



Dear Multi-Age Parents,

September was filled with the special fun of getting to know the children and experiencing new and familiar activities together. We already feel as though we know most of the children surprisingly well for this early in the year. There have been very few separation problems, which we feel is partially due to our gradual entrance plan. Thank you for your cooperation with this!

With our upcoming field trips we will need drivers. We need this kind of support in order to make field trips possible. We feel these trips are an important part of our program so we hope you will consider giving your time this way throughout the year. It is helpful if you can find sitters for younger siblings. We need you to supervise Mt. View children and often extra children on the trip make our visits too crowded. Your preschooler will enjoy your company and you will probably find it fun too!

**OCTOBER PLANS:** We will continue our emphasis on “living and growing things” - plants, animals and people - with special attention to the changes that Fall brings. We will talk about the changing of leaf color and the fruits of the fall harvest. During the week of October 11th, have your child bring in any interesting signs of fall that you can find – colored leaves, unusually shaped fall veggies, whatever. A field trip with the 4’s to collect pumpkins is planned. If you have any interesting signs of fall that could be displayed in our science area, we would be thrilled to have it.

Toward the end of the month, of course, we will be planning for Halloween. This is a time for children to stretch their imaginations and creativity as they pretend to be something else. They will also deal with issues on what is real and what is not real. We hope that you will use discretion in helping your child choose a costume for Halloween. Many children are truly frightened of scary masks and costumes and we want Halloween to be a fun rather than disturbing experience for everyone.

**APPLE PICKING PARTY:** Wednesday, October 6th – We will be going to Kathy Bauer’s farm at 75<sup>th</sup> and Valmont for an old fashioned apple-picking-party! **DRIVERS NEEDED.**

**APPLE PIE DAY:** Thursday, October 7th – We’ll be using the apples we picked on the 3rd to make delicious apple pie at preschool! Yummmmm! **A “Helping Hand” is needed on this day.**

**DAD’S NIGHT AT PRESCHOOL:** Friday, October 8th - 5:30-7:00 PM **(for four-year-old Dads only).** This is a special evening for Dads and their preschoolers to have together. There will be fun projects for 2 to do together, pizza and surprises!!! We hope to see you there. **Please make other child care arrangements for other siblings.**

**CLASS PICTURES:** Tuesday, October 12th – Our Photographer will be taking class and individual pictures of the children. More information will come home in a flyer.

**SPECIAL DAYS FOR THE 4’S:**

**PUMPKIN FARM:** Wednesday, October 20th: We’ll be going to Cottonwood Pumpkin Farm, where each child can choose a pumpkin to bring home (one that she/he can carry!). We’ll bring some pumpkins back to school for size and shape comparison too, and for carving Jack-O-Lanterns.

**Please bring your child to Cottonwood Farm at 75<sup>th</sup> and Arapahoe in Boulder by 1:15 PM. Please send \$4.00 per child when you drop them off. Please pick your child up by 3:15 at the Pumpkin Farm.** Thank you for your cooperation!

**HALLOWEEN:** We keep the Halloween celebration very low key. Children may wear costumes if they wish on Thursday, October 28th, but it is optional. We discourage any scary masks, as some children do not realize that a friend is behind a scary mask. We want it to be fun for all the children. We will offer face painting. If a few parents are interested, they can contribute **healthy** Halloween snacks for that day and possibly napkins can also be sent. There will be a sign-up sheet posted soon.

**WHEN SENDING SPECIAL TREATS TO PRESCHOOL:** When special holidays occur, we often ask parents to donate treats for the celebration. We usually request healthy snacks, such as cheese, crackers, veggies and fruit. However, for **very** special celebrations, sweet treats are OK. (We only do this 2 or 3 times a year.) Because we are dedicated to making Mt. View “nut” free, please do not use any kind of nuts, almond extract or M&M’s (the candy coating has some nut ingredients) in any of the treats. We want to keep everyone safe! Thank you!

**Amy Haywood Stark**, our Music Enrichment teacher, will be bringing many hours of fun and excitement in our classrooms. Amy has been teaching music since 1981. She will be visiting several times every month in our classroom.

**HOME VISITS:** We are now experimenting with various groupings of children for small groups. Although the four year olds do form attachments to the teachers, we do find that they are much more independent than the threes and we must make decisions about small groups based primarily on the relationships between the children. Some children do very

well with a special friend in the group while others have a better experience if working separately.

Once small groups are established, we will begin scheduling home visits. This is a special time that teachers look forward to having with your child in the place that is most comfortable - HOME!! We will be calling you about this. In you would rather not have a teacher come to visit, please send a note to let us know.

**ENTRY DOORS:** As the weather becomes colder, it is very important to keep the outside doors closed since the thermostat is in the entry hall. If you find the doors left open, please close them and help us keep energy costs down.

### **FROM THE PRESCHOOL COMMITTEE:**

**A PLACE TO BE:** Our new program, “A Place To Be” is well underway. APTB offers additional preschool hours beyond a child’s standard Mt. View class time. The program is play-based, hands-on and child-centered. It includes stories, songs and free flow art with a focus on co-active learning. Outdoor play is also offered.

You may choose to add 2 to 4 days per week – Tuesdays through Thursdays - on a regular basis. Whichever days you add will be in addition to your traditional Mt. View classroom time. The hours are 9:00 - 11:30 AM with a Lunch Bunch spot as a separate charge if you desire to add the additional time until 1:00 pm. The cost for APTB is \$21.50 per day, with a \$9.75 additional charge if you opt for LB. **Additionally**, you can have a permanent spot 1, 2 or 3 times a month (examples: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, 1st and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays, etc.). If you want to have a permanent spot, please contact Judy Schineller (303-682-1749 or jschineller@comcast.net).

**NOW THAT “APTB” IS ESTABLISHED, WE WOULD LIKE TO OFFER THE PROGRAM AS A DROP- IN OPTION FOR PARENTS.** We ask that parents reserve a spot one week in advance so that the appropriate number of staff members are available. Please contact Marlo Schimpf (aptb2010@yahoo.com or 7520-274-0206) to sign your child up.

**MONDAY AFTERNOONS:** We are offering permanent spots in the Monday MA program as an additional opportunity to extend preschool hours on Mondays. Your child can attend from 1-3:30 pm every Monday. This option is open to all students. Please contact Judy Schineller (303-682-1749 or jschineller@comcast.net). If you have questions concerning the program, contact Donna at preschool (303-494-3557) or home (303-530-0736).

**IF YOU SHOP AT ALBERTSON’S:** Pick up a Community Partners Card in the entryway (on the bulletin board above the credenza). Every time you shop, have them scan your card. We get 5% back in cash!....**it’s free money for Mt. View!**

**RECYCLE PRINTER CARTRIDGES:** We recycle printer cartridges at Office Max for in-store credit to purchase office supplies. Please place your cartridges in the special box on the entryway credenza. Thank you for your help!

**COMMITTEE MEETING:** Wednesday, October 13th – 9:15 AM. THIS IS A CHANGE FROM THE YEAR’S CALENDAR. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**ENROLLMENT:** Carrie Sakai is in charge of Enrollment for Mt.View. If you have any “little ones” that you want to put on the waiting list for future years, please contact her at 303-325-3413.

**LUNCH BUNCH:** We still need Lunch Bunch “short and long notice” substitute teachers. **This is a paid position.** Contact Sue McGrath if you’re interested in working (303-665-6043). Please do not send GoGurt or Squeeze It’s in your child’s lunch. Anything that can be squeezed seems to land on the floor, not in mouths!

**Mt. View T-shirts and Tote Bags:** We’re still waiting for our delivery!!! Life is what happens when you have other plans! Thank you for your patience.

### **UP-COMING EVENTS.....**

**The Barnes & Noble Book Fair** is scheduled for December 10th from 9am-1pm, so mark that date on your calendar! More information about this event will be coming in the next newsletter and your child’s cubby.

**SAVERS:** 6 – 8 ounce plastic containers with lids.

Happy October.....Donna, Susan and Anita

