

May 2009
Issue 3

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Small Talk

Dear Preschool Friends

Zoey Sass Age 5 Inventor

Happy Spring! Spring is almost over and I hope you have a great time! I loved playing with all of you this year. My favorite times this year were when the chickies were born, playing in the climbing room (fire mermaid, fire marmoset, and superheroes), playing dress-up (my favorites were Snow White, a princess, an elephant, and a caterpillar). I also really liked doing art; painting is the best! I love Clopsy and Mopsy and they love me.

I love you Teacher Patty! I will miss you next year! Three things I love about Teacher Patty are that she has a bunch of good voices, I love her hair, and she has pretty eyes.

Teacher Patty, I think you will like my brother, Keegan, next year. He will be a Discoverer. I think he will help you. He really likes trains and cars.

I will be going to Lake Forest Park Elementary next year. Go Dolphins!

Love, Zoey

70th Anniversary of Parenting Education in Washington State

Courtesy of Donna Myers SCC Community News

We know that the key to our economic strength is education. And as a former preschool teacher, I've seen first-hand what a difference quality home learning and preschool programs make in the



life of a child, Senator Murray said in a press release earlier this year that announced bills on school readiness, the Ready to Learn Act and the Education Begins at Home Act.

U.S. Senator Patty Murray has a special place in her heart for parent education programs, in particular Shoreline Community College's Cooperative Preschool Program.

"I have a strong tie to this program. I was a parent in the Shoreline Cooperative Preschool Program back in the 1980s when our state legislature cut funding for the program," said Murray, who led a successful grassroots campaign to save the program.

Recently at a celebration of the 70th anniversary of parenting education in Washington state hosted by the college's Parent Education Program, community members listened to Sen. Murray thank the college for helping thousands of young people and their families get a good, healthy start in education in life via a taped message.

"Children who go to preschool are more likely to learn to read quickly, do better in school and go on to earn more as adults," the senator said. "In my book, it's one of the most valuable, cost-effective investments we can make. So

I'm absolutely thrilled to see parent education and the Cooperative Preschool Program at Shoreline continue to grow and thrive. I'm proud to say congratulations, happy birthday and thank you for everything you do."

The celebration, sponsored by the Shoreline Community College Parent Education Program was held at the North City Education Center where three of the seven Shoreline cooperative preschools are located — North City, Shorenorth and Shoreline Co-op Preschools. Teachers from the other college cooperative preschools, Woodinville, Lake Forest Park, Inglemoor and Crystal Springs, also planned and participated at the event. Children and parents enjoyed various activities such as an "Under the Sea" theme room where children enjoyed fresh-water and salt-water tables that held seaweed, shells, rocks and goldfish. The event was part of a statewide celebration.

Shoreline Community College President Lee Lambert welcomed the families and applauded the college's program and other early education programs, saying that beyond the education, they provide an impressive return on our investment.

"We are so glad that we are a college that supports the development of our young future generation by ensuring that their first teachers, their parents, are equipped with the appropriate skills to understand the development needs of their children," said Lambert.

Rep. Ruth Kagi, who, like Murray, was a parent in the Shoreline program, was there to celebrate the impressive 70 year mark. "I don't know how I would have survived without parent education."

Parent Education Coordinator Barb Yasui thanked Rep. Kagi personally. "She has been such a tireless advocate for early education in our state," Yasui said, pointing out that Rep. Kagi has been a leader in sponsoring bills, holding hearings, and convincing other legislators of the importance of early learning.

"The legacy of support for the Parent Education Program at Shoreline is impressive, and it was wonderful to have so many families, former preschool teachers, college officials, and Rep. Kagi celebrate this milestone with us," said Yasui.

The future of parenting education is promising. Yasui noted that "Everyone from President Obama to business leaders is emphasizing the importance of early childhood education."

In 2008, Gov. Chris Gregoire named October 23 as Parenting Education Day in Washington State.

SCC Parent Education Program

The Parent Education Program provides developmentally appropriate learning experiences for infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and their families

Parents pay a monthly tuition to their child's cooperative preschool. In addition, parents pay a minimal tuition to the college. As parent education program students at Shoreline Community College, they earn college credits each quarter.

Shoreline Community College offers a unique parent education program that consists of a child-centered preschool laboratory setting and adult-centered lectures and discussion groups.

In the preschool classroom laboratory, parents become active partners in their child's education. Research supports the long-term benefits of this type of early parent involvement. Skilled Shoreline Community College faculty plan and implement learning opportunities for both parents and children. These learning experiences help to empower parents to build on their strengths.

The mission of this program is to support parents as they become directly involved in their children's education.

Shoreline Community College launched the cooperative preschools and parent education program in 1961, which today supports more than 400 families.

Inventors Parents: Ingrid, Poom & Ting Ting with Patty



Chicks Find Homes



Patty Cheng
Surrogate Chick Momma

Our wonderful baby chicks have all found new homes: 4 went with Emma and Jack Saunders (Inventors), 2 went with Quentin Falip (Inventors) and 2 went with Emi Perez-Davis (Discoverers). Thank you all so much and enjoy your new babies.

Please Return all the Parenting Books and Children's Books you've borrowed from Preschool by May 15th See Page 7 for a list of the new books added to our Parent Education Library. Thank you **Verizon**

Patty's Page

Patty Cheng

Good-byes and Thank-yous

Dear Parents,

It's that bittersweet time of the year to say good-bye to the Inventors' class, which will be graduating this month. Some of your families have been with me at least three years if not more. I have confidence that all your children are ready to enter the world of elementary school and that when you look back on preschool it will bring many fond memories of the many friendships that started here at SCP.

For those of you returning next year I look forward to deepening our friendships and together watching your children grow and change in the year ahead. For those of you not returning, I wish you only the best in your continued parenting journey.

I want to thank your dedicated Board for making SCP the strong school it is today. Your Board has attended many extra meetings, gotten great speakers and made your carnival/auction and all the family parties run extremely well besides helping your classes all run so smoothly. You may not see what they do, but if you think SCP is organized...it's because of them! Huge kudos go to David Schwartz, Deborah Schwartz and Jen Dunn for implementing our new Online Management System. They have spent hours designing, testing, uploading info and teaching us how to use it. They will continue working on it over the summer to have it running smoothly for us in the fall. We are working on getting our new door between the snack area and climbing room in this summer with Jen Dunn as project manager. How exciting!

Thank you to all of you in your committee work – as Bev Bos says, "Together we're better." You have all pitched in to share the tasks of running our school. Special thanks to all the field trip coordinators with so many details to attend to, and of course Team Party and Team Auction for a job well done!

With our grant monies from Sam's Club, Fred Meyer and Verizon that Natalie Lecher-Pozarski was able to obtain for us, we have been building up our Parent Education Library and children's library along with a new literature based curriculum, The Woven Word from Committee for Children. Thank you to those businesses for generously giving to keep parent education and literacy strong at SCP. This year celebrated Parent Education's 70th year in the state of Washington. Our senator, Patty Murray, who was a chair at our school in the 1980s, has been a strong advocate for us over the years.

As I look back over the year we've lost many loved ones in our extended families including some family pets. We also

have had some new additions! I hope you all have felt supported by your preschool family here at SCP. Some things change but parenting is often a joy and sometimes a challenge. I'm so happy we can share in those parenting concerns and celebrations with each other!



Have a great summer and I hope to see you at some of the park playdates!



Summer Activities to do with your Family

- By the Parents of SCP

- Water Parks – Forest Park in Everett and in Mill Creek
- Kelsey Creek in Bellevue with farm animals
- Blueberry picking at Mercer Slough in Bellevue
- Kangaroo Park in Arlington – 'The Outback'
- Remlinger Farm in Carnation
- Biringer Farm in Arlington
- Free Summer Concerts in Edmonds, Richmond Beach and Paramount Park and St. Edwards Park
- Soccer Camps through Shoreline Parks and Rec – also Me and Mom Soccer
- Wading Pools: Edmonds City Park, Ravenna Park, North Acres Park
- Camping at Camp Long in West Seattle
- Youth Hostels in Vashon with teepees
- Jetty Island (out of Everett)
- Water Taxi from Downtown Seattle to West Seattle
- Thomas the Train in Snoqualmie in June
- Dungeness Spit and Olympic Game Park
- Northwest Trek in Eatonville
- Wolf Haven in Tenino
- Salmon La Sac – Camping off of I-90
- Lake Kachess past Snoqualmie
- Alta Lake in Eastern Washington (by Lake Chelan)
- Hiking in Sultan, Mt. Si, Cougar Mt. and Wallace Falls
- Point Defiance Zoo
- PCC Summer Cooking Classes
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Summer Activities to do with your Family

continued from page 3

- Bastyr University (by St. Edwards Park) for lunch and hiking
- Country Village and Canyon Park in Bothell – Farmers Market on Friday
- Shoreview Park with trails to Hidden Lake near Shoreline Comm. College
- Letterboxing at Shoreview Park
- Picnic Dinners at Carkeek Park and Richmond Beach\
- Woodlawn Park Zoo and Zoo Tunes
- Laraby State Park (by Bellingham) for camping
- Rafting and Camping at the Methow River – Lightning Pines RV Park
- Penrose State Park for camping – go on low tide!
- Cle Elum for star viewing and watching the night sky
- Mt. St. Helens camping
- Salt Creek by Port Angeles
- La Push rustic cabins
- Sol Duc Hot Springs cabins
- Lake Quinault Resort and Ho Rain Forest
- Miracle Beach on Vancouver Island
- Shoreline Y Camps
- Bike Rides on the Burke Gilman Trail – Log Boom Park in Kenmore
- Ferry Rides
- Rent Canoes at UW
- Deception Pass for camping
- Richmond Beach Library and Park – good for bikes
- Seattle Gymnastic Academy – for free play on rainy days
- Dorothy Lake Hike off of Hwy 2 into the Cascades
- Marina Beach in Edmonds
- Ohanapokash Campsite on Mt. Rainier
- Birch Bay tent camping
- Glacier Park National Park
- Grayland State Park for Yurt Camping
- Snoqualmie Falls – walk to Falls

Come to our Park Playdates at various parks every Wednesday at 11:00am

Have a Wonderful Summer!!!



From the safety guy: Ofc. Morris “Red” Parrish

A few things for the parents of SCP to be aware of both for the present and for the summer.

First, for those of you driving through Lake Forest Park, the city is installing school zone speed cameras in two areas of the city. In the City of Lake Forest Park, all posted school zones are in effect from 7:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. and the posted speed limit is 20 mph. **CHILDREN DO NOT HAVE TO BE PRESENT.** Please be aware that on NE 178th Street adjacent to the Brookside Elementary School (between 33rd Avenue NE and Brookside Blvd. NE) as well as on 35th Avenue NE at NE 187th Street (just north of the Whizz Kids preschool), school zone speed cameras will be operational beginning May 1st and will operate through the end of the actual Shoreline School District school year. The citation issued to speeders from the cameras is a non-moving infraction with a fine of \$124.00. ***But please be aware that in other school zones in the city, traffic fines for speeding in a posted school zone can be from \$188 to over \$300, graduated based upon the speeds observed by an officer with a speed measuring device.*** SCP parents are strongly encouraged to keep their speeds to as close to 20 mph in all posted school zone areas. The cameras will restart in the beginning of the 09-10 school year in September. All too often, our children are seriously injured and killed in active school zones by speeders and those not paying attention to their driving.

Second, summer months are typically are most dangerous driving wise. We have more intoxicated and distracted drivers on the roadway, more vehicles in parking lots at city parks and beaches and more folks enjoying the sun versus watching their driving. Please be careful when driving and drive defensively. Further, if you observe a suspected intoxicated, drugged or reckless driver, call 911 and report the vehicle. If possible, get a license plate number and clearly articulate what you are observing (i.e., weaving, swerving, slowing down excessively, speeding up abruptly, etc.) as well as a good location of where this is occurring. Your call could mean getting an intoxicated driver off of our streets and protecting all of us.

Third, if you have not done so, take a few minutes this summer to update your emergency preparedness kits for both your home and your vehicles. Lots of excellent information can be found at <http://www.govlink.org/3days3ways/>.

I thank the parents of SCP for being honorable and not parking in the posted handicapped parking stalls at the school. Your efforts at not parking there make it possible for truly handicapped parents and grandparents to utilize the spaces. I also thank all of you for helping to keep our school safe by keeping outlets covered, hot drinks out of the classrooms, dangerous tools secured in cabinets and broken toys away from little hands.

On behalf of myself and my family, I wish you all a safe and happy summer season!

Mourning Pets with Children

Staci Cetina

Ziggy was a Christmas present from Jason back in 1996, back before Jason and I had two pennies to our name. Ziggy was an old soul, even as a kitten, and had a grumpy disposition to go along with it. And we loved that about him. In his 14 years with us, Ziggy put up with a lot – multiple moves, loving from the girls, countless play dates with friends who didn't understand that you couldn't find Ziggy because he didn't want to be found, visitors to fawn over babies and not him and ultimately a dog. I am not sure he really forgave us for Pugsly!

This past March, Jason and I started noticing strange things about Ziggy. He was meowing. Ziggy never meowed unless something was wrong. Pugsly would come up to Ziggy and Ziggy did not scowl and walk away. He was lying on the bathroom mat. He always laid on the bed. And he was drinking a lot of water. A trip to the vet led us to discover that Ziggy had diabetes, a common ailment for a cat his age.

Ziggy would need to take medicine two times a day for the rest of his life. Jason and I were willing to do this for our constant companion if it helped improve his quality of life. It was also important for us to get him to eat. We tried all the tricks: feeding him canned cat food, canned tuna (his favorite), our chicken from dinner, but his appetite continued to decrease dramatically. We knew it was time to talk to the girls about the possibility of Ziggy's death. But where do we start?

We had so many questions: Do we prepare them for it even though he may recover? Do we wait and see if he gets better? How honest should we be with them? Do we take them with us to the vet if we have to put him to sleep? So many questions. Jason looked on line for articles to guide us in talking to the girls about what could happen to Ziggy. They all said similar things:

A healthy understanding of death allows a child to experience the pain of loss and to express his or her feelings. A great deal of patience, hugs and kisses are required when explaining death to a small child. We need to give our children permission to express themselves and work through their grief - not bury it. Do not leave your children with the impression that anything they did was responsible for the loss of your pet.¹

1 From Ron Hines DVM Phd. "Grieving and Pet Loss Coping With The Death Of A Loved Dog Or Cat" <http://www.2ndchance.info/grieving.htm>

And as it was probable that we would have to euthanize Ziggy we had to think about how to discuss this with them. A common term for this is "putting to sleep." We sensed that this would be confusing for them and research shows that we were correct.

Terminology is crucial when talking to children about death. When explaining pet loss, use the words "death," "dead," "dying" instead of euphemisms. "These are all concrete words that children can wrap their brains around." Be clear because children's minds may extrapolate harmful connotations from sugar-coated explanations.²

Children can misinterpret "putting to sleep" and may have trouble getting to bed at night or have night terrors.

Ziggy was part of our family and as such we wanted to make this as much of a family process as we could and the girls would allow. There were a surprising number of decisions to make.



Talk about the death of a pet before the death occurs. Brannan suggests inviting your child to take part in the decision-making process. "Not including children in the process makes them feel completely powerless about what is going on with their pet." When deciding whether to facilitate the death of a terminally ill pet, talk honestly about options.²

While helping them with their possible grief we were also dealing with our own sense of immanent loss. Ziggy had been a constant companion to Jason and I for 14 years. Everything we read told us to share and show our sadness and grief.

On the Wednesday before Easter we sat down with the girls and had a very open and honest discussion with them. There were a lot of tears from all of us, some denial, some guilt (Olivia remembered times when she had been less than nice to Ziggy), memories and a lot of ideas. The girls decided they wanted to come with us to the vet IF (at this stage they needed to talk in "ifs") we had to euthanize him. They decided they wanted to bring him home to bury him. Ellie wanted to draw a picture for Ziggy. Olivia wanted to plant a tree.

After our talk everyone seemed to breathe easier and an air of tension seemed to have lifted. Ziggy even perked up for a few days and ate a bit more. For a while Jason and I thought perhaps we had jumped the gun and talked to the girls too

2 From Sarah Probst, Information Specialist article "Explaining Pet Death to Children" <http://vetmed.illinois.edu/petcolumns/showarticle.cfm?id=112>

Mourning Pets with Children

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soon. I was oddly surprised at how much that didn't bother me. Our family had one of the most rich conversations we had had in some time and I was grateful we all were able to share our feelings and make some decisions.

On Easter Ziggy stopped eating all together and only only drank a bit of water. Pugsly sat with him all day on his blanket, watching over him. That night after the kids were in bed Ziggy came into the living room and looked at us. We picked him up and cuddled him. We both knew it was time.

The four of us went to the vet at 8:30 the next morning. We all knew Ziggy was going to die and we were there to comfort him and each other. I expected the moment to be a bit more dramatic but it was actually very quiet and peaceful. We had prepared the girls and ourselves the best we could and there weren't any surprises. The girls picked out a spot in the yard when we got home and we laid him to rest.

The first two days were the toughest and we expected as such. Ellie drew a lot of pictures, was more irritable, sad and talked more so than usual, which is saying a lot! Olivia cried, yelled and asked a lot of really hard questions. (Did we murder Ziggy?) We talked, cried together, and did our best to make it through those first days.

We went to the library and found a few storybooks on losing a pet. Reading has always been a way that the girls are able to connect to a difficult idea and I found myself looking for books that could convey to them what I was trying to say but at times failing.

The two that really helped the girls were "The Tenth Good Thing About Barney" by Judith Violist and "Cat Heaven" by Cynthia Rylant. Ellie really glommed onto "Cat Heaven" She poured over the pages, memorized the rhymes, and smiled to herself as she thought of Ziggy having butterflies to play with, thousands of toys, and angel laps to sit in. What I really liked was how the book calmed the fears about food, shelter and love in Ellie's mind. She did seem to take delight and comfort in that Ziggy would have tuna to eat and God's bed to sleep in.

"The cats in Cat Heaven are so loved and spoiled
God lets them all lie on his bed...
He walks in His garden with a good black book
and a kitty asleep on His head."³

Whatever your beliefs, this book may calm some of your child's fears in a delightful, colorful way. You may even share a laugh as you think about your pet being late getting to heaven because there are so many crickets and butterflies to play with on the way there.

3 Exert from "Cat Heaven" by Cynthia Rylant.

"The Tenth Good Thing About Barney" tells the story of a boy whose cat dies. The boy doesn't think his cat is in heaven even though his friend Annie does. His mother suggests that he make a list of ten good things about Barney to say at the funeral. The boy comes up with nine but can't think of the tenth. His dad takes him into the yard to plant some seeds and do some gardening after the funeral. They talk about how the ground helps the seeds grow. The boy realizes that Barney is helping grow flowers "and that's a pretty nice job for a cat."

"Barney" really seemed to appeal to Olivia's emotions and her keen sense of order. I liked how it tied the circle of life together through gardening. The week after Ziggy died we started our first family vegetable garden and it felt appropriate to do this. Planting, sowing, cultivating and watching plants grow feels good for us to do as a family.

Some other things we have done to help ourselves mourn Ziggy and commemorate him have been to put special stones on his burial site, plant the tree that Olivia wanted and draw countless pictures of Ziggy, Ellie in particular. Last weekend we found a large stone in our garden that was shaped a bit like Ziggy curled up asleep. I had read that, especially for indoor cats, it is nice to have a memorial in the house. Of course you can buy \$25-30 engraved stones online, but we cleaned this rock up and put it in Ziggy's spot near the patio door. I think after all the books, articles, talking, and crying, this little marker has done the most to ease the pain, at least mine.

I wanted to share our story of Ziggy with you because this process has allowed our family to grow, strengthen and love stronger than I thought was possible. My first instinct was for Jason and I to handle this on our own while the kids were in school. I am so glad we brought the girls into this process. They brought so many touching moments to celebrating his life, remembered stories we didn't and were able to open up and share the depth of love they had within themselves.



A much loved friend Ziggy

May 2009



Cooking Corner

Susan Miskovsky

Best-of-Bran Muffins

- 3 cups shredded bran cereal (e.g., All-Bran, 100% Bran, etc.)
- ½ cup vegetable oil
- 1 cup raisins
- 1 cup boiling water
- 2 eggs, lightly beaten
- 2 cups buttermilk
- ¼ cup molasses
- 2 ¼ cups whole-wheat flour
- 4 teaspoons sugar
- 2 ½ teaspoons baking soda
- ½ teaspoon salt

In a large bowl, combine the cereal, oil, and raisins, and pour the boiling water over them. Set the mixture aside to cool slightly.

In a small bowl, combine the eggs, buttermilk, and molasses. Add this to the partly cooled cereal mixture.

In another small bowl, combine the flour, sugar, baking soda, and salt. Add the flour mixture to the cereal mixture, stirring just enough to moisten the dry ingredients. Cover the batter with plastic wrap and let stand for at least 15 minutes, preferably for 1 hour.

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Grease 24 muffin cups, and divide the batter among them, filling each cup about ¾ full. Bake the muffins for 15-20 minutes. Remove the muffins from the oven, and, when they are slightly cooled, take out of tin and cool completely on wire rack.

From Jane Brody's Good Food Book by Jane Brody

At the Wetlands We Saw

Inventors Class

- Blue Heron * Coyote Skulls
- Cattails *RAIN!!!!
- Lots of Birds
- Tall Grasses
- Bullfrog Eggs



Bullfrog Eggs scooped out of the marsh. Inventors Myles & Max check out the treasures

Spring Brings

Inventors Class

- Baby Animals
- Plants Growing
- Tree Changing
- Easter
- Flowers Growing
- Going to the Beach
- Birds Hatching
- Leaves Coming
- RAIN!!!
- Playing Outside
- Swimming Pools – Maybe!



Library News

Our tools of the trade: New Books for our Parent Education Library

- I've Got What it Takes by Jim Fay
- Millionaire Babies or Bankrupt Brats? by Jim Fay
- Love & Logic by Jim Fay
- Tha Kazdin Method for Parenting the Defiant Child by Alan Kazdin
- Parenting the Strong Willed Child by Rex Forehand
- The Incredible Years by Carolyn Webster-Stratton
- Raising Resilient Children by Robert Brooks
- SOS Help for Parents by Lynn Clark
- Raising a Thinking Child by Myrna Shure
- Great Kids by Stanley Greenspan
- 8 Weeks to a Well Behaved Child by James Windell
- Ten Things Every Child with Autism Wishes You Know by Ellen Notbohm, Alan Kazdin
- Raising Cain: Protecting the Emotional Like of Boys by Dan Kindlon
- Operating Instructions by Annie Lamott

Class Updates

Discoverers

Sara Lorimer – Class Coordinator

It's been a fascinating year. The Discoverers began in September not knowing what preschool was, who all these other kids were, or just what was going on. It's great to see how confident they are in the classroom now. They're talking to each other, they know their classmates' names, and they (usually) let their moms and dads leave them without a fuss. We were sad that some friends left during the school year, but many more new friends joined us.

We had great field trips. We picked pumpkins, held baby chicks,



Discoverers Collage. Field Trip to Fairbanks Farm. Photo Collage courtesy of Erin Zachey

visited Benaroya Hall, and got to climb in a real fire engine, among other outings.

When we stayed at school, the art table was always a big hit. (Who knew you could paint with shaving cream? Patty, that's who.) The grocery store was a favorite spot for some children, while others always made a beeline for the train table.

Some of the kids are going to be Discoverers again next year; some are moving on to Imagineers, some are going on to other preschools. Best of luck to all you Discoverers on your next adventure!

Imagineers

Imagineer's field trip to Fairbank Farm

Kelly Szabo – Class Coordinator

The Imagineers have had a great month! We've gone to the Pacific Science Center, the Hands On Animal Farm, and had a lovely beach walk at Edmonds Beach. Our last field trip will be on May 17th, where we go to Bug Safari. Look out for those scorpions and tarantulas!

We've had a fun and educational year as Imagineers, and all the kids have changed so much (for the better, of course) since September of last year. A special thank-you goes out to Patty for all that she's done for our kids.



Hopefully we'll have all our classmates returning as Inventors next year; however, in case we don't, I wish everyone a happy happy summer, and we'll see you at the park dates!

Inventors

Lynette Brunner Class Co-coordinator

We will all be entering the world of kindergarten soon. The year has gone by so quickly with our children growing up ever so fast. Many of us have been together from the beginning (Discovers) and have developed close friendships. We're hoping that even though many of us are going separate ways, we can still stay in touch and continue our friendships that we have developed.

Our last big excursion will be a trip down to South Lake Union to visit the Center for Wooden Boats. Let's hope the weather cooperates for us. We will also be having a school bus visit us which will help introduce the kids to this way of transportation. Thank you Ingrid for planning all of our trips this year.

As this is our last year at Shoreline Co-operative Preschool, we would like to thank Teacher Patty for her love and dedication to our kids. She is an inspiration to all of us and our kids love going to school because of her. Our children have grown into amazing kids because of the work that Patty has put into our children. We will all miss her deeply and want to wish her the best in the years to follow. Thank you Patty!!!

Ting Ting Pan Class Co-coordinator

Time goes so fast, I can't believe there is only one month left till end of pre-school. As we parents get ready for kindergarten, I hope everyone is ready for the big change.

It's been my pleasure to be part of the Inventors' class. While working with Lynette and Teacher Patty, I have learned a lot from all of you, and most of all, working with the children in the class. Back home in my country, I didn't find a child-care program like co-ops. I'm really lucky to have Teacher Patty's class as I have attended other co-ops in the past. I truly believe Teacher Patty is the best. It's going to be hard for me as a parent to not have the connection I had with the class and the friendships I have developed with all of you.

Teacher Patty, you can expect our attendance at the annual Carnival and Halloween party and maybe the Ice Cream party.

Looking forward to see all of you at the summer park days!



Inventors at Kenmore Fire Station

Teacher Patty's Mystery!

Kelly Szabo



Teacher Patty with Inventor Zoey

Last year at our Halloween Carnival, Teacher Patty bid on and won my auction item of a short murder mystery that features her as the main character. After many months of fun writing, I finally finished and presented Patty with her story just before Mother's Day, and I believe she was very pleased. If any of you would like a copy of *Roses Don't Tell; A Preschool Teacher's Dirty Secrets*, let me know. I'm asking \$5 per copy to cover my paper and printing costs, but it is well worth it! And, you'll get a signed copy - woo hoo!

Auction Alert

Rona Sass



rona@sasstrumpetstudio.com

The auction is just around the corner, well, not really, but we are already starting to get in some wonderful items! We have bowling alley gift certificates, massages, a certificate to Soundbridge, a Tae Kwan Do birthday party, and lots more coming in!

I will be sending out one more mailing to request donations — if you have any other companies you would like to see donate to the auction, please let me know! If you have items to donate (either bought or homemade, examples are a birdhouse, dolls, dress-up clothes, etc.), we would love to have them at the auction, too!

Have a wonderful summer and let me know about any auction donations!

Thank you



Chair

Tina Adams

Wow, the preschool year is almost over. Time flies by so fast when you are having so much fun. We have seen and felt the sun so I do believe summer is coming soon.

Keep these dates in mind for the end of year:

- May 26th Tuesday, Discoverers Picnic @ Edmonds City Park 10:00 am to 12:00 pm
 - May 27th Wednesday, Imagineers Picnic @ Edmonds City Park 10:00 am to 12:00 pm
 - May 27th Wednesday, Inventors Picnic @ Edmonds City Park 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm
 - May 28th & 29th Thursday & Friday, Preschool Cleanup from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm
 - May 29th Friday, Imagineers & Inventors Graduation – 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm
- Discoverers may come from 7:15 pm to 8:00 pm for entertainment

Thanks to the hard working board, parents and of course Teacher Patty for making this a wonderful preschool year.

See you this summer at the park!

Vice Chair

Staci Cetina

This year has flown by! Ellie will be in kindergarten this fall and it seems like just yesterday I was sitting in on every Imagineers class, not allowed to leave because she was too scared. She's come a long way since then and now, as an Inventor, I barely get a kiss goodbye and nary a hello when I return. It is AWESOME! :-)

Thank you to everyone who came to the Spring Fling. This is my favorite event to organize. There's nothing like buying 10 gallons of ice cream and setting it loose on a large crowd. And thank you to the fantastic Special Events Committee who kept the toppings coming, painted our kid's faces, and helped them run off all that excess sugar!

As one of my last duties as Vice Chair I need to remind you of a couple of loose ends before we all run off for the summer:

- **Graduation is upon us! Friday, May 29th, from 6:30-8pm.** Come watch as the Imagineers step up to the Inventor's class and shed a small tear as our Inventor's make that next step to Kindergarten. Our entertainment will be The Music of Ed Hartman. He is a one man band complete with his own 7 ½ ft marimba. He will play Latin, Caribbean, Jazz and much more from 7pm-8pm. *Discoverer's please join us at 7pm for all the fun!*

Vice Chair

Continued from page 10

- **Committee Binders & Folders:** Where are they? Buried under the couch? Stuffed on a shelf somewhere? On top of the dryer? It is time to find them, dust them off, UPDATE THEM, and return them to me as soon as possible. However I won't start hounding you until after *May 18th*.

If aspects of your committee have changed, advanced, morphed in some way, please make note any these in your binder/folder. Please return them to the spot I have marked in the climbing room no later than **Monday, May 18.**

- **Summer Park Schedule:** Check out this issue of Small Talk for the Summer Park Schedule. Starting June 10 and every Wednesday through the summer, we will be getting together at different parks around town to play. A couple of the parks I have chosen are a little bit of a drive, but have a lot of fun things to offer (i.e. Forest Park in Everett has a playground, water playground, and animal farm). I hope to see you at some of them this summer!

Being at Shoreline Co-op with both of my girls has been more of a rewarding experience than I ever thought possible. Our family has grown leaps and bounds and made so many friends in the process. Being on the Board at SCP has been a wonderfully challenging and fun experience. Thank you for welcoming me and my family so wholeheartedly. We will miss you.

Registrar

Jenny Dunn

The big news in SCP registration is that we need your help to get the word out about our wonderful Imagineers class. We have lots of openings in this class for 3- and 4-year-olds for next fall, so if you know anyone with a child who will be 3 by Aug. 31st and who is looking for a preschool, please point them our way. People interested in visiting can call me at 206-440-0347 or email at jendunn1@comcast.net.

The 2009/10 Discoverers' class is filling up nicely with 13 registered so far and people still scheduling visits. The 2009/10 Inventors class is full with 21 registered students.

We began providing the class rosters and class calendars through the online system in April and May. This is how we plan to provide this information to our members in the fall, so check them out if you haven't already. If you have any feedback on them, please e-mail me at jendunn1@comcast.net.

Have a wonderful summer. I hope to see you at the summer park play-dates!

Marketing

Mikiyo Atkins – Marketing Coordinator

Dear SCP members,

It has been a fulfilling year to serve you as a marketing coordinator. Without your help, I could not have done this job. I appreciate all your help.

Please have a wonderful summer and I am looking forward to seeing you again in the Fall.

Important Dates



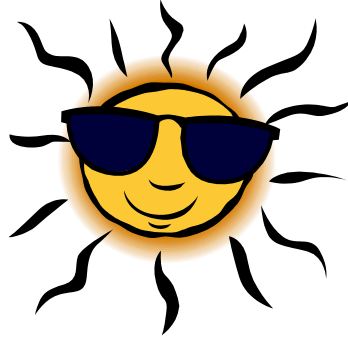
- ♣ May 26th Tues : Discoverers Picnic 10-12pm Edmonds City Park
- ♣ May 27th Wed: Imagineers Picnic 10-12pm. Inventors Picnic 12-2pm Edmonds City Park
- ♣ May 28th & 29th Thurs/Fri 10-1pm Both Days **Preschool Clean-up**(come for 1 hour either day)

NO SCHOOL
May 25th Memorial Day



- ♣ Mark your Calendars. **Graduation Ceremonies** Set for May 29th Friday 6-8pm. Discoverers are welcome at 7pm for the entertainment

Summer Park Schedule 2009



Come enjoy some fresh air and sunshine with us every Wednesday* at **11am**.

Additional park information can be found by visiting the web addresses listed below. Many of the parks have exciting things to offer in addition to the playgrounds. **Check the back for rainy day alternatives.

- June 10- Horizon View Park 47th Ave NE and NE 201st St., LFP
(Nice paved path for bikes, skates, or scooters)
- June 17- Saint Edward State Park Playground 14445 Juanita Dr NE, Bothell
www.parks.wa.gov/alpha.asp
- June 24- Edmonds Marina Beach (low tide 12:34pm) Admiral Way South, Edmonds
www.ci.edmonds.wa.us/parks_explore.stm
South of Edmonds Marina,
- July 1- Paramount Park (great for bikes and scooters) NE 155th St. & 8th Ave NE, Shoreline
www.cityofshoreline.com/parks/facilities/index.html
- July 8- Matthews Beach (swimming & playground) 93rd & Sand Point Way, Seattle
www.cityofseattle.net/parks/parkspaces/matthews.htm
- July 15- Forest Park 802 E. Mukilteo Blvd., Everett
<http://www.everettwa.org/default.aspx?ID=534>
- July 22- Richmond Beach Saltwater Park (low tide 11:31) 2021 NW 190th, Shoreline
www.cityofshoreline.com/parks/facilities/index.html
- July 29- Edmonds City Park/Wading Pool 3rd & Pine, Edmonds
www.ci.edmonds.wa.us/parks_explore.stm,
- August 5- Cottage Lake Park (bikes/scooters, ducks) 18831 NE Woodinville Duvall Rd,
Woodinville
<http://www.kingcounty.gov/recreation/parks/inventory/cottagelake.aspx>
- August 15-North Creek Park 1011 183rd Street SE, Mill Creek
- August 12-Greenlake Wading Pool N 73rd & W Greenlake Dr N
www.cityofseattle.net/parks/parkspaces/GreenLakePark/wadingpool.htm
- August 19- Martha Lake (swimming & playground) 16300 E Shore Drive, Lynnwood
http://www1.co.snohomish.wa.us/Departments/Parks/Park_Information/Park_Directory/
- August 26 - Carkeek Park Playground (beach access) 950 NE Carkeek Park Road, Seattle
www.seattle.gov/parks/environment/carkeek.htm

*If it is raining on a Wednesday in June, meet at the Seattle Gymnastics Academy for Indoor Playground from 11:30 to 12:45. 12535 26th AVE NE, Seattle. Cost is \$6.

<http://www.seattlegymnastics.com/indoor%20playground.html>

**If it is raining on a Wednesday in July and August, meet at Lynnwood Skate (formerly Lynnwood Roll a Way), 6210 200th St SW, Lynnwood (425)778-3133. Open skate is from 12:00-3:00 and is \$6.00. www.bowlandskate.com

Another fun thing to do this summer:

The following is a list of Music Concerts put on by Shoreline Parks. Bring your lunch and enjoy a variety of music for free each Tuesday at noon this summer. For more information, please call (206) 418-3383.

Please note new location for some concerts.

July 7: Recess Monkey- Great for kids!	Richmond Beach Saltwater Park
July 14: Shumba Youth Marimba Ensemble	Paramount Park
July 21: Eric Haines, Comedian & Juggler	Richmond Beach Saltwater Park
July 28: Panduo, Steel Drum Ensemble	Paramount Park
August 4: Halau Hula O' Napualani Paci? c Island Dance	Richmond Beach Saltwater Park
August 11: Duwamish Dixieland Jazz Band	Paramount Park

Richmond Beach Saltwater Park
2021 NW 190th St. Shoreline

Paramount Park
15300 8th Ave. NE Shoreline

*Also note this evening event:

Swingin' Summer Eve - Celebrate the spirit of summer with a community festival and BBQ with live music by the Popoffs.

Wednesday, July 22 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Admission - FREE*

NEW Location: Paramount Park, 15300 8th Ave NE

Inflatables, Face painting, Clown, BBQ, Used Book sale, Live music by the Popoffs!

(*Small fee for some activities and food)

Enjoy your summer!



Discoverer Andre @ Edmonds Beach Walk



Inventors Max, Myles & Emma @ Center for Wooden Boats



Teacher Patty after Inventors sing along @ Foss Home

Small Talk Newsletter is a quarterly Publication of Shoreline Cooperative Preschool. SCP is a non-profit organization and supportive community where parents and children grow together. Comments, questions and contributions should be sent by email to scpsmalltalk@hotmail.com To learn more about shoreline Co-op Preschool, call 206.362.3257 or visit our website at <http://www.shorelinecooperativepreschool.org>

The Newsletter committee thanks everyone for their contributions of material and photos. It was our pleasure to see such interest in making this project the best it could be. Have a great summer we will be seeing you. Janet Regan-Baggs & Melissa Davis



Imagineer Logan swingin' @ SCP Playground



Inventor Grace delivers flowers & smiles to the residents of Foss Home



Imagineer and VIP Levi shares his Slinky