**July 2015**

**Lawrenceville Ledger**

**July 6, 13, 20, 27 – Dragonflies and Hummingbirds Swim**

**July 7, 14, 21, 28 – Camp Explorations Swims**

**July 10, 17, 24, 31 – Butterflies and Frogs Swim**

**July 7 – Parent Partnership meeting at 12:15**

**July 8 - Camp Trip to Giggleberry Fair, PS Art Class with April Zay**

**July 9 – Lil Sports Karate visits Kindergarten and Camp, PS Art Class with April Zay**

**July 10– Classroom Adventures visits K and Camp, Parent’s Night Out!**

**July 13 – Camp Cartooning Workshop**

**July 14 – Zumba for PS and K**

**July 16 – Camp Trip to Monster Mini Golf**

**July 17- Yoga for K**

**July 21 – Mad Science visits PS and K**

**July 22 – Camp Trip to Colonial Bowling Lane**

**July 23, 24 – Bricks for Kids visits PS, K and Camp,**

**July 28 – Parent Webinar: The Caregiving Generation 2:30pm, PS Art Class with April Zay**

**July 29 – Kindergarten Trip to Home Depot**

**July 30 – Camp Trip to Painter’s Loft, PS Art Auction**

**July 31 – K and Camp Art Class with April Zay**

**Important Dates**

Happy Birthday Jessica Aquaro, Melissa Bollendorf, Dashell Brown, Nicole Gabauer, Cheryl Raywood, Katherine Szatkowski and Jennifer Tindall!

Happy 16th Anniversary Melissa Bollendorf!

**Reasons to Celebrate**

 **Connect with Bright Horizons**

From the Director

 The month of June was one of transition, celebration and preparation. The Kindergartners hosted Alex’s Lemonade stand and raised $180 for the foundation. They also visited the BMS cafeteria to experience a cafeteria style lunch in preparation for ‘big school’. Lastly, Kindergarten held a graduation ceremony to end the academic year.

 Our preschool classrooms also celebrated with year end parties for parents and children to interact and enjoy experiences together. Mid June marked the kick off to the Preschool and Kindergarten Camp Explorations/Summer Adventures program with many in house visitors and themed weeks. The School Age Xtreme Camp Explorations program also began with in house visitors and a trip to Kids Castle in Doylestown PA.

 As you can see from the calendar of important dates, the month of July is sure to be full of activites for the children to enjoy! PS, K and Camp begin swimming lessons and our younger friends will enjoy water play throughout the month of July!

**Classroom Highlights**

Kindergarten

The Kindergarten class participated in “A to Z to the End of Kindergarten” . They really enjoyed the themed days, such as Backwards day, New Name Day and Veggie Day, that lead up to their special graduation day! Our kindergarteners proved they were “dynamite” as they entertained us with a great performance and received their diplomas. Special thanks to Miss Debbie for a successful school year! Towards the end of the month, we welcomed the Summer Adventures program, new teacher Katherine and many new friends!

Preschool

Preschool was busy preparing for the remaining end of the year celebrations. We went on a space adventure with Froggy Friends and heard “The Littlest Roar” in Butterfly Buddies. These parties, in addition to last month’s Dragonfly party, were a fun way to end a year of friendship and learning. We kicked off the beginning of the Camp Explorations: Summer Adventures program with a performance from David Perry, a Hula demonstration with Hula Honney, a Preschool/ Kindergarten Luau, snow cones and a magic show with Ken Northridge. Much more to come in July as we prepare for swimming and many other enrichment programs!

Toddlers

Young children are scientists by nature. They are born with a strong sense of curiosity about how things work and an innate desire to make sense of the world. The month of June brought the beginning of water play for the toddlers. In addition to being a great sensory activity, it encompases the *Science Rocks* element of *The World at Their Fingertips* curriculum. The children learned to experiment with volume by filling, dumping and comparing containers with water. Water play is also a great way to keep cool on hot summer days. The toddlers are looking forward to revisiting this activity throughout the summer!

Infants

Playing games with babies that help them identify individual body parts, such as their nose or their toes, incorporates multiple elements of *The World at Their Fingertips* curriculum. These games are *Math Counts* activities, as babies learn to identify singular objects. They are also a part of *Our World*. While playing these games in front of a mirror, infants begin to learn that they are separate from others.

**READY for SCHOOL News: Math All Around Us**

Forget worksheets and drills. Math is all around us, just waiting to be discovered. Preschoolers seem to be natural mathematicians. By simply being aware of math experiences in your daily life, you can provide a rich learning environment for your young child.

**Counting objects.** Counting objects is one of the first math skills preschoolers and toddlers learn. Most children love counting objects in the environment – ducks at the park, cars on the street, or stuffed animals on the bed.

Make a game of counting wherever you go. Count the stairs as you go up them. Count the crackers you offer for snack. Ask your child to count out enough cups, spoons, or plates for every member of your family.

**Sorting and patterning.** Early sorting, classifying, and patterning experiences not only lay the foundation for future math work, but they also help develop organized thinking and pre-reading skills, since recognizing letter and word patterns is necessary for decoding words.

Ask your child to sort dishes or cups according to their color or type. Match socks when you’re doing the laundry. Look for patterns in nature. For example, most flowers and leaves are symmetrical. A tree grows in concentric rings, evident if you look at a tree stump.

**Seriating.** Seriating is the ability to sort objects in a specific order, such as small, medium, and large, or first, next, last. Like sorting, classifying, and patterning, seriating helps children develop the executive function skills, such as attention and critical thinking, necessary for later academic success.

To build seriating skills, ask your child to sort similar objects, such as shoes, by small, medium, and large. Give your child simple three-part directions, such as, “Hang up your coat, wash your hands, and sit down.”

**One-to-One Correspondence.** One to one correspondence is the understanding that one object can be matched with one object, i.e., one sock with one shoe or one plate with one cup. Learning this concept gives numbers meaning. Just as children learn that the letters of the alphabet make sounds and can create words, children must understand that numbers are meaningful; they are used to count objects and define quantities.

To teach one-to-one correspondence, pair up toys, dishes, shoes, and other items around the house. On paper, draw lines from one sticker or drawing to another.

**READY for SCHOOL News**

**The Caregiving Generation**

*Presented in collaboration with Long Term Solutions*

Tuesday, July 28, 2:30 p.m. EST

**July installment of the Family Matters Webinar Series!**

Caring for aging relatives is an overwhelming responsibility. Today, the graying of America has brought “sandwich” responsibilities to millions of people – with everyone from Millennials to Boomers struggling under the weight of this enormous job. What’s the secret to managing these responsibilities? How can working adults effectively provide care for their loved ones and themselves?

Join **Bright Horizons®** for the next Family Matters webinar as we discuss what caregiving looks like in today’s world, how you can cope, and strategies for effectively managing your life, and theirs.

Want to join us in July? [Register now!](http://event.on24.com/r.htm?e=1010928&s=1&k=8BCEBBAE198BA377102C77D7E840733A&partnerref=ParentNews)

***Parents* *Magazine* Spotlights Bright Horizons Expert**

Bright Horizons was referenced in the July 2015 edition of *Parents* Magazine. The article, titled “The Child-care Checklist,” is a comprehensive piece about choosing a child care program for toddlers and features Linda Whitehead, our Vice President of Education and Development here at Bright Horizons. Linda receives the leading quote in the article and throughout the piece, discusses the various things that parents should be looking for as they try to find the right program for their children.  Among other things, Linda talks about the importance of examining the curriculum and that parents should ensure that the program offers regular opportunities to learn through hands-on materials, exploration and play.

*Parents* is one of the most reputable magazines in the parenting space and maintains a 2.1 million monthly readership base so this is a great opportunity for both Linda and Bright Horizons.

**Bright Horizons News**

