

May

TEACHERS' BLOCKS

Murnie Leary

Director

On April 10, Hingham preschool teachers and kindergarten teachers met at South School to discuss readiness issues. We had a very positive discussion. One of the issues kindergarten teachers saw was the need for more practice to develop fine motor skills, not surprising in this day of "screens." Here at HNS, we support the development of fine motor skills with a variety of activities: using play dough, scissors, gluing, tweezers, clothespins, tape and stringing beads. Activities that strengthen arms and shoulders include using the monkey bars, climbing and throwing balls. These also contribute to fine motor development. The Hingham schools have a website <http://hinghamfinemotor.weebly.com>. This site has a variety of activities to do at home. Take a look! Spring is finally here. The children have more outdoor opportunities to develop all those muscles!

Mrs. Young & Mrs. Brown

5 day 4-year-olds

May is here! We are finishing our fairy tale fun and will be learning about the farm for three weeks. Hatching checks and a field trip to Hornstra farm are the highlights of our month. We are reading lots of new words from our daily message and doing daily math word problems from our Problem of the Day big book. We continue to practice our good listening skills, and did 100 acts of kindness to early an ice cream party. We have had the best school year!

Mrs. Murphy & Mrs. Laine

3 day 3-year-olds

Our classroom is all abuzz with our current study of insects! Please ask your children about our live caterpillars and what exciting things are going to happen to them. The girls and boys have been busy learning about metamorphosis through literature and song. They have made their own egg carton caterpillars that have formed chrysalises and are hanging in our room. We can't wait to see what happens next! Later in the month we will move into our teddy bear unit. Our much-anticipated Teddy Bear Picnic will take place on Friday, May 25. More details to come!

Mrs. Fox & Mrs. Sweeney

2 day 3-year-olds

Spring is here! This beautiful May weather is the perfect time to study butterflies and other bugs and insects. All the changes in nature this time of year make for a science classroom all around us. Getting outside and observing nature, the colors, the weather, the growth and simply getting fresh air is so good for this age group! Our caterpillars are starting to make their chrysalises so we hope to have some butterflies soon! I hope you have heard our caterpillar song at home and maybe done some butterfly yoga! Next, we will be studying bears, teddy bears and having a teddy bear picnic... information to follow for parent volunteer opportunities. We have lots of summer birthdays and late May/early June birthdays. If you would like to come in and read or bring a special snack let me know. It's hard to believe we will be out of school soon!

Mrs. Warren & Mrs. Ross

4 day 4-year-olds

The focus in our classroom has been the start of spring and the changes occurring around us, including weather, plants, animals, and insects. Our caterpillars have arrived and we have been patiently observing them as they begin to grow and change. May is a busy month! Our class Bike Day will be held on Thursday, May 10th with a rain date of Tuesday, May 17th. Detailed Bike Day notices will be sent home at the end of the week. Based upon favorable tides, our class trip to North Beach in Hingham will be held on Monday, May 21st. We will need volunteers to drive and chaperone during our trip. Please note that other arrangements must be made for siblings. The rain date for this trip is Monday, June 4th. Look for detailed notes about the North Beach trip in the children's bags this week and a sign-up sheet posted outside of our classroom at that time for volunteers. The end of our school year is approaching fast. We will begin to revisit many of our favorite activities and enjoy our final weeks together!

Mrs. Carroll & Mrs. Read-Brown

2 day 3-year-olds

Spring is definitely in the air as we continue to work on our butterfly projects and watch the real butterflies in our classroom come to life. It has been exciting for everyone to watch and learn about their process and transformations. The Painted Ladies, as they are known, will stay for just a few short days in the tank enclosure and then we will let them free. During this month, we will briefly study ocean life as beach weather heads our way. More importantly, we will also talk about and celebrate our mothers through a special project. Watch for a very important and heartfelt delivery, Moms, in your child's bag the second week of May. Finally, we will end the month by celebrating what we have done and accomplished all year by revisiting some of our favorite activities. Our year will end with an ice cream sundae party where friends will have an opportunity to reminisce with one another about the time they have spent together before getting ready for summer and next steps.

Mrs. Carroll & Mrs. Christino

3 day 4-year-olds

As our last full month of the school year arrives, we will be doing many exciting things. We continue to watch the caterpillars go through their stages and eagerly await the Painted Ladies which will emerge sometime mid-month. The comments the children are making reveal their curiosity, interest and concern for the five lives in the works. The children have made their own butterflies and they, too, will emerge from their chrysalises on the same day that our real ones do. This month, we will also briefly study ocean life, culminating in a field trip to North Beach in Hingham. A separate letter will be sent out regarding this as we will need drivers and volunteers to accompany us. Another activity that is special to the four- and five-year-old classes is Bike Day. This is one that the children have a blast doing! They will bring their bicycles to school and be able to ride through our empty, closed off parking lot with their classmates. Again, a separate letter will go home giving you all the details. One of the themes that we have stressed and worked on all year is about kindness - teaching and learning the different ways to show it every chance we get. Our "Kindness Counts" poster is filled with hundreds of stickers representing all the kind acts the children have been "caught" doing during the year. The door on which it hangs is also filled with all the drawings and gifts the children have selflessly and beautifully made to show their kindness. It speaks volumes about what they have learned. In May, the children will also learn that it is when we celebrate and honor mothers. Please watch for a special gift coming your way the second week of this month. Finally, as our year comes to an end, we make sure to revisit activities that the children have enjoyed doing during the year, giving them another opportunity to do it again, enjoying the process with their friends.