



NEWSLETTER

www.Onceuponatimeverona.com

August, 2010

Important Dates

If you haven't already received one, be sure to grab the August calendar and check for important dates at the center. There are still lots of field trips on the calendar. And, there is a Pajama Day on Wednesday, August 11th, sack lunches are needed for everyone on August 12th and a Bike Day on Tuesday, August 17th.

OUAT Closed for Staff Work Day, Monday, August 30th

OUAT will be closed on Monday, August 30th for a staff work day. There will be a staff meeting in the morning and the rest of the day will be used to clean and get classrooms ready for the fall/winter program which starts on Wednesday, September 1st. We truly appreciate you making arrangements so that we can use this day to maintain a high quality teaching environment.

Classroom Changes

The OUAT summer program ends on Tuesday, August 31st. On September 1st VASD school starts and our current 5 year olds will be going off to kindergarten. We wish them success and fun as they start this new adventure. Our classroom changes will occur on that same Wednesday, September 1st (we have to wait until the 5's move on to open up the classrooms for the younger ones to move in!). By mid-August, you will receive information on your child's new classroom (if they are making a move at this time). Please watch for that! If you have any questions, suggestions or concerns, please feel free to see De De or Ann.

Preparing our Kindergarteners

The 4/5 year old teachers will be working with the potential kindergarteners to help them get ready for kindergarten. They will show the children where the bus will drop off those children attending Sugar Creek and New Century at OUAT each afternoon. They will also take the children over to Glacier Edge Elementary School to show them where the OUAT teachers will meet those attending Glacier Edge at the end of each day.

Help us keep children's feet safe!

A great idea was brought to our attention recently. Children have been participating in water fun days/activities at OUAT over these past summer months. Younger children utilize a small pool on the deck outside the toddler classrooms. Older children utilize pools and sprinklers on the large playground. There have been no accidents, but it was mentioned that it would be safer if children wore "water shoes" when playing in the water rather than being barefoot. It is OUAT policy that shoes be worn at all times. Having a pair of water shoes available would just be a continuation of that policy. If possible, we would appreciate it if families could bring in a pair of water shoes for their child (please label the shoes!). Thank you so much for your cooperation in this!

Family Information Updates

As we get ready to start a new "school year", it is a good time to be sure all of your forms are up-to-date and that we have your most recent contact, home address and emergency contact information. Please let us know if you need any additional forms or other information. Thank you!

September, 2010, Tuition Updates

Just a quick reminder that some tuition rates change as of September 1st. An updated Tuition Schedule containing the new rates will go out in folders, Friday, August 6th. This is the same schedule that was passed out last fall. Please let us know if you need a copy.

The Annual Supply Fee is also due the week of September 1st. Amounts are noted on the Tuition Schedule.

Staffing Updates

Laura Rhoades will be working in the older classrooms over the next six months or so to help us cover several staff maternity leaves. We appreciate Laura's help with this and are glad that we have an experienced OUAT staff member that can step in.

Rocio Martinez-Jacinto will join OUAT as of Monday, August 2nd. Rocio will be working in the Giving Tree classroom. We welcome Rocio to Once Upon a Time!!

Rachel Allen has joined OUAT as a teacher and is working in the Pumpkin Patch classroom. We welcome Rachel to Once Upon a Time!!

Staff Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to ~~

- Laura Ursin (Lily Pad classroom) – Tuesday, August 3rd
- Rachel Rakower (Substitute teacher) – Saturday, August 7th
- Nina Bricko (Sherwood Forest classroom) – Monday, August 9th
- Tammy Woods (Goodnight Moon classroom) – Friday, August 13th

Get kids ready for "Back-to-School"

August is time to begin preparing your children for back-to-school. Everyone loves shopping for new school supplies and new school clothes. But there is more that needs to be done to get ready for school!

- By mid-August children should begin going to bed at the time they will need to go to bed during the school year. This will ensure they are well rested when school starts and will also help avoid frustrating mornings trying to get them up those first few weeks.
- During August, begin setting aside times later in the day when children do "homework". Reading, doing puzzles, art projects, math workbooks, etc. are fun and great ways to get children into the habit of doing "homework" again! Starting early will save on those frustrating fights come September!
- Summertime is much more relaxed and sometimes the dinner meal doesn't happen at the same time each day and sometimes it is something fast or not eaten as a family. Routine is VERY important to all children under the age of 10. Starting in August to return to a more regular dinner time and meal setting (home-cooked meal with all the family) will get the kids in the groove of things ahead of the stressful start of the school year.
- Talk to your children about what to expect in the next school year at school and at home. Let your children know what the routine will be when school starts so that they know what to expect. That will take a lot of the stress out of things for them.
- Finally, **enjoy the last month of summer!!**