

May 2010 Newsletter



SAGE COTTAGE MONTESSORI SCHOOL
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Welcome to Winter - Again!

Big THANK YOU to United-Way donors

We received donated funds (including LANL matching) through United-Way giving. This money will go into our general fund to purchase equipment, supplies, training, and help keep our tuition rates down.

Teacher Appreciation - Week of May 3

Our teachers "wish list" items are on paper flowers in the "gym". If you wish to get an item or do a favor for a teacher, choose a flower from our "flower garden".

Closures

We will be closed **Friday, May 28** for Teacher service day - to set up classrooms for the summer program; and also **Monday, May 31** for the Memorial Day Holiday.

Thanks to those of you who participated in our April Family Fun Night

The food was great - as usual; and it was fun playing "science" with everyone. Our Science-Play activities and recipes are now linked off our Home page.

Where your money goes

I was asked why our tuition rates are no lower than other area schools - given we are non-profit and our Executive Director does not take a salary. So, I got to looking into this and here are some reasons.

- We are the only Star 4 center in the county. This rating requires higher level of resources and provides higher level of service

- Our student-teacher ratios are very low - lowest in the county and possibly the State
- We offer our staff health insurance, retirement, paid continuing education and paid leave days
- Our smaller school size means greater per student costs

Last year we were fortunate to receive \$30k in direct donations and grants and \$4k in fundraisers to help offset costs.

Please feel free to ask to see our annual budget and financial statements.

Staffing

We are sad to say goodbye to Juanita Martinez. She has left us for a LANL job. We welcome Sandra Sorensen to the EC class, Crystal Cusack to the Infant/Toddler room, Rebecca Wilhoit as a new Substitute, and Clint Adams and Linda Sartor have joined us as HS student workers.

Returning this summer will be Corey Geyer and Sherri Haertling.

Recycling Reminder

We recycle ink cartridges, phones, and aluminum cans. We also collect Campbell's labels.

As always, please don't hesitate to bring any concerns or suggestions to our attention. You may reach Susana and Cheri at director@sagecottage.us or 672-0534. We appreciate your support!

Thanks. Susana & Cheri

Early Childhood

Dear Early Childhood Families:

WOW - May already! So much to do to wind down the year.

First of all, we welcome Sandra Sorensen to our class as teacher. We have already seen a big attraction between her and the children.

MOMS, please join us on Thursday, May 6, from 3:00 - 5:30 for Open House for Mother's Day as you are picking up your child(ren). There will be refreshments for you and your child.

Graduation will be on Wednesday, May 26th at 5:00 PM. We will miss our graduates - Stephen, Jack, Haley, Emma, Alex, Nicholas, & Quintin, but we wish them well as they go on to Kindergarten in August.

Our lessons for May will be review of Continents, Solar System, Animals of the Kingdom.

Reminders:

- Children eat quite a bit during snack - therefore please send enough for 13 children to have a good size serving.
- Please check your child's cubby to be sure you took the bag with your child's slippers, mittens, etc.

Thank you,

Ms. Sandra, Ms. Alyssa, Ms. Rhonda,

Transition Class

Dear Families:

Happy Spring....MAYBE!

The month of May is always eventful and busy. We are winding down the year with review of the Animal Kingdom, Solar System, and all the continents. Our garden will also be planted.

We have a new student, Leland and his family. Our class and Sage Cottage welcome them.

Ms. Beth is back and glad to be with the Transition class again. She enjoyed the Infant/Toddler class but found her ol' back couldn't take the lifting!

We would like to ask parents to take slippers, boots, and winter clothing home. A reminder to check your personal file daily.

We hope to see you, MOMS, on Thursday, May 6th for our Open House from 3:00 - 5:30. When you pick your child up, plan to spend some time and have a special treat!

Thank you for the on-going support this school year. We look forward to a fun-filled summer.

Ms. Beth
Ms. Tanya
Ms. Becca

INFANT and TODDLER CLASS

Dear Families:

We will enter the month of May learning about the Sun, moon and stars. We will also review a couple of last month's topic focusing on colors.

Curtis will be moving into the toddler classroom full time.

We would like to welcome baby Hannah and baby Wesley and their families to Sage. We would also like to welcome Crystal as a new co-teacher to our class.

Sadly we say good-bye to Ms. Juanita. She will be missed very much. Ms. Beth has moved back to the transition class.

The children and teachers would like to invite all the Mothers to join us for refreshments on Thursday, May 6, from 3:00 - 5:30 PM

Thanks to all the families who joined us for the international potluck and for all the delicious food.

Thanks for sharing your wonderful little ones with us

Ms. Jennifer, Ms. Tammy, & Ms. Crystal

P.S. Ms. Alyssa will be joining our class later on in the month.