

# The Providence Pages

Volume 44, Issue 7

March 2013

## *A Letter from Kelly...*

February was fast and fun. I've finally given up hope that we will actually get a decent snow fall this winter. It seems like the groundhog was right and spring is right around the corner. It's time to pack up the snow pants and boots that my kids have worn only once and hope that they will still fit next year. As we wait for the flowers to bloom and the birds to sing, we've got a busy month here at PNS to bring warmth and light to the last dreary days of winter.

Class brunches will take place during the first week of March. Please see the school calendar for the date your class is scheduled. The brunches are a fun, casual way to learn more about your child's teacher and class as well as to spend time socializing with other parents. All who attend will earn 30 minutes of parent education credit. And if you are providing food or drinks for the brunch, you will earn volunteer time as well.

The next big March event is the mandatory membership meeting on the 11th. At least one parent from each currently enrolled family is required to attend. Why is it mandatory? Our by-laws require a quorum to vote in officers for next year's Executive Board. Since the actual vote takes only a few minutes, we've planned a wonderful parent education event to begin the evening in hopes that the trip to school will be more worthwhile for everyone. Back by popular demand will be Maureen Bush, a former PNS mom and a FCPS teacher with nearly 20 years of experience. Maureen will be leading a great interactive discussion on kindergarten readiness beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Big Room. The e-board vote will take place at 7:30 or immediately following Maureen's presentation. Once the vote is finished, you are free to leave but also welcome to stay for our monthly board meeting. This is a great evening to catch up on your PNS requirements as you can earn a parent education hour by attending the presentation and a volunteer hour by staying for the board meeting. Refreshments will be provided. It will be an evening of good food, good company, and the opportunity to make important contributions to our school. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone there!

Please remember that there is no school on Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>. Our fantastic fundraising committee has reserved this morning at House of Bounce to keep the kids happy and busy on their day off. Also, March 22<sup>nd</sup> will be the last day of school before Spring Break. The school will then be closed from March 25<sup>th</sup> through March 29<sup>th</sup>. We will be back and ready for a brand new month on April 1.

As we begin to make preparations for the next school year, this is a great time to share your thoughts and ideas about PNS with current or future board members. Parent surveys will be sent via email soon, and we appreciate your feedback on how you think we might be able to improve the school. We are especially interested in hearing your thoughts on your current family job. Those who have actually done the jobs are the best resources to make improvements for future families. Please update your family job files and include any helpful information or advice that will make the job easier for the next person who gets it. Your input would be greatly appreciated! Once your files are up to date, they can be returned to our VP of Administration, Jennifer Mack. If you don't have an actual job file, please feel free to send your ideas or suggestions to Jennifer any time at [jennifermack@gmail.com](mailto:jennifermack@gmail.com).

I hope everyone has a great March and a wonderful start to Spring!

*-Kelly*



### **PROVIDENCE NURSERY SCHOOL**

9019 Little River Turnpike  
Fairfax, VA 20031  
[www.providencenurseryschool.com](http://www.providencenurseryschool.com)

### **Mark your Calendar**

#### **Parent/Teacher Brunches**

9:30-10:30 am on :  
Tuesday, March 4<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>th</sup>

#### **Kindergarten Readiness**

##### **Speaker**

6:30 pm  
Monday, March 11<sup>th</sup>

#### **General Membership**

##### **Meeting and Board**

##### **Meeting to follow**

7:30 pm  
Monday, March 11<sup>th</sup>

#### **NO SCHOOL-**

##### **House of Bounce**

##### **Fundraiser**

Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>

#### **Enrichment with Mr. Skip**

Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>

#### **Enrichment with Michael**

##### **Fleming – Dr. Seuss**

##### **Storytelling**

Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>

#### **Spring Break – No School**

Monday, March 25<sup>th</sup>  
-Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup>

The *Providence Pages* is published for Providence Nursery School, Inc. Please send submissions to [kellyvolciak@yahoo.com](mailto:kellyvolciak@yahoo.com) by March 20<sup>th</sup> for April's issue.

## CDO & 2s

March is here—can warmer spring weather be far behind? Of course, thoughts of spring naturally lead to thoughts of growth. Not only have my young friends sprouted and lost some of their baby cheeks, there are now budding friendships forming in the 2s and CDO class. Where they used to play alone, there are now groups of friends playing together.

So what do I have planned for my growing friends this month? During the first week of March we'll learn about rabbits. Expect pom pom rabbits, rabbit headbands and carrot prints to come home from the art table. We'll practice hopping in the gym. We'll read *Muncha Muncha Muncha* by Candace Fleming.

Our theme for the week of March 11<sup>th</sup> will be pond life. We'll familiarize ourselves with the creatures that live in and around ponds. At the art table we'll make our own ponds. We'll paint ducks and enjoy fishing at the sensory table. We'll also go on a nature walk and search for animal tracks in the mud.

Safety will be the theme for the week of March 18<sup>th</sup>. We'll practice looking both ways before crossing the street. We'll play red light green light and make our own street signs. We'll also talk about what is safe to eat and how to be safe around pets.



The end of March brings us to BUGS! We'll be busy at the art table making bug hats, lady bugs with wings, and fly swatter paintings. Of course we'll sing about the *Old Lady Who Swallowed the Fly*. This will be a great week for science lessons as we sort and categorize different types of bugs and learn more about their body parts.

In the big room the students play at different centers. But we're not just playing- we're working on a number of preschool skills. At the play dough table and sensory table we're working on hand strengthening and fine motor skills. Hopping, balancing and climbing are happening in the gross motor area. In all of the centers, we are practicing and expanding our social language. We're working on asking our friends for things, commenting on what our friends are doing (Wow I like your tower! or That's a long train you made), asking our friends questions (Do you like it? Want to see what I made? Can I help you?) and giving compliments (Great Princess dress). Miss Phyllis, Miss Ryan and I help the children who tend to stay in one area to try new things. We're also working with the

students who tend to pop around from one thing to another, on sticking with an activity for an extended period of time. What is your child doing in the big room? I hope you get a chance to see big room time when you volunteer or co- op. Please ask me how your child is doing in the big room at pick up or via email- I'd love to talk about it.

Mrs. B

## Reminder

If you have not completed your maintenance day requirement please be sure to mark your calendar for Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, our last cleaning and maintenance day. If you prefer to buy-out, the fee is \$40.

## Notice!

We have a limited number of openings for the 2013 – 2014 school year. If you have any friends or neighbors who are still shopping for a preschool for next year, please send them our way! Contact Kyle Durbin at [kddurbin@verizon.net](mailto:kddurbin@verizon.net) for more information.



3s

I love March. It's the month with the beginning of Spring in it. That means it starts to warm up and I get work in my garden and go on longer bike rides! It also means we can use the playground more and there's more light, which makes everyone happy.

March also comes with some great, springy themes at school. The first one is Wind and Rainbows. Sometimes we talk about wind when we're doing the weather report, but we will try to pay more attention to it and see what we can use to make wind. Rainbow colors are fun at the art table and we can use a prism to make rainbows on the walls if the sun cooperates.

Rainbows and the color green make us think about St. Patrick's Day, so we'll talk about shamrocks and leprechauns – maybe they'll come to visit! We'll check out color mixing with blue and yellow to see what shades of green we can produce.



Then we will think Spring thoughts. Last month the groundhog said Spring would come early this year. Let's see if he was right. We'll talk about changes in the weather and things that are hatching and sprouting.

This month we have another Parent Brunch on Wednesday, the 6<sup>th</sup>. It will be an informal session for chatting and sharing questions and ideas. On the 13<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Skip is back with some Celtic friends for more singing and fun. And then on the 20<sup>th</sup>, Michael Fleming will be leading a Dr. Seuss storytime in the Big Room. Join us if you have time.

Jayden and his family will be leaving us this month. We'll miss them a lot, but send them off with best wishes for re-settling in Texas!

After working and playing through our March activities, I hope everyone has a fun and relaxing Spring Break. Then we will be back for our last two months(!!!) of school.

*Miss Susan*

## Mandatory Membership Meeting is March 11<sup>th</sup>

Our annual Membership Meeting will be held on Monday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 in the Big Room. This is a mandatory meeting. One member of each current PNS families must be in attendance in order to vote for the 2013-2014 Executive Board, listed below. The monthly board meeting will follow, and all are welcome to stay.

### 2013-2014 Executive Board

President – Kelly Volciak  
 VP Admin – **Natalie Gray**  
 VP Forms – **Leah Fogarty**  
 VP Enrollment – Kyle Durbin  
 Secretary – **Jennifer Brooks**  
 Treasurer – Kelley Raich  
 Asstiant Treasurer – **Barbara Rosand**  
 Fundraising Co-Charirs – Liz Claeys and Alexandra Erickson



Bold = New to the E-Board

3/4s

As I write this mid-February, the weather outside is cold and miserable...and just the other day, it was warm and sunny. Old Man

Winter just can't seem to make up his mind. Well, I can – I think it's time for some consistency around here! The kids are tired of mittens and hats. All I can say is, "Bring on spring!!!" (Though I will state publicly that we were robbed in the snow department...bummer!)

Dr. Seuss will be our honorary guest during the week of March 4<sup>th</sup>. We will honor his memory by exploring several of his books...including my favorite, *Green Eggs and Ham*. Of course, we'll do some cooking on that day! I also have a couple of other exciting projects to go along with other Dr. Seuss books...so stand by! It's such fun to be a kid at PNS!

Then comes a week (3/11-3/14) to talk about our little feathered friends who are just starting to put in an appearance around our neighborhood. Feathers, whistling, and singing will be very important during our time discussing birds. Next in line is a very interesting week (starting 3/21) where we will be discussing all kinds of weather. We will do some science experiments (These kids LOVE experiments!) and talk about how weather conditions are



the same/different. Rainbows will get a day all to themselves...sequencing those colors is always so much fun! It will be a very colorful week, indeed!

There is no school on Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> ...all the teachers and aides will be at our spring PACT Conference learning lots of neat stuff. And don't forget the General Membership Meeting that will be held on Monday, March 11<sup>th</sup>. Please plan to attend! The election of officers for next year's PNS Board will be held. Time at the meeting will be time well spent! Then Spring Break will take place from 3/25-3/29...what fun for all!!!

The Fours' Gang is moving right along with their alphabet fun. The kids' listening skills are improving by leaps and bounds! They are all starting to really hear those initial sounds and think of words that start with our special letter. Letters this month will R (3/4), G (3/11), and W (3/18)

It's going to be a marvelous March!

Jane

4s

The month of March starts with a unit on Nursery Rhymes. We will practice reciting many of them and also be listening for those rhyming words.

Next is "Green" week March 11<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup>. During this week, those naughty little Leprechauns will make a visit to Providence and stir up some type of trouble. Shamrocks and lots of Treasures will be in school this week.

March 18<sup>th</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup> is a study of Dr. Seuss. *The Cat in the Hat*, *Green Eggs and Ham*, and *One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish*, to name a few of his classic rhyming books, will form our unit of study. We will also cook up some green eggs and ham as well as making paper bookmarks.

Judy



## Fundraising

Join us at House of Bounce on Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 to noon. Tickets are available in advance for \$7 per child; please purchase advance tickets by Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup>. Checks can be made payable to PNS. Pizza will also be available at noon for \$5 per person (2 slices and a drink) - this is payable either in advance or on the morning of the 12<sup>th</sup>. If you don't get a chance to purchase advance tickets, you can still come but you will pay \$9 at the door.

Our Spring Fundraiser and raffle are just around the corner! Plan to drop off the kids and enjoy a little adult time on Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup>. **This event is open to current PNS students and older siblings only.** We will be entertaining the kids for 3 full hours, from 9:30 to 12:30. We will have snacks, crafts, and games. Please RSVP early as there are a limited number of spots, especially for the younger kids (CDO and 2s).



The price for the first child will be \$20, payable in advance, and \$10 for each additional child. Prices at the door will be \$25 and \$15.

Look for our display of raffle items in the Music Room during the first week of April. Tickets will be \$1 each or a

dozen for \$10. The drawing will take place at noon on April 6<sup>th</sup> (before the end of our babysitting event). Winners do not need to be present. We are still collecting items for the raffle - let us know if you have any ideas or would like to donate something!

Thanks once again to Bridget Benov and Feld Entertainment, we have tickets for a circus performance in mid-April! Look for more details to come before the end of March!

Questions? Contact Liz or Alex. As always, thank you for your support of PNS!

## After School Enrichment for Spring is here!

Heart & Soul Yoga will be offering Yoga to 3's, 3/4's and 4's students on Wednesdays from March 13<sup>th</sup> - May 8<sup>th</sup> from 1:40-2:15pm. Cost for this 8 week class is \$68.00. Space is limited so please contact Kelly Volciak if you would like to register.



## VCPC Awards

There is still time to nominate a PNS parent for this year's VCPC awards. If you know someone whose commitment to our school over the past year has been superior, please give them a chance to be recognized. Nomination forms are available on the sign-in tables at school or you can email Kristen Konisky at [ellswokm@yahoo.com](mailto:ellswokm@yahoo.com). The winner will be announced at the March board meeting.

## Parent Education

**March 11th 2013 @ 6:30-7:30 pm**

Kindergarten is coming! Are you Excited? Anxious? Happy? Nervous? Sad? Whatever your emotion, join Maureen Bush, a PNS alumni parent and Fairfax County Public School teacher, on Monday, March 11th at 6:30 pm for an interactive conversation about this new phase of your child's life. During Maureen's 20 year career in education, she has been a classroom teacher at various grade levels including Kindergarten and first grade. She has taught in both Special and General Education classrooms and is currently working as an ESOL teacher with students in grades K-6.



She wants your questions about kindergarten! Please send questions about the kindergarten experience directly to our presenter Maureen, [Maureen.Bush@fcps.edu](mailto:Maureen.Bush@fcps.edu). Any and all questions are welcome!

## Wonderful Wednesdays Enrichment!

I hope everyone has enjoyed the programs, so far this year! In the month of March, please join us as we welcome Mr. Skip back with Howard Rhile on March 13<sup>th</sup> at 11:15 am in the big room. Bring your clogs and look forward to a St. Patty's Day dance and Parade.

Then, on March 20<sup>th</sup>, we will have Michael Fleming, storyteller, back for a Dr. Seuss program.

Please join us with siblings, twos and CDO; we are having too much fun for you to miss out! -Aimee Emmerich

## Volunteer Opportunities

- Provide food for your class Spring Brunch (1/2 hour),
- Sub for a co-oping parent during their class Spring Brunch (1 hr),
- Volunteer a service to be raffled at the upcoming Spring Fundraiser (1 hr),
- Help organize and put together the class baskets for the Fundraising Raffle (1 hr),
- Help the Fundraising Committee with the upcoming babysitting day/raffle.
- Attend the Board Meeting on March 11<sup>th</sup> (1 hr),
- Sub for Wednesday Lunch Bunch on March 6<sup>th</sup> (1 hr),

Contact Jennifer Mack, VP-Admin, at [jennifergmack@gmail.com](mailto:jennifergmack@gmail.com) if you have any questions. Thanks!

## Thank You!

As always there are many thank yous to go around! Here are just a few:

- Thank you to Sue Lynn McAndrew for organizing the Art Show at Kings Park Library and to everyone who helped prep the artwork, set-up and take down: Britt Estabrooks, Bridget Benov, Thao Hoang, Mary Frizat, Betty Wang, Jessie Auten, and Cynthia Zhao. Thank you also to Jane Millward, Judy Goldstein, Susan Patton, and Sue Bengston for selecting the artwork and making sure that each student was represented.
- Thank you to Miss Judy for her very generous book donation to the school library and to Ryan Bianchetti and Jesse Auten for labeling and shelving all the books.
- Thank you to everyone who helped with our February clean-up day: Jenni Buechler, Sam Crowley, Jorge Rosand, Tina Fu, Jeb Mann, Mark Rucnicki, Jack Felici, Chris Surridge, Michael Emmerich, Se Lee, Marbin Pineda, and Paul Erickson.
- Thank you to our **PNS teachers** for another fabulous VIP Day! Our students and their Very Important People shared a fun and educational morning.

## Rummage Sale and Pancake Breakfast

Providence Presbyterian Church youth will be holding their annual Rummage Sale and Pancake Breakfast on March 16<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 am to noon. Come to enjoy breakfast with your friends, (donations gladly accepted!) browse the sale and be part of the excitement!

If you wish to donate items for the sale, they will begin accepting gently used goods on Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup> through Thursday, March 14<sup>th</sup>. Contact the church office for times and other details.



## Easter Eggstravaganza

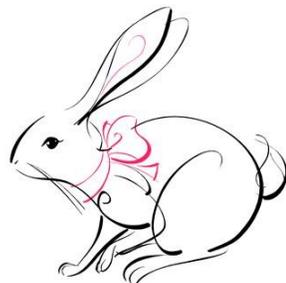
Providence Presbyterian Church invites your family and friends to attend our **Annual EGGSTRAVAGANZA!**

**Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**10 am-noon**

Rain or Shine

All are welcome to enjoy free food, egg hunts, pretzel making, moon bounce, games and crafts!



# March 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 CDO Parent Teacher Brunch 9:30-10:30 am	5 2s Parent Teacher Brunch 9:30-10:30 am	6 3s Parent Teacher Brunch 9:30-10:30 am	7 3/4s Parent Teacher Brunch 9:30-10:30 am	8 4s Parent Teacher Brunch 9:30-10:30 am	9
10	11 Parent Ed-Kindergarten Readiness 6:30 pm  General Membership Mtg 7:30 pm and Board Mtg to follow	12 <b>**No School**</b>  House of Bounce Fundraiser 10:30 am-noon	13 Enrichment: Mr. Skip	14	15	16 Rummage Sale and Pancake Breakfast
17 St. Patrick's Day 	18	19	20 Enrichment: Michael Fleming Dr. Seuss Storytelling	21	22	23 Easter Eggstravaganza
24	25	26 Spring	27 Break	28 (No School)	29	30
31						