

Director's Newsletter

St. Matthew's Day School

May 2021



Important Dates

May 3: Make and Take an Instrument Music & Movement

Ms. Jackson

Ms. McCaw

Ms. Ellison

May 5: Make and Take an Instrument Music & Movement

Ms. Sporysz

Ms. Coleman

Ms. Ward

May 6/7: Fire drills

May 21: Last Day of Lunch Bunch

May 24/25: Last Day of Classes

May 26/27: Parent-Teacher Conferences

"There is something of yourself that you leave at every meeting with another person."

~ Fred Rogers

Dear Families,

Incredibly, it's almost the end of our school year. I have loved getting to know your children and families, and I will miss the joyousness of seeing everyone each day. On behalf of all our staff, thank you for entrusting us with the care and education of your preschooler, especially in this year of Covid. We appreciate getting to witness and support their growth throughout the year.

We hope you enjoy a delightful summer filled with family adventures and relaxed time together. Outdoor time is good for the whole family. Have fun together--running, swinging, climbing, riding bikes, pulling a wagon, going for a walk, and kicking and throwing balls. Or take inside activities outside. You can read, paint, do puzzles, eat, and make music outdoors.

The summer break also offers time for children to help you with the mundane jobs of everyday life: folding laundry, loading and emptying the dishwasher, collecting trash from around the house, setting and clearing the table. As we see here at school, young children thrive on responsibility, being helpful, and exercising independence.

We look forward to seeing many of you again in the fall. For those going on to kindergarten or moving, we wish you well—we will miss you and hold you in our hearts. We will always consider you part of our St. Matthew's school family!

Kathy Lundgren

More Outdoor Time Activities:

Add a short walk to you evening routine: After dinner and dishes, hit the pavement. Watch the sunset, look up at the stars, listen to the sounds of the night, tell a story about when you were young, or ask your child to tell you about his or her day.

Enjoy the nature all around you:

Point out the new leaves on trees, bugs living under a rock or in a decaying tree stump, birds flying from bush to bush. Go pick strawberries and visit a park, nature center, or farmer's market. Bring along nature guides, paper, crayons, measuring tools, containers, a magnifying glass and binoculars so you can help your child become an enthusiastic nature investigator.

Conferences: Teachers are preparing for our end-of-year conferences on May 26 and 27 and are looking forward to reviewing your child's portfolio with you, sharing observations, and hearing your insights and perspectives about your child's growth over the year in the areas of literacy, math, and social-emotional development. This is also a great time to talk together about things you can do during the summer to support continued growth. We enjoy this opportunity to finish the school year with a sense of connectedness and community with families.

2021-22 School Year: We are very excited about the response to next year's enrollment and thank you for the referrals you have made throughout the community. We have limited spaces remaining in all classes. We are also adding a two day class specifically for 4 year old children. If you know someone new to the area or a family looking for a preschool, please let them know we'd love for them to come in for a tour to learn more about our program. They can call 703.494.3090 or email director@stmatthewsva.org to arrange a visit!

We are also accepting applications for teachers. Email director@stmatthewsva.org for more information. EOE