


Marin Day Schools at Tam Valley EDS News

Important Dates in October 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30 Last day to pay tuition without fees	1 Late fees accrue on unpaid accounts	2	3 -Read for the Record Event -ITAV Parent Math Seminar, Park School	4 	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 Camp Signup for 10/21 advance signup required	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Staff Dev Day No school EDS Camp *by signup only* October tuition statements are emailed	22	23	24	25 November tuition due EasyDraft runs	26
Walkathon Spirit Week						
27 12-4pm Tam Valley Walkathon	28	29	30	31 Halloween! 8:35 K parade 4:45 1 st -5 th parade	1 Late fees accrue on unpaid accounts \$20/day	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Connect with Bright Horizons



Reasons to Celebrate

Rylan K.
Lem T-B.
Brigitte W.
Peyton E.
Miss Sarah

Center Highlights



From the Director...

Calling all parents that have a sewing machine and know how to use it:

We need your help with a Fundraiser project supporting our EDS and the Marin Day Schools Scholarship Fund! If we can get enough parent support to make it happen, we will be decorating and selling the cutest fabric Trick-or-Treat bags for Halloween.

All it takes is 20 minutes and you can whip out a dozen bags. Don't have a sewing machine but interested in helping? Perhaps you can cut out some jack-o-lantern pieces, donate Halloween fabric or ribbon for handles. Any donation is tax deductible to the full extent of the law. Donation forms are available as requested. Please contact me ASAP if you can help. Thank you!



Jumpstart Read for the Record Event

Thursday, October 3

EDS will be participating in this year's annual event to support early childhood education all around the world. All families are welcome to join the kindergarten at 2pm and at 4:30pm for school-age at be counted!

For more information check out <http://www.jstart.org/campaigns/read-record>

Our first EDS School Closure Camp Day of the year: October 21

School is closed but EDS is open for a full-day, 7:30am-6:30pm. Space is limited and advance signup is required to allow us to provide legal ratios and enough food and materials for each child attending.

Sign-up sheets for school closure days will be available at EDS the week prior – just mark off the hours you wish your child to attend and be sure to sign it! Each hour over your child's schedule is \$16/hr. Fees are due on the day of camp; if you use EasyDraft it can be deducted in the next draft. We often have other EDS centers join us, which means a chance to meet new friends and see old ones!

~ Vicky



Classroom Highlights

What in the WORLD is happening in October?

This month your children will be focusing on the 'Changing Seasons'.

We'll examine and discuss what causes the leaves to change color, the Moon to change and why it is getting dark earlier. The students will examine squash and gourds, get artistic (and messy) with hay, leaves, and pine needles.

EDS will also enjoy some traditional activities for this time of year – build Scarecrows, carve jack-o'-lanterns, tell creepy stories, play spooky games, and don't forget trick-or-treating on Halloween!

Bright Horizons News



★ **SAVE THE DATE** for our next Parent Webinar:

November 5, 2013 at 8:00 p.m. EST/ 5:00 p.m/ PST

Parent Webinar Series

Reading Aloud with Children:

The Art of Bringing Books to Life through Storytelling

Did you know: reading aloud to your child at a young age helps build the foundation for future academic success? Research show that one of the most important ways parents can support literacy development is to read aloud. When you read aloud with your child you are developing critical language and cognitive skills, inspiring curiosity, imagination and creative thinking, and cultivating a love of reading that will strengthen your child's long-term educational development

Join Bright Horizons on November 5th as we share the secrets to becoming a masterful reader and storyteller. Bright Horizons' early education experts and a special guest storyteller from [Barefoot Books](#) will share practical ways that you can make reading time a more engaging, enjoyable, and enriching learning experience.

★ **COMING SOON: Crafts with Kindness**

Crafts with Kindness makes it easy for families to give back, no matter how busy their schedule might be. Craft kits include all the materials needed to complete a meaningful service project that is age-appropriate and teaches children empathy, care, and compassion for the world and all of its people. The kit also includes "extras" including a children's book, reflection questions to help deepen the experience for families, and ideas on how to extend giving back and make it an automatic habit.

All proceeds from the kit sales benefit [Doing Good Together](#) and [Bright Horizons Foundation for Children](#)®, two nonprofit agencies that work to make a positive difference for children and families.

Visit www.craftswithkindness.com for more information!



READY for SCHOOL: Building the Brain

The human brain has the amazing ability to build itself based upon an individual's experiences. This is known as neuroplasticity. The quality of early experiences in the first five years of life in particular is critical in brain development.

Developing vocabulary, both spoken and understanding, is one of these key early experiences. The quality of your child's language development directly relates to your child's later development of reading skills. By age four, the brain is 90% of the final adult size and weight, but without the functioning level of an adult brain. To nurture that ongoing brain development, spoken language interactions are crucial throughout the early years.

We all know that three- and four-year-olds ask constant questions. The key is not just answering the questions, but engaging your child in the process of discussion and finding answers. A few tips follow:

- Respond to your child's questions in a conversational way, rather than using every question as an opportunity to tell or teach. Use questions as a chance to continue the discussion ("What do you think?" "Why do you think that?" "How could we find out more?") rather than telling your child, "This is how it works."
- Use opportunities to give your child your full and patient attention as he describes his thoughts to you, rather than being quick to solve the problem for him. We know this is not always possible, but fully use the opportunity whenever you can.
- Let your child direct the conversation. Don't be quick to finish sentences or fill in words.
- When your child uses incorrect grammar, model the appropriate grammar in your response instead of correcting her errors. (If your child says, "I knowed that the cat was going to run away;" you can respond "Yes, you knew that the cat would run.")
- Expand on and extend what your child has said. For example, your child says "I saw a cat." And you respond, "Yes, that white and black cat just ran up the tall tree." Or you can ask, "What is the cat doing now?"
- Model new vocabulary and new sentence structures. Your child says, "There's a red truck" and you respond, "The red truck is stopping in front of that tall building because the driver needs to make a delivery."
- Ask open-ended questions. "What did you like about that story?" "Why do you think so many birds are out today?"
- You can also ask "curiosity questions" like "Where do you think this cheese came from?"

The length of these conversations with your child matters as well as the quality of the conversations. Look for ways to extend the conversation and keep your child talking. All of these skills are important for later success in reading.

Wolfe, P. & Nevills, P. (2004). *Building the Reading Brain, PreK – 3*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Corwin Press.

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