



JUNE 2019

It's hard to believe we are nearing the end of our school calendar and will soon be starting summer camp!

We are so very proud of the way all of the children have grown and developed this year. We will be simultaneously excited and sad to see our oldest students move on to Kindergarten; sad, because we have cared for each of them and known them for a long time, but excited because we know wonderful things are in store for them as they enter the next phase of their lives. Congratulations to all of our "graduates" and their families!

I would like to extend a hearty thanks to MMO staff, families, and Shelby and Adam Moser for a wonderful Spring Fling fundraiser. Our total fundraising efforts over this year raised more than \$4000 to use towards special programming (such as the Lizard Guys and Peas & Carrots), classroom materials (such as books), a much-needed new laminator, and some new equipment for the gym! I'd like to especially thank Shelby Moser for all her work as the MMO Parent Association president – from organizing restaurant nights and fundraisers to spearheading food and clothing drives to disseminating information that fosters connection and community between families – THANK YOU, Shelby, for all you've done on behalf of MMO.

2019-2020 packets containing various forms and the Family Handbook will be distributed this month. If your child is returning to MMO next year and you have not received these materials by the end of the month, please contact the office.

I wish you all a safe and happy summer!



Upcoming dates

- ❖ **5/29:** Spring Staff Luncheon
- ❖ **6/13:** School-only programs end
 - * Cricket and Grasshopper Under the Sea party 10:00 a.m.
 - * Ladybug Under the Sea party at 10:30 a.m.
 - * Bumblebee Ice cream party 11:00 a.m.
 - * Dragonfly Ice cream party 11:30 a.m.
 - * Pre-K Moving Up ceremonies.
 - * Butterflies: 11:00 a.m.
 - * Fireflies: 1:45p.m
- ❖ **6/14:** Closed for Summer camp set-up
- ❖ **6/17:** Summer camp begins
- ❖ **7/4:** Closed for the 4th of July Holiday
- ❖ **8/16:** Final day of all programs
- ❖ **8/19-9/2:** Summer break/Labor day
- ❖ **9/3-9/4:** Closed for classroom set up



Missy Pentecost

MMO Preschool Programs
Executive Director

PRE-KINDERGARTEN



Fireflies – Ms. Tara

Wow! Is it the end of the year already? The time has flown by.

Throughout the month of May the Pre-k class has been busy finishing up their alphabet study. We painted Violets in a Vase and used our math skills to create a Xylophone. Outside, the class enjoyed going on scavenger hunts during long walks,

digging for worms and playing soccer. Throughout our last few weeks together in June, the children will spend some time reviewing all of the letters in the alphabet. We will read some of our favorite stories, play some math games and take walks outside. The class will create “All About Me” books, talk about what we want to be when we grow up, and draw self-portraits.

During circle time, the children will discuss some summer safety rules and talk a little bit about moving on to our new schools and making new friends, while still keeping our old ones!



On **Thursday, June 13th** the children will be celebrating their last day in Pre-K! We invite all of our parents for a special get together at 1:45 p.m. The children will be singing some songs and receive their Pre-K Certificates. After the performance, we will continue the celebration in our classroom. We have had so much fun in the Firefly class this year. We wish all of our students lots of luck in their new schools and know they will have some amazing adventures!

Butterflies – Mr. Gary



It is hard to believe that the end of the school year is almost here. Where does the time go? It seems like just yesterday that we were busy getting to know your children's individual personalities and discovering all the funny little idiosyncrasies that set them apart from their peers. The fun thing is, while we teachers work so hard at this, your children have learned about each other effortlessly. They are intuitive, observant and nothing passes them by! They know each other's likes and dislikes, what makes them sad and what makes them happy. Just like in a family, each classroom of children is learning the important lesson that we're all a little different but we all need to get along. They are learning the fine arts of negotiation, cooperation, sensitivity and patience. Your children are growing into really great little people and we love watching it happen year after year!



Graduations and celebrations are just around the corner – exciting stuff! For the few remaining days we have in June our class will be focusing on our graduation/moving up ceremony. The children will be learning some songs to sing as well as ways to show off

their amazing skills to you, the parents.

For all of our dear students moving on to new learning experiences, we will enjoy our last weeks of fun and learning together. For those who will be returning to us in the fall, we look forward to another great year ahead.

We thank you for your support throughout the year and for entrusting your child to us. We feel a close partnership with our parents and send you our best wishes. It has been a pleasure to be part of your children's tremendous growth during our time with them. Have a very happy, healthy, and safe summer!

3 YEAR-OLD PROGRAMS



Dragonflies – Miss Melissa

The school year is quickly coming to an end! The time went by so quickly!! During the month of May, the children were invited to explore some great themes such as flowers, plants, caterpillars, and butterflies! We had such great fun observing our caterpillars turn in to butterflies. We were able to see the entire process of how the caterpillars grew larger and made their chrysalis. A few of our butterflies emerged during the school day, the children were so excited! We took advantage of a lovely day and released them.

We also spent a great deal of time talking about plants and flowers. We talked about how we can take care of our plants and what they need to grow. In class, we planted marigolds and will be transferring them outside. We will be planting sunflowers along the fence by the playground!

In the month of June, we will explore such fun themes as the ocean, staying safe in the sun, and animals the live in the sea. We will also be having an end of year party, details to follow! We wish you a safe and happy summer!



Bumblebees – Miss Christina

We did a lot of exploring and investigating during the month of May. We started off our month discussing one of our favorite topics: our moms! From their favorite stores, to their favorite foods, we had fun learning more about them. We worked hard on completing all about my mom questionnaires and enjoyed looking at pictures of our moms.

From there, we moved onto learning all about ladybugs. We played a ladybug number matching game using their dots and even played a musical spots game, flying around the room imitating ladybugs. We learned the ladybug's life cycle and how their favorite food is aphids! Learning about ladybugs helped us dive right into our bumblebee theme! We learned about the three types of bees that are found in a colony (queen bee, worker bee, and drone bee), and discovered what each of their jobs are. We worked on our fine motor skills by using tweezers to transfer "pollen" from flowers to a beehive. We get so excited when we see bees outside and try to guess if it's a worker or a drone bee (we look, but never touch!).



Finally, we ended the month discussing community helpers. We learned who these helpers are and why their jobs are so important. We pretended to be dentists, firefighters, and even teachers. This unit prompted a discussion on what we want to be when we grow up. Our answers may surprise some of you!

During the month of June, we will discuss our dads and talk about all of the fun things that we did throughout the year. Be sure to join us for an ice cream party to celebrate the last day of school on **Thursday, June 13th at 11:30 a.m.** I would like to thank you all for the wonderful school year filled with a lot of laughs and many memories, and wish you all a happy and safe summer!

Aftercare Enrichment

In the month of May Aftercare focused on various fun themes and topics including the Three Little Pigs. We glued various shapes to create our own pig with the freedom and creativity to focus on the process of what we wanted our pig to become and not the final finished product. We read different interpretations of the story of The Three Little Pigs and even came up with our own version. We also learned about The Carrot Seed. We painted a carrot in the mud, painted using carrots, and discussed the story's importance. We took a trip to the Montclair Public Library where we engaged in story time and learned the importance of friendship and respect. The children had the chance to read various books and go on a tour of the library. We made use of our new bubble machine popping the bubbles in the wind and seeing how far they float in the air! The pre-K enjoyed eating dinner outside on the playground numerous times which was fun and different experience!

June is here and it is amazing how fast the school year came to this point! We will be rounding out the year playing BINGO, going Scavenger hunts, and participating in some of



our favorite projects and activities. We will take part in lots of moving and grooving while dancing and paint using flowers and leaves. We will continue to read lots of new books and play with all of our favorite Aftercare toys and games.

We will sound off the school year with Music and Movement with Ms. Tess, Art with Ms. Mimi, French with Mr. Jim, Drama with Mr. Gary, and Art with Ms. Susan.

Thank your amazing support for the Aftercare Enrichment Program this school year. It has been an amazing experience leading this program through another school year. Although Aftercare is full of moving parts it truly feels that we are one complete puzzle. Thank you to all of the families that have helped this program be a success. I am looking forward to seeing you in Summer Camp where we will have a blast and also in September for another fun and educational based year in the Aftercare Enrichment Program!

**Alex Latona,
Lead Teacher
Aftercare Enrichment**

Bow WOW!!!!

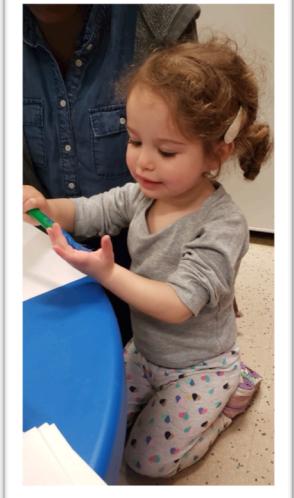


INFANTS & TODDLERS

Crickets & Grasshoppers Miss Claude & Miss Margaret

As we move closer to the end of the school year, we would like to extend our sincerest appreciation to each and every one of our Cricket and Grasshopper families. We hope that you will join us at **10 a.m. on Thursday, June 13**, for our Under The Sea Showcase. Our Crickets and Grasshoppers have worked really hard all year and we'd love a chance to share that with you.

For the month of June, our theme will be Summer fun. What better way to spend the summer, than hanging at the beach? We'll bring the sun, sand, and ocean to the classroom as we engage in a number of activities that are sure to get everyone in the sunny days' mood. Surf's up!



Ladybugs – Miss Joelle

During the month of May, we worked hard trying to understand our feelings and learned how to describe how we feel. We looked at different feeling charts and talked about the face gestures that went along with the feelings. We learned about our five senses and described what we looked like while looking into a mirror. We have been really trying hard to remember to use our manners when we want or don't want something, when we accidentally bump our friends and when we greet people. We read books like *Excuse Me!* By Karen Katz, *My Body* by Jill Ackerman and *My Many Colored Days* by Dr. Seuss.

In a blink of an eye, June is already here! We want to start off by saying thank you for such a pleasant school year and for trusting us with your greatest gift, your children. To end the school year, the theme of June will be Under the Sea. We will talk about what an Ocean is and what sea creatures we can find in there. All of our artwork will be displayed in our "Under the Sea Art Adventure Party" for the parents to come to see on **Thursday, June 13th at 10:30 a.m.** Hope to see you there! We are also looking forward to participating in Summer Camp, which begins **Monday, June 17th**. Have a great summer!



Thank you for a wonderful year!



Parents Association:

Hi all-

As hard as it is to believe, the school year is coming to a close. From our wonderfully successful food drive to restaurant nights, to our book fair with Book Culture to staff appreciation luncheons, and everything in between, it has been a year of community building both within and outside of the MMO walls. Thank you for making our school such an inclusive, welcoming place for all who walk through the doors. We will spend the summer planning for next year's adventures and would love your input. Was there something you loved? Hated? Would like to see that wasn't done. The Parent Association can only improve with feedback, so feel free to share at mmoprogramspa@gmail.com.

There is still time to contribute our first-ever Fund the Fun campaign! We are 66% of the way to raising our goal of \$2,210 to buy new gym equipment and NEED YOUR HELP. All gifts are 100% tax deductible and contributions can be handed in to the MMO offices. Remember, whether your child is a current student or is leaving the school, they have all enjoyed the equipment that we are looking to replace.

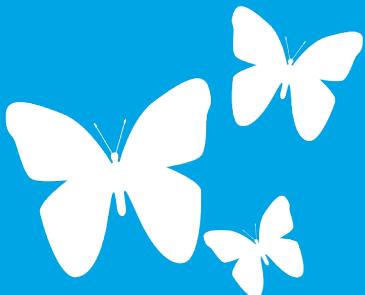
Thank you, as always, for everything.

With gratitude,
Shelby

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Tadpoles (to stay in touch
with your child's teacher)

MMO is a non-sectarian program of
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