



Turtle Rock Preschool

July 2009

 **Happy July 4th!**

Box Tops for Education

Thank you to everyone who collected and donated Box Tops over the past few months. We received a total of \$92.80 to use for supplies for our school! We appreciate all of your support and we look forward to our next Box Top collection, which will take place from May to December. Be sure to continue collecting those Box Tops!



Recycling Week Results

We received numerous donations from our families during Recycling Week (May 11-15), and we want to thank everyone who contributed to the event's success. We were able to donate the towels and blankets to the City of Irvine Animal Care Center, and the clothes and shoes were delivered to the Orange County Rescue Mission. Other miscellaneous clothes and baby items were donated to the Iglesia de Edificacion church, the electronics will be refurbished and reused, the rubber from the tennis shoes will be recycled to create playground surfaces, and the school received \$45 for the donated bottles and cans. The children really enjoyed being a part of this experience, and we look forward to the next Recycling Week.

Congratulations to Kindergarten!

We would like to congratulate all of our Kindergarteners who have completed this exciting year of school. They have all worked very hard, have made new friends, and have grown tremendously. We wish them all the best of luck as they continue on in their school careers!



Upcoming Important Dates:

- ~ Summer Camp continues
- ~ Friday, July 3 : School Closed for Independence Day (observed)
- ~ Friday, July 17 : Kids' Night Out



Why Choose Turtle Rock Private Kindergarten Over a Public School?

There are many advantages in choosing Turtle Rock Private Kindergarten over other public schools. For example, we offer longer hours, more time to master concepts, individualized one-on-one attention, as well as a focus on the individual child, a challenging emergent curriculum, crafts, computers, cooking, and homework time. We also offer smaller ratios, weekly parent communication, younger age requirements for enrollment, and we give our children the opportunity to stay with their friends throughout their early childhood careers.



Introducing...Miss Sandra & Miss Lisa!

Miss Sandra will be our Kindergarten teacher for next year. Miss Sandra's many years of experience, including being a Kindergarten teacher and a 1st Grade teacher, give her a unique perspective into helping our children achieve their full potential during the coming year. She holds a Bachelor's degree and was credentialed in the State of California in 1989.

Miss Lisa will be working in the Summer Camp program this summer, and will then co-teach in Room 7 in September. Miss Lisa has over ten years' experience working with children between teaching and in after-school programs, and she can't wait to get to know all of the wonderful families here at Turtle Rock Preschool!



Staff Member of the Month ~ Anna Protopappas



This month's staff member of the month is Anna Protopappas, our Assistant Director. Anna has been a wonderful addition to the front office for almost a year. She is the first person most people see when coming through the front door and we could not have a more welcoming person at that front desk. Her smile and pleasant manner are a real asset to Turtle Rock Preschool. She does her work efficiently and is able to handle her work and at the same time be flexible enough to adapt to any situation that might occur. Her experience as a preschool teacher makes her the perfect person to understand the needs of parents, children and staff. She is creative and consistently has great ideas. We appreciate her hard work and her dedication to providing a warm environment for everyone. Congratulations Anna!!!! And thanks so much!

Did You Know... Fun Fourth of July Facts

(courtesy of http://encarta.msn.com/list_fourthofjuly/10_Surprising_Facts_About_the_Fourth_of_July.html)

- ~ Fireworks were made in China as early as the 11th century. The Chinese used their pyrotechnic mixtures for war rockets and explosives.
- ~ Uncle Sam was first popularized during the war of 1812, when the term and his picture appeared on war supply containers. However, the U.S. Congress did not adopt him as a national symbol until 1961.
- ~ Contrary to what legend says about Betsey Ross, there is no historical research backing the theory that she sewed the first flag.
- ~ The first two versions of the Liberty Bell were defective and had to be melted down and recast. The third version of the Liberty Bell rang every Fourth of July from 1778 to 1835, when, according to tradition, it cracked while being rung during a trial.
- ~ The iron framework for the Statue of Liberty was devised by French engineer Alexandre-Gustave Eiffel, who also built the Eiffel Tower in Paris.



New Rooms 1 & 2 Outside Play Structure



The toddlers love exploring their new Tot Tree play structure in the Rooms 1 & 2 yard. They have had fun crawling up the slide, playing with the buttons that make music, pushing the plastic ladybugs that squeak when touched, and playing "Peek-A-Boo" with one another as they discover the little holes throughout the tree.

Rooms 7 & 8 Highlights and Photos

Throughout the months of June and July, Rooms 7 & 8 have engaged in many fun experiences, and will be discovering a variety of new and exciting activities as the summer months arrive:

- The students ended their exciting and positive year with reviewing their letter and sound recognition from A-Z and word-building activities from their Zoo Phonics program.
- They revisited numbers 1-33 and practiced graphing patterns and group counting.
- The teachers and children are looking forward to a fun-filled summer with a new schedule and fun weekly activities to include: water play, picnics, nature walks, and many fun and delicious cooking projects!



Children from Rooms 7 and 8 join together to play a game of "Duck, Duck, Goose!" out on their parachute.



Miss Ida leads her class as they hold hands and walk in a circle while singing "The Farmer In the Dell."



Sofia (left), Nadia (center), and Nikki (right) giggle as they work with sticking foam shapes together using water as glue.