV

## LUNCH BUNCH

We will continue to offer this popular program. Lunch Bunch is offered Monday – Friday. Morning session children should be picked up at 12:30 pm and afternoon session children should be dropped off at 11:40 am. Kathi Workman will distribute sign up sheets with complete instructions sometime after the first week of school.



## United Way Option

As usual St. Paul's will participate in the United Way Donor Plan. In the past we have received any generous donations from this plan as a non-profit human service agency. We use these donations to supplement our operating budget, which helps us to continue to provide the high quality early childhood education experience that is distinctly ours. At this time, many corporations are beginning their 2007 United Way Campaign. We ask that you consider choosing St. Paul's Episcopal Nursery School to receive part of our annual donation. We have been designated the code name of St. Paul's Episcopal Nursery Sc and our code number is **2774**. These designations are important to be included on your pledge form to ensure that St. Paul's Episcopal Nursery School receives your contribution.

If you have any questions or would like a pledge form, please call the School. Many thanks for your continuing support.

## Director's Dialogue *continued from pg. 1*

On a personal note this has been an interesting summer for me as I have sent both of my daughters off to Asia. One is now in Chiang Mai, Thailand doing public health work for the Women's League of Burma, an organization of the United Nations. And my youngest daughter, not to be outdone by her sister, is leaving on August 2<sup>nd</sup> to go to Tokushima, Japan to teach English in the schools there with the JET program. I will miss them both, but it is certainly an exciting time for each of them in their lives. On the home front I am delighted to have my granddaughter, Caroline, come to St. Paul's for Christi Gallo's parent toddler class. How much fun is that!

I'm off to Canada once again for the better part of August to spend time relaxing on the Rideau, a beautiful lake in Perth, Ontario where my husband and I vacation every summer. See you all in September.

## Home Room Parents Needed

**If you would be interested in becoming a homeroom parent for your child's class please let the teacher know at her home visit. Homeroom parents play an important role in the school especially in terms of communication between parents and teachers about many important events such as field trips, fundraisers, snow days, class parties, and many other events about which parents need to be informed. It is also a great way to get to know other parents in your child's class and to get to know your child's teachers.**

## DRESS-UPS NEEDED



From time to time we like to replenish our dress-ups. If anyone has old dance costumes, Halloween costumes, or other dress-up type clothes that you would like to get rid of please drop them off in the school office.



## Online Forms

This year we are trying something different that I hope will simplify things for both the teachers and parents as well. Rather than mailing the necessary forms out for you to complete prior to your child's entry into school, we would like everyone to go to [www.stpaulsnurseryschool.com](http://www.stpaulsnurseryschool.com) and click on to **enrollment** in order to download these forms. Needed forms are:

1. General information form (for current students)
2. General information form (for new students)
3. Medical form
4. Financial agreement and release form
5. Tuition payment via ACH transfer from (if you elect to use automatic transfer for tuition payment)
6. Web site consent form
7. Key fob deposit form – for new students or returning students who need a new or extra key fob.

Please complete all of these forms and mail them to the school or drop them off in Kathi Workman's office no later than the first day of school. You will all be receiving a welcome letter with these same instructions and with that letter is your emergency card. ***No child may be left at school without a completed emergency card.***

If you would prefer a hard copy of the forms you may either stop by the school and pick them up or we would be glad to mail you your copies if you call the school at 412-531-2644 to let us know. Thanks in advance for your cooperation in getting all of the paper work done that we are required to have on file.

**New ideas are needed for the newsletter. Parent and child involvement will make our school newsletter a fun read as well as an informative resource.**



## SAVE YOUR JUNK

We use lots of recyclables for our art program. The children use these materials for projects in order to encourage hands on exploration, learning, and creativity as they choose their own materials to create many different kinds of representations. This type of child directed self-expression encourages a solid self-concept for children. Young children immensely enjoy representing the "culture of childhood" by creating models of all sorts of things that are universally fascinating, from vehicles to dinosaurs, through the use of interesting materials that they can choose on their own. With that in mind, please save any of the following items for the school and place them in the large recyclable box in the Big Room:

- Fruit and vegetable Styrofoam trays (not meat)
- Card board paper towel and toilet paper rolls
- Tissue boxes
- Large and small oat meal boxes
- Plastic and metal jar lids – all sizes
- Interesting and unusual packing materials
- Excelsior
- Twine, cord, yarn (all grades and colors)
- Blue berry and strawberry baskets
- Wooden materials such as dowel rods
- Picture framing
- Plastic film containers
- Parmesan cheese containers
- Plastic band aide boxes
- Used wrapping paper and ribbons
- Spools
- Beads of any type
- Buttons

Or anything else that you can think of that can safely be recycled for children's art projects – use your imagination!

If you are interested in providing any of the following: Book, toy or movie reviews, recipes or crafts please contact Kelly Elphinstone at [magpie1919@hotmail.com](mailto:magpie1919@hotmail.com).

## Staff Changes



## Additions

We have a number of major staff changes this year. Sadly we say good-bye to Mindy Hudson, Tammy Funk, and Stephanie Woodruff. After much thought and consideration Mindy has made the decision to retire so that she can have more time to spend with her family and grandchildren. Mindy taught here for 14 years; she started the same year that I began as director. Tammy has been on our staff since 1986! Tammy is involved in a part time business (Sabika Jewelry) that is taking up more and more of her time, so she will continue to work here as a substitute when her schedule permits. Stephanie is leaving to pursue a full time job in the public elementary schools as she needs to move forward in her career as a young woman. We will certainly miss them all, but change is good for any organization and as much as I am sad to see these fine women move on with their lives, I look forward to the new faculty that we will welcome to our staff this coming September.

So, Rita Neher and Erin Egal, who is new to St. Paul's, will be co-teaching Mindy and Steph's 4 day classes. Rita taught the older 4's and 5's for many years prior to coming to St. Paul's and is very excited about moving to the 4 day oldest classes. Erin graduated from Penn State in 2004 where she earned a BS in Communication Science and Speech Disorders. She then earned her Certification in Elementary Education this past May from Robert Morris College. She did her student teaching this past spring in Bethel Park at George Washington Elementary School. Erin grew up in Mt. Lebanon and graduated from Mt. Lebanon High School. We look forward to adding a new young and enthusiastic member to our faculty!

Kathi Schuster will be taking Tammy's young 3's classes. Kathi is an experienced preschool teacher who taught 3 year olds at St. Timothy's Episcopal Preschool in Chatanooga, TN, a school very similar to St. Paul's. She has also worked in Pittsburgh for the Allegheny Intermediate Unit, the Parental Stress Center, and Point Park College Laboratory School. Kathi graduated from Indiana University of PA where she earned a BS in Early Childhood Education and has a Graduate Certification in Special Education from California University of PA. Kathi lives in Mt. Lebanon with her husband and daughter who will be leaving for college this September.

Diane Sweeney will now add the 3 day afternoon older 3's young 4's (previously taught by Rita) to her schedule while remaining in the 3 day morning as well. Mary Grace Bruni and Marianne Devito will be co-teaching the 2 day older 3's young 4's group on T-Th. Afternoon (previously taught by Rita). Pat Hurd will be returning to work with Eileen Sharbaugh with the 2 & ½ year olds.

Finally Heather Herbay will be joining our staff this fall to work with Eileen Sharbaugh in our art program. Heather is an artist and art educator who was responsible for the beautiful work of art done by the children and auctioned off at last year's Fall Fund-raiser. Many of you know Heather as the mother of Ben, Sam, John, and Annie. We welcome Heather in her new role here at St. Paul's.



**First Day of school**

**Wednesday, September 5 (MWF & 4 day classes)  
Thursday, September 6 (T-Th. Classes).**

**Parent Orientation**

**Monday September 18<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 - 8:00 pm**



**Open House**

**Monday, October 15<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 - 8:00 pm**

**Pam & Marianne's 4 day am class  
Diane & Dottie's MWF am & pm classes  
Joan & Martha's MWF am & pm classes**

**Monday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> - 7:00 - 8:00 pm**

**Mary Grace & Marianne's T-Th pm class  
Kathi, Kim, & Beth's T-Th am & pm class  
Eileen, Dottie & Martha's T-Th am class  
Eileen, Dottie & Pat's T-Th pm class  
Rita & Erin's T - F am & pm classes**

**Tuesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> & Wednesday October 24<sup>th</sup>  
NO SCHOOL - Parent Teacher conferences**

# SAVE THE DATE!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17TH

THIS YEAR'S FALL FUNDRAISER CO-CHAIRS, KARI KING, JEANNE BASSE, AND KRISTEN NAPOLEON ARE ALREADY BUSY AT WORK ORGANIZING OUR BIG FALL EVENT.

## VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!

THE EVENT INCLUDES DELICIOUS FOOD, WINE AND BEER, LIVE AND SILENT AUCTIONS, LIVE MUSIC, 50/50 RAFFLE, AND A FANTASTIC BASKET RAFFLE. THERE IS A WINE EXPERT TO FACILITATE AN INFORMATIVE AND INTERESTING WINE TASTING OPPORTUNITY. AND FINALLY THERE IS A SLIDE SHOW OF THE CHILDREN. THE CHILDREN ARE THE PRIMARY REASON FOR THE EVENT WHICH RAISES FUNDS IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN THE HIGH QUALITY OF TEACHERS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES NECESSARY TO MAKE ST. PAUL'S AN EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE FOR ALL OF YOUR CHILDREN. FIND A BABY SITTER AND SAVE THE DATE!

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP OUT ON ONE OF THE COMMITTEES WHICH INCLUDE:

- FOOD
- DECORATIONS
- BASKETS
- RAFFLE
- INVITATIONS

PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL BY E-MAILING ME HERE AT [JADAMS@STPAULSPGH.ORG](mailto:JADAMS@STPAULSPGH.ORG) AND LET ME KNOW WHICH COMMITTEE YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE ON. I WILL THEN GIVE YOUR NAME TO ONE OF THE CO-CHAIRS WHO WILL BE CONTACTING YOU. EVERYONE IS ENCOURAGED TO GET INVOLVED AND WELCOME TO JOIN A COMMITTEE.



## Nursery School News

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