

PROVIDENCE NURSERY SCHOOL  
9019 LITTLE RIVER TURNPIKE  
FAIRFAX, VA 20031  
www.providencenurseryschool.com

# THE PROVIDENCE PAGES

*A Letter from Jennifer...*



## Mark your Calendar

**Saturday March 3<sup>rd</sup>**

VIP Day  
10:00am-12:00pm

**March 5<sup>th</sup> thru March 9<sup>th</sup>**

Brunch for Parents  
9:30am-10:30am

(see calendar for your class's specific day)

**Monday March 12<sup>th</sup>**

Board/Annual Membership Meeting  
7:30pm  
(this is a mandatory event)

**March 26<sup>th</sup> thru March 30<sup>th</sup>**

NO SCHOOL  
Spring Break

**Monday April 2<sup>nd</sup>**

NO SCHOOL  
FCPS Holiday

**Tuesday April 3<sup>rd</sup>**

NO SCHOOL  
PACT Conference

**Monday April 9<sup>th</sup>**

Board Meeting  
7:30 p.m.

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



Happy March! I am really look forward to spring coming soon. Until then, we have a lot going on at PNS to keep us busy until warm weather arrives for good.

Our VIP Day takes place on Saturday, March 3 from 10am-12 noon at PNS. It is an excellent opportunity for grandparents, non co-oping parents, nannies or family friends to see the school and meet our teachers. We hope your child can bring their VIPs for this special day!

Class brunches will take place during the second week of March. Please see the school calendar for the date your class is scheduled. The brunches are just like those we had in the fall, a fun, casual way to learn more about your child's class and a topic of your teacher's choice as well to spend time socializing with other parents. All who attend will earn 30 minutes of parent education credit. And if you bring 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 12th. At least one parent from each currently enrolled family is required to attend. This meeting is mandatory. Our by-laws require a quorum to vote in officers for next year's Executive Board and if we do not have enough families in attendance, we cannot conduct the vote. The vote will take place at 7:30 p.m. and will only take a few minutes. We also plan on voting on the updated by-laws. You are then free to leave but also welcome to stay for our monthly board meeting.

**Some dates to remember: Spring Break is March 26-30. PNS is closed on Monday, April 2 and on Tuesday, April 3 for a PACT Conference. Tuesday, April 3 will be our Spring Play Date and Fundraiser 10 am-12 pm.**

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 out soon, and we appreciate your feedback on how you think we might be able to improve the school. The survey is an important tool for the board to implement changes and improve our school. We aim for 100% participation so be on the look-out for the email or on Bloomz. As always, if you have ideas on ways we can make PNS even better, our board members are here and available to listen.

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

*Jennifer*

## CDO & 2's

It's March, and I'm already seeing one sure sign of spring: children initiating all kinds of conversations, interactions, and group play in the Twos and CDO classes! Join me at our Class Brunch on the 5<sup>th</sup> (CDO) or 6<sup>th</sup> (Twos) to hear more about what's happening now at preschool.

Meanwhile, we'll start off the month in class by returning to a popular theme with a new twist: Transportation, this time focusing on Air and Sea. We'll read about all kinds of boats, ships, planes, and space vehicles, count down to blast off in Music, and experiment with boats and other objects in water.

In the week of March 12th, we'll learn about some interesting jobs with our Community Helpers theme. We'll sing and pretend about firefighters, play a

guessing game about jobs, and find out who else helps out in the neighborhood, from bakers to mechanics to recycling truck drivers.

The official start of spring comes in the third full week of March, and it's a great time to go out and look and listen for signs of spring, from new leaves and flowers to birds and worms. Please be sure that your child is dressed for walking and playing outdoors, and that he or she has a weather-appropriate change of clothes at school, in case of that other likely sign of spring: mud! We'll also learn about spring weather, paint rain pictures, and sing rain songs.

Hooray for spring!

Ms. Auten

### **HUGE CHURCH WIDE RUMMAGE SALE**

Will you find YOUR "pot of gold"? The youth of Providence Presbyterian Church will be holding a Rummage Sale and Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, March 17 from 8 am to 12 pm at Providence Presbyterian Church, 9019 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax, VA 22031. All proceeds will support Providence youth activities. Donations may be dropped off Sunday March 11 through Thursday, March 15 from 5-7:30 pm. Early shopping will be available Friday March 16 from 12-3 pm for a small entrance fee. Contact Mary Ellen Moss at Providence Presbyterian Church [703-978-3934](tel:703-978-3934) with any questions. Please remember, we do not accept TV's, Computer Equipment, Underwear, Games & Puzzles with missing pieces, Expired Car Seats, Bed Pillows.



Oh, the unpredictable March weather! February has been pretty unpredictable already, so perhaps March will surprise us with sunshine and mild temperatures. We want to get outside to play!

At the beginning of March, we'll be finishing up our **Transportation** unit on the **Water**. That means exploring sink and float! We'll be building our own aluminum ships to see how much weight they can hold before they sink. We'll also look at "submarines" diving down under the water. The children will even bring home their own "boat in the ocean" water bottles! Art projects involving water are a sure thing and maybe we can even go outside to catch some ducks "floating" in a small pond.

The week of March 12<sup>th</sup> we'll be **Constructing and exploring Tools**. This is the week where our love of construction vehicles will be fulfilled! We'll build bricks of sand and buildings of cardboard and tape. We'll dig, hoe and excavate. On the playground we'll feature those construction trucks we love so much and we'll use the tool benches and tool kits in the classroom. Look for art created by smoothing "concrete" and sculptures made of various building supplies. We'll use our fine motor skills as well as our growing gluing skills to make a paper saw covered with shiny aluminum.

The third week of March we'll talk **Nursery Rhymes**. This isn't as far removed from construction as you might think, since we'll be building a wall for Humpty Dumpty. Other Nursery Rhymes to explore include Jack and Jill, Jack be Nimble, Little Miss Muffet, Baa Baa Black Sheep & Hot Cross Buns. We'll focus on the very beginning of our rhyming skills as well as our ever growing number sense. Lots of opportunities to move our bodies in different ways, create art, sing songs and finger plays and do a little acting. We also have

several sets of finger puppets that fit this theme, allowing for some literacy play.

I look forward to meeting with you all for our Class Brunch on Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup>. This class is starting to get so big and mature, we'll have so many new areas of development to discuss and problem solve! The six months since school started have just flown by and Miss Emmy and I so truly enjoy the time we get to spend with your little ones! It's going to be a fun Spring as we continue to grow and learn together.

Ms. Ryan



March...the month of indecision...in like a lion and out like a lamb? Or vice versa? As a true snow lover, I really hate to give up the idea of just one good storm before spring. Strange, I know.



Hickory, Dickory/ Old King Cole/Humpty Dumpty, etc...what do we have in store for the week of March 5<sup>th</sup>? Nursery Rhyme Week, of course! We will sing rhymes, dance rhymes, and even rhyme rhymes! This is such an important preschool skill – but it's such fun for the kids that the week will fly by! Stand by for lots of corny, preschool humor...in rhyme time!

Weather will be our emphasis during the week of the 12<sup>th</sup>. We will be conducting some colorful experiments and discussions of "Why does it snow/rain/etc?" during our circletimes. We'll all learn the colors of the rainbow in order (a great sequencing skill) and have lots of fun drawing them in different media. It's a very colorful week, for sure!

Then it's time for one of my very favorite units...construction vehicles. During the week of March 19<sup>th</sup>, we will be discovering all sorts of information about different types and purposes of construction trucks. We will experiment with the forces of motion...pushing and pulling observations will be on tap during circletime.

There will also be a very special field trip on the 22<sup>nd</sup> to visit the Virginia Department of Transportation garage in Merrifield to see all the different types of vehicles used by the state. How cool is that? Emily will send us all the details as we get closer to "the"day.

Spring Break is next on the PNS calendar...no school the week of March 26<sup>th</sup> through Monday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>. And there is no school on Tuesday, 4/3, as the PNS staff attends the spring PACT Conference. Enjoy the family time!

Our Spring class brunch will be held on Thursday, March 8<sup>th</sup> from 9:30-10:30. I hope you will plan on joining me for another lively session. Also don't forget the General Membership Meeting that will be held on Monday, March 12<sup>th</sup>. Please try to attend. The election of officers for next year's PNS Board will be held. Time at the meeting will be time well spent!

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 are N(3/5), R(3/12), and C/K(3/19).

It's going to be a marvelous March!

Best, Jane



Usually, our winters are so wild and unpredictable that March is a great month for Curling Up with a Good Book! If our recent mild but rainy weather continues, then reading inside seems like the thing to do! Your children love the variety of books we have been reading so far this year. This month's theme is so truly near and dear to my heart and I suspect the kids will love it as well. Thank you for sending in those reading pictures of your children, it makes for such a great bulletin board this month!

Our first full week of March we will talk **Fairy Tales!** Look for a castle to be built, costumes to be worn and tableaux of classic story scenes to be created. We will compare and contrast some of the classic elements in fairy tales- hero/heroine, villain, and a magical element. We'll graph our favorite fairy tale stories. We'll use our fine motor skills to "draw" in fairy potion. We'll work in small groups to write original fairy tales. We will be doing a Letter Review of recent letters and the Letter I for "imagination."

The week of March 12<sup>th</sup>, we'll play with **Nursery Rhymes**. Rhyming and silliness will be all around and we'll explore poetry and rhythm. Gross motor games are a natural fit as we play some classic Mother Goose games. We will use our gross motor skills to jump candle sticks and find Mother Hubbard's dog's bone and reenact the sequence of Hey Diddle Diddle. Counting, number recognition and one-to-one correspondence will go hand in hand with some of our rhyming activities. The Letter of the Week will be J for the many different "Jacks" we'll encounter in our rhymes.

The third week of March 20<sup>th</sup>, we will visit with some **Classic Characters**. This will be the hardest week for me! How will I narrow down my favorites to just a few? We'll use sequencing to retell some of these classic stories. Print awareness activities will abound and we will add yet another class book to our shelves as we write The Fours Class and the Many Colored Crayons. Our little artists will enjoy making hand print castles or kites as well as masks of some of our favorite characters. We will combine the Letters C and K this week.

"Going on the Buzzer," our small group rotational activity, will continue on Tuesday mornings. The children have demonstrated flexibility and patience as they have moved through the rotations. The children have been enjoying the cooperative games they've played and have been working hard to play quietly during the independent rotation. We're building up our problem-solving vocabulary and taking turns as well as listening to each other. Ms. Emmy and I have both been impressed with these mornings with the children and it looks like they have been having fun as well!

Only three weeks in March before we take off some time for Spring Break. Hopefully we'll have more opportunities to get outside and play, ride bikes and take nature walks.

Ms. Ryan



## SUMMER CAMP

Join us for a summer camp experience for children ages 3-5 with songs, games, arts and crafts, and learning through play! Camp will be held May 29-June 8. Space is still available in the 4/5s class (rising kindergarteners.)

Visit [www.providencenurseryschool.com](http://www.providencenurseryschool.com) for registration information.

## ENROLLMENT

We currently have open spots in CDO, 2s, and 4s for the 2018-2019 school year. Please spread the word to your friends, family, neighbors, and Mom groups that may be looking for a preschool for the upcoming school year.

They can email Kristie McCauley at [membership@providencenurseryschool.org](mailto:membership@providencenurseryschool.org) or visit the Enrollment Page on [www.providencenurseryschool.com](http://www.providencenurseryschool.com) for more information.

## ENRICHMENT

Enrichment activities are currently being planned, so keep an eye on your email for further details.

## VCPC AWARDS!

The Virginia Cooperative Preschool Council will be accepting nominations for VCPC member schools' parents whose commitment over the past year has been superior. Perhaps you can think of someone whose contribution has been substantial and nominate him or her for this award. Nomination forms will be available on the sign-in tables or by messaging Erin Meyer on Bloomz.

## MANDATORY MEMBERSHIP MEETING IS MARCH 12<sup>TH</sup>

Our annual Membership Meeting will be held on Monday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 in the Big Room. This is a mandatory meeting. One member of each current PNS family must be in attendance in order to vote for the 2018-2019 Executive Board, listed below. The monthly board meeting will follow, and all are welcome to stay.

## PNS EXECUTIVE BOARD 2018-2019

President – Jennifer Wiskochil  
 Vice President of Administration – Stephanie and Dan Jensen  
 Vice President of Membership/Enrollment - Kristie McCauley  
 Vice President of Membership/Forms – Laura Heim  
 Treasurer – Amy Schroeder\*  
 Fundraising – Sara Levy\* and Emily Gillotte\*  
 Secretary – Elizabeth and Bo Boland

\*-new to the e-board

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Here are some opportunities to earn your volunteer hours.

- March 12 – Attend board meeting at 7:30pm (after required annual membership meeting)
- April 14 – Last Clean-Up and Maintenance Day of the year. This is a great way to earn volunteer hours if you have not already completed your requirement

Please check the Signup tab on Bloomz to volunteer for any of these opportunities. Reminder: All families are required to complete 8 volunteer hours (CDO families - 4 hours) per year. Each co-oping parent is required to complete 4 parent education hours per year. Volunteer hours are not the same as parent education hours. Being up to date with responsibilities is a requirement to register for next year. Please contact Stephanie Jensen via Bloomz or [stephmjensen@gmail.com](mailto:stephmjensen@gmail.com) if you have any questions or concerns about earning hours.

## FUNDRAISING

The Fundraising Committee will be hosting a Spring Raffle Event & Playdate at PNS on April 3rd (no school). There is no charge for children 1 and under; the price for all other kids is \$5 per child. Yes, siblings are welcome!

Raffle tickets will go on sale on Monday morning, March 19th. All of the prizes will be displayed in the kitchen the week before Spring Break. Stop by and see our awesome class baskets! You do not need to be present at the drawing on Tuesday in order to win. Tickets are \$1 each, or 12 for \$10.

Earn volunteer hours by helping collect donations for the Spring Raffle. If you know any local businesses who are willing to donate to our PNS Spring Raffle, please contact both Carisa Pineda ([carisamoon@gmail.com](mailto:carisamoon@gmail.com)) and Sarah Millward ([smillward@addxcorp.com](mailto:smillward@addxcorp.com)) or via direct message on Bloomz. We can provide you with the Donation Letter containing our 501 (c) 3 number. Per donation received, you will earn 1 hour of volunteer time.

## EDITOR'S NOTE

Thank you for reading the PNS newsletter. If there is anything you would like to have published in the April Newsletter please submit it by March 20<sup>th</sup>. If you have any suggestions or things you would like to see in the newsletter don't hesitate to let me know.

Thank you,  
Melissa Ahern  
[melissasahern@gmail.com](mailto:melissasahern@gmail.com)

## THANK YOU!

Thank you also to Jane Millward, Ryan Bianchetti and Jessie Auten for making our art show so beautiful. Thank you for selecting the artwork and making sure that each student was represented and creating such nice descriptions for each class.



# MARCH 2018

Sun	M	T	W	Th	F	Sat
				1 Tuition Due	2	3 VIP DAY! 10am-12pm
4	5 CDO Brunch 9:30-10:30am	6 2s Brunch 9:30-10:30am	7	8 3/4s Brunch 9:30-10:30am	9 3s Brunch 9:30-10:30am	10
11	12 Board/Annual Membership Meeting 7:30pm	13	14	15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day 
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
						