



April 2016 Newsletter

# Chatham School House

## *Director's Corner*

April continues to be a fun filled month of activities, learning, and smiles.

During our monthly newsletters, I like to address topics that come to my attention from our families. This month I would like to stress the importance of Pretend Play with children. Pretend play helps develop social and emotional skills, assist physical development, and essential to emergent language and verbal skills. Pretend play can have many forms, such as role play, puppets and playing with dolls and small world toys. The first stage of pretend play is the imaginative play of very young babies; games such as "peek a boo" and copying simple gestures, such as waving or sticking the tongue out. Around the age of two and a half, children begin to take on the roles of mothers and fathers in very simple imaginary games. Later, three and four year old will enjoy extending this play to include member of their wider community, such as aunts and uncles, fire fighters or characters from book or favorite films.



We always encourage and support imaginative play in all of our programs.

Watching children play together in the home corner is always a great opportunity to carry out discreet observations and assessments; there is always so much that can be learnt from watching children at play.

[Click here to read the full article](#)

We are looking forward to our Mother's Day Tea in our Preschool and Pre-K rooms. The children are very excited to host their mothers and share quality time showing them all of their crafts, poems, and songs. To all our wonderful mothers in our School House, we wish you a very Happy Mother's Day!

~ Miss Rima

## *In Our Infant Room*

In April, the infants used the color blue for various art projects. They also hand printed a frog, learned about the shape rectangle, viewed flower images, and are preparing their art masterpieces for Mother's Day.



The infants continue to strengthen their gross motor skills as they shift to picking themselves up and walking!

The children are practicing saying "ma-ma," "da-da," and "please." This month they have also been learning the parts of their body, singing songs, and explore sensory with sand play twice a week.

## *In Our Toddler Room*

April has been a busy month for the toddler class. We have learned about rain clouds, caterpillars, ladybugs, rectangles, the color blue, and the letters A, B, C, and D. We enjoyed celebrating the "Week of the Young Child" by reading our favorite books which is "Five Little Ducks" singing our favorite songs, and enjoying the outdoors.



We made painted Apple's for the letter a and made bees for the letter b caterpillars for letter C. We also made rectangle collage, lady bugs, rain clouds and flowers. We continue to have fun singing and dancing with Big Jeff every Tuesday. We are looking forward to next month!

## *In Our Preschool Classroom*

April has been a fun-filled month for the preschool class. We have learned about frogs, caterpillars, ladybugs, rainclouds, rectangles, the color blue, and the letters A, B, C, and D. We enjoyed celebrating the "Week of the Young Child" by reading our favorite books, singing our favorite songs, and playing our favorite games.



We made clothespin caterpillars, paper plate ladybugs, and rectangle robots. We had fun turning the letter A into an alligator, letter B into a bee, letter C into a cat, and letter D into a dog. We continue to have fun singing and dancing with Big Jeff every Tuesday and Yoga with Ms. Christine on Wednesdays. It was such fun to wear our pajamas to school for pajama party day!

## *In Our Pre-K Classroom*

April has been an exciting month for the Pre-K class! We learned about the life cycles of butterflies, ladybugs, and frogs. We have been practicing writing our names and the letters A,B,C, and D. We are working on spelling and writing words, such as blue, frog, cat, and dog. We did a fun experiment making rainclouds out of water, food coloring, and shaving cream! We celebrated Earth Day by learning about children of the world, recycling, and how to take care of the Earth. We enjoyed celebrating the "Week of the Young Child" and making special pins for our families to wear that week.



We continue to enjoy singing and dancing with Big Jeff every Tuesday and Yoga with Ms. Christine on Wednesdays. We have really enjoyed spending a lot of time outdoors in this beautiful Spring weather. We have observed the changes taking place outside such as flowers growing, trees blooming, birds singing, bees buzzing, and even some butterflies flying! We look forward to an equally exciting May!

## *Happy Birthday to you!*

- Taylor turned 1 on April 11th
- Miss Sarah's birthday was on April 15
- Miss Salma's birthday was on April 18
- Miss Lynn's birthday was on April 28
- Miss Eileen's birthday was on April 29



## Reminders

- May is a 5 week month and the tuition payments will reflect that.
- Mother's Day Tea on Wednesday, May 4th at 9am.
- We are CLOSED on Monday, May 30th for Memorial Day.



## Contact



**Rima Numan, Owner/ Director**  
110 Main Street, Chatham, NJ  
973-701-8303

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