July 2018
NEWSLETTER
Partnering with the Schoenbaum Family Center and Crane Center for Early Childhood Research and Policy to improve children’s well-being through research, practice, and policy.

Town Square Special
Performances for Families

July 11th
Columbus Fire Department will visit with our preschool classrooms and summer camp group to talk about fire safety with a visit from a fire truck and fire fighters. Keep an eye out for fliers with details on times for each classroom.

August 13th at 3 p.m.
Chef Mark Gonzalez will perform with a few of his band mates to help us celebrate the end of the summer. This will give our children the chance to experience unique instruments and sing along to some of their favorite songs.

July Storytimes

This month in preschool storytime we will learn about dinosaurs, bath time, and the ocean. We will discover the terms more and less, discuss the meaning of extinct, and look at the different layers of the ocean. You can explore these concepts with your child at home using books such as I'm the Biggest Thing in the Ocean by Kevin Sherry, Who's in the Tub by Sylvie Jones, and Dinosaur Kisses by Ezra Stein.

Giveaway Books

Don’t forget to check your child’s mailbox for the monthly Kass Family Book Club book. Infant and Toddler families, look for City Shapes by Diana Murray. Use this book to help your child find the different shapes all around them. Preschool families, look for R is for Noisy Robot by Adam Watkins. This book uses unique sounds for each letter of the alphabet. Try out the activities on the book insert and let Kari, our SFC librarian, know how they went.

Events

Every Tuesday from 7:30 – 9:00 a.m.
Coffee Talk - Drop off your child and enjoy coffee and a snack with staff and other families in the JP Morgan Chase library.

Tuesdays & Thursdays from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.
Stay & Play - Explore ideas like magna tiles, play dough, and yummy time finger painting while getting to know other families.

Mondays & Fridays from 2:45 – 3:15 p.m.
Community Storytime - Experience fun stories, silly songs, and exciting family activities.

Saturday, August 18 from 12:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Weinland Park Festival
Literacy Tips For Preschoolers

Do you ever feel like hiding your child’s favorite book so that they have to pick something new at bedtime? You are not alone. Children love to read the same stories over and over. Repetition is key to helping your child gain important literacy skills. It not only gives your child comfort in knowing what they are reading, but it also builds their confidence as they are able to predict events before they happen. Repetition also strengthens the connections your child is making between the words they are hearing, the words they see on the page, and the illustrations in the book. And who knows, you may be able to impress someone at a party when you can recite Go Dog Go from memory.

A few books that are exciting to read multiple times include Goodnight Moon by Margaret Wise Brown (look for the white mouse on each page), Good Night, Gorilla by Peggy Rothermann (look for the red balloon and mouse with a banana on each page), Chalk by Bill Thomson, and the Elephant and Piggie books by Mo Willems.

Literacy Tips For Infants and Toddlers

Toddlers are busy exploring their world and testing limits, so getting them to sit still to read a book can be a challenge. Allow your child to determine the amount of time you spend reading at any one time and make those moments fun and interactive. Don’t feel pressured to read the book to the end, you can revisit the book later. If you have a toddler who is constantly on the go, try reading books that include movement activities or that relate to your child’s favorite toy.

You can read to your child as they play and make connections between the book and the activity that your child is working on. For example, “Oh I see that Dini the Dinosaur is splashing and digging in the mud. Do you think that your dinosaur can splash and dig?” This is a great way to help your child connect the actions in the book with actions that they do in real life.

Books that are great for active toddlers in Press Here by Herve Tullet, Clip Clop by Nicola Smee, Tails by Mathew Van Fleet, and We’re Going on a Bear Hunt by Michael Rosen.

Saturday August 18: Weinland Park Festival

Weinland Park’s neighborhood festival is planned for Saturday, August 18th from noon to 4 p.m. in Weinland Park. Once again, SFC will offer activities for young children and their families. Join us for P&G giveaways, music, face painting, book reading, water games, and fun with sand. There will also be games for elementary and middle school children. The festival is a chance for neighbors to come together for an afternoon of fun and to learn about resources and opportunities in Weinland Park.
MAY CELEBRATIONS

May was an eventful month! Thanks to all our families for joining us as we celebrated the end of the year, welcomed children’s author Mac Barnett, and enjoyed a visit from Mother Goose from the Ohio History Connection.

Mother Goose shares her rhymes and stories with school classrooms.

Mac Barnett signs his books for each child to take home.

At the End of the Year Celebration, families enjoy arts and crafts, treats from Chef Mark, games, and special gifts for children who are graduating.