

October 2012

We Are F-A-M-I-L-Y

By Teacher Lisa and Teacher Teresa

During September the importance of family has played a significant role in our school activities. One way we've started the day is by having children graph their responses to a question regarding their family. Some questions have included: *Do you jump on the bed at home?* And, *Do you leave your shoes on or take them off at home?* In this way, children are not only experiencing how data can be collected and represented, but we hope to draw their attention to some ways in which families can be the same and different.

In the art room, we've made family puppets – a multi-step process beginning by choosing a shade of “people-colored paint” and then adding features with yarn, googly eyes, and colored shapes. The children also designed quilts from colorful fabric squares with an eye for hot and cool colors, and finger painted with shaving cream. At the sensory table children strengthened their fine motor muscles (so important for future writing skills) by working play dough and stringing beads. A highlight, however, was washing baby dolls and discussing how boy and girl babies are similar and different. This was such a hit, with children squeezed elbow-to-elbow for a turn, that we decided to open it for a second week. We must have the cleanest babies in town!



Some of the books we've read in the home center and during snack have included: *Have You Seen My Duckling* by Nancy Tafuri, *Whoever You Are* by Mem Fox, *Alligator Baby* by Robert Munsch, and *The Family Book* by Todd Par. During one reading of *The Family Book* early in the year, a child noticed one of the characters had a unique hairdo exclaiming, “He has funny looking hair!” This spurred a great discussion about differences and feelings. Does the hairdo look strange to you because it is different than you're used to? How might this man feel if you said that to him? What are some ideas of what you could say that would also keep his feelings safe? The children came up with many ideas like: “Hey, cool hair!” “I've never seen hair like that before!” or “Wow!”

One way we've encouraged the children to get involved in reading is to have them think about the similarities between a family and their friends at King Street. They've then taken pictures or asked an adult to take pictures of how their behavior at school is similar to their behavior at home (i.e. families and school friends both have fun together, eat together, listen to one another, solve problems together, and help one another). These pictures then became part of a book. As one child put it, “We're reading the pictures of ourselves!”

The children have also taken turns presenting pictures of their families during circle time. Afterwards, they attached the pictures to a beautiful “family tree” in the home center. It's been an inspiring few weeks!

To get a sense of what the children's perspective on family is, we asked them to share their ideas with us:

- I hug my family and I kiss them. Sometimes I get mad at them.
- I have two pets in my family. One is a dog and the other is a cat. I go to the park with my family. We love each other really much—all the way to the river and the hills and Alaska

and back.

- I live in preschool. And I laugh a lot with my family.
- I have a brother and we play together. My family lives together in a house. Daddy goes to an office. My brother goes to a school. Mommy talks to people. We jumped on the bed, but then it broke.
- I like to go to restaurants with my family. I like to go to the swimming pool with them too. And I like to go camping with them. And I like to snuggle with my family.
- I pick plums with my mom and dad. I have 4 plum trees and 1 apple tree at my house. The other thing I like to do is wake up and have breakfast with my family. Then I take a bath before I go to sleep.

- Family listens to each other. We like to go to the beach together.
- We jump on the bed. I love my family. I love being with them. My sister and I can do somersaults and a flip. My mom can't because she's too big. My dad is even bigger than my mom.
- A family is people that live together. We go trick or treating on Halloween. I wrestle with my dad. I kiss my mom.
- I like my family because we go to Bent Burger sometimes. A family is a big giant thing in a house and they have fun together.

- A family is something I can love. And you give them lots and lots and lots of love. That's what a family is.

Thank you all for a wonderful start to the year! We are so grateful for our "King Street Family."

Teacher Lisa and Teacher Teresa



School snapshot: October 1st, circle time:

Lisa: What should go under the bridge? Dinosaurs?
 A: Teacher Lisa, you know dinosaurs lived a long time ago! Till before my dad was born.



Don't forget!

Please join us for our field trip to Dr. Maze's Farm. Our one-hour tour is set for Wednesday, October 24th at 11:30 a.m. rain or shine. After meeting at the pavilion tent, we'll learn how pumpkins grow and delve for worms and worm eggs. We can also visit the farm animals and explore the mazes. Children will choose their own small sugar pumpkin from the field and take it home.

Sign up by Wednesday, October 17th. A sign-up sheet is posted at school. The fee is \$8 for each child (one year and older) attending. There is no

charge for instructors or chaperones. Checks can be made out to the school (marked field trip) and deposited in the tuition box. If you prefer to pay by cash, please paper clip your child's name, mark field trip, and also deposit in the tuition box. All families are invited and encouraged to attend. School will be closed that day.



FUNDRAISING CORNER

A major component of our fundraising program is our **annual giving letter**. This letter raises 25% of our fundraising goal and makes a major impact on our ability to keep tuition low, offer scholarships, and purchase all those wonderful art supplies, toys, and equipment. A big THANK YOU to everyone for turning in your six contacts at the beginning of October to Christy Moore for this annual giving letter. We'll be pulling the letters together so that you can sign and address your letters at the November Parent Meeting, with the anticipation that

they'll go out in the mail the following day. If you are not going to be at the November Parent Meeting please let Christy know so that you can sign your letters earlier.

We also ask for email addresses so we can send an invitation to the auction and a reminder of other ways friends and family can support KSCP (such as participating in a scrip program). We start fresh each year, so these lists are not kept and will not be used again next year. This letter raises significant funds for

KSCP, so the participation of each family is extremely important.

SAVE THE DATE: This year's auction will be held on Sunday March 24, 2013!

As the holiday season approaches, remember to use our **Amazon.com link** at the bottom of our home webpage if you are ordering anything from Amazon. Let your friends and family know to shop through Amazon using our link as well! We receive a small percentage of each sale, but you've got to go through the link on our website for us to receive it.



PCC Scrip cards are now available! You can purchase a prepaid card through us to shop at PCC and KSCP will receive 5% of all purchases. Cards are \$50, payable to KSCP, and can then be reloaded. If you haven't gotten a card yet please see Jana Robbins.

Chinook Book sales wrap up this month. Please turn in payments in an envelope provided on the snack room file cabinet (if you haven't already turned them in to Jana). If there are any outstanding books and mobile packs you don't think you'll sell, return those to school so others can sell them.

Thank you for all you do for the fundraising program! Your support is critical to keeping costs low and making KSCP accessible to all families in our diverse community.

School snapshot: September 20th

O. and L. were playing with the rolling ball ramp, and they noticed that the large balls moved slowly down the ramp, while the small balls moved quickly. One of them said, "This is a slowpoke!" and the other replied, "Yeah, and this is a fastpoke!" Then they yelled "slowpoke!" or "fastpoke!" as each ball rolled down the ramp.

Everyone is welcome to attend BOARD MEETINGS. In case you missed it, here's what went down at the last one, on October 9th 2012.

Review Agenda, Action Items, Board Timeline (Jana)

IHP and Liability Issues

Revised Timeline

2. Director Update (Lisa) –

Lock Down Review and Process, Locking Front Door

Document and add to handbook

Lock all doors – ideally front door first

Gather in Gym

Call 911 if applicable

Co-Chairs contact parents & have Board members on that day show up early

Call Father James

Safety Meeting Review

Meeting with Fundraising

Timeline

Monetary Goal

Budget

3. Administrator Update (Teresa) –
Cleaning Notebook

Run toys through dishwasher

Yahoo files archive/organize

Working Parent Shifts

Increased shifts this year due to low enrollment

4. Teacher Update (Teachers) –
Field Trip

Who has signed up and paid

Child/Parent adjustments to school

Helping families adjust to changes with starting preschool

Tuesday support idea

Have Ami be float on Tuesdays as part of her Parent Shift

Fire/Earthquake Drill

5. Co-chair A (Jana) –
Chinook Book, Church and Kitchen Project Plan
Seattle University/ Renton Tech Outdoor project
October outdoor work party
Crisis Solutions Center

6. Co-chair B (Karen) –
D&O Insurance
Board vote to adopt insurance
Lanyards/Working Parent Tasks Review
Clear up confusion due to overlap of duties

Parent Meetings
Set Agenda
Topic and Meeting Outline
Announcements

7. Parent Coordinator (Kate) –
a. New family orientation
b. Will assign parent jobs after orientating new families

8. Treasurer (Dana) –
Updated enrollment income projection

Report/Budget summary to Co-op
Clarified data to present at Parent Meeting

9. Registrar (Gwen) –
IHP's
• Adding some additional edits

Enrollment
• 2 spots Monday, 1 spots Tuesday, 3 spots Thursday

Preschool Fairs
• Donation to contribute to Advertising for Garfield fair

10. Secretary (Sarah) –
Website updates
Document
Newsletter
25 copies
Pictures from shutterfly
Hadley – scanned art work

Happy Birthday!

LS turned 3 on September 18th
IM. turned 4 on September 23rd
AH turns 4 on November 9th
RP turns 5 on November 13th

(We appear to have NO October birthdays. What are the odds? [5.9%, according to my source.]

School snapshot: October 3rd

While reading a book about sharks:

Z: After this I want to *be* a shark!

T: I'm a wolf, but I can be a wolf pretending to be a person, pretending to be a shark.

Upcoming Dates:

October 24th (Wednesday).....All-School Trip to "Dr. Maze's Farm" No School
 October 31st (Wednesday).....King Street regular day (SPS 2hr. early dismissal)
 November 12th (Monday).....Veterans Day No School (SPS No School)
 November 13th (Tuesday).....Board Meeting
 November 20th (Tuesday).....Parent Meeting (7-9pm)
 November 21st (Wednesday).....King Street Regular Day (SPS 1hr. early dismissal)
 November 22nd -23rdThanksgiving Break No School (SPS No School)
 December 11th (Tuesday).....Board Meeting

Submissions to the KSCP Newsletter are welcome! The next edition will be published November 20, 2012. Send any information, articles, resources, pictures, etc. to Lissa Munger, ecmunger@gmail.com, by November 15.