

# Creek Room Newsletter for March 2020

## Celebrating Over 63 Years!

### **Curriculum Theme:** "Dinosaurs"

Dinosaurs may be extinct, but preschoolers' interest in them is definitely not. As our egg theme ends, we move into large animals that come from eggs. Children are already roaring, pretending to be dinosaurs, and naming many types of them in class, as we start this fun filled theme. During this theme, we want to work on compare and contrast activities, to learn about prehistoric animals and their habitats, as well as how they relate to animals we have today. There will be a lot of digging and stomping at school during this upcoming theme.

**School photo days:** Photos will be taken by School House Pictures: <https://www.schoolhousepictures.com> in the playground at each classroom. Children will come to school at normal times and I will assist the photographer during photos. Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately on his/her corresponding photo day. Let me know about any specifications. Siblings enrolled at the school will have a chance to take a photo together and class photos will be available as well. Information will be emailed to families regarding orders.

Photos days are from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. on:

**Wednesday, March 11**, for the **Garden Room**, and the **MWF/5-Day Creek Room** Class.

**Thursday, March 12**, for the **Ocean Room** and the **T/TH Creek Room** Class. **Error! Filename not specified.**

**Spring conference:** Conferences are an opportunity to talk individually about your child with his or her class teacher. They last about 20 minutes.

**Meetings will be held in the church's Music Room, inside the Sanctuary building.** The sign-up schedule is currently posted on top of the cubbies. If you are unable to meet on the date scheduled, please contact a teacher to reschedule. Parents who are rescheduling conferences will meet in the classroom before or after school and arrangements can be made for childcare.

**Conference date and time are available between 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on the following days:**

**Monday, March 30, or Friday, April 3: for the MWF and 5-Day Class.**

**Tuesday, March 31, or Thursday, April 2: for the T/TH and 5-Day Class.**

**Summer Camp Information:** Camp dates are June 15 to July 24, we are closed July 3<sup>rd</sup>. Camp will be available 2, 3, or 5 days a week on T/TH, MWF, and M-F for all children enrolled at Tam this and next school year. Children who graduate this school year can attend camp if she/he is 5 years old during camp dates. Registration for camp is now open. The forms are near the cubby area in all classrooms. For summer camp questions, please contact Marcela or Lindsey.

### **Important Notice:**

Please remember to sign your child into school when you drop off, and sign them out when you pick up. It is a state licensing requirement. Several people are forgetting to do so. We will highlight a reminder on the sign in sheets. If needed, we may need to call you back to school to sign in your child or pick him/her up, as children cannot be at school without a parent, guarding, or adult signature.

### **Health Reminder:**

**\*Please help keep our school community as healthy as possible! To limit the spread of germs, we ask that you keep your child home if he or she is not feeling well. Germs can spread VERY quickly at school. If your child looks under the weather when he or she wakes up, please give your child a day at home to rest and get better, as symptoms oftentimes get worse as the day goes on. Sometimes, one or two extra days at home is all that is needed.**

**\*It is hard to be sick at school. Children want their parents right away when they don't feel well, and they will be cozier at home in their bed. If we call parents to pick up a sick child from school, please come get your child quickly. Have a pick-up plan if you are not available for a quick pick-up and let teachers know. We are isolating sick children in the office to help prevent the spread of germs. If we cannot get a hold of parents we will call people on your child's emergency pick up list.**

**Children need to be symptom-free for 24 hours (with ought symptom suppressing medication) before coming back to school.**

**\*To prevent the spread of germs we are asking children to wash hands as they enter the classroom or use hand sanitizer if preferred. We recommend they do the same as they leave the classroom. Teachers are sanitizing surfaces every day, asking children to wash hands if they go in their mouth, children wash hands before meals, and we ask them to cover their cough with their arms or tissue. Our cleaning company cleans and disinfects the classroom every night. We have asked them to clean and disinfect surfaces more meticulously due to our recent illnesses, and they deep cleaned the carpets at school this past weekend.**

**\*It is allergy season, plants are blooming all around and it's windy. Please contact your doctor if your child is showing symptoms of allergies and let us know if your child is taking allergy medication. We are seeing a lot of runny noses and coughs, and that can lead to ear and sinus infections if not treated. Also, allergy symptoms can be confused with cold and other illnesses. We have to treat symptoms as if your child is contagious, so seeing an allergist can help us narrow down possible illnesses and will help your child feel better.**

**Last week, Rose, Lisa (The Strawberry Preschool Director) and I met to talk about the Coronavirus. We are being tracking the situation, and being diligent with our sick policy and cleaning practices to prepare for any illness. We called the Marin County Health Nurse Office last week to get updated information about the Coronavirus and are keeping track about CDC information. The County Health Nurse told us to keep washing hands, disinfecting surfaces, and isolating children with symptoms of illness (to continue doing what we do for any illness).**

**Here are the links to Marin County's website and the CDC's website:**

**<https://www.marinhhs.org/coronavirus/>**

**<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/specific-groups/guidance-for-schools.html>**

**Laurel Johnson, RN, PHN, SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE**

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### **Classroom Volunteer Opportunities:**

**\*We need Laundry and Play-Dough helpers. Please check out our volunteer wall near the front hallway. Thank you everyone for your support!**

Our playdough recipe: <https://www.kidswithfoodallergies.org/page/recipe-page.aspx?recid=505&name=Rice%20Play%20Dough>

### **Classroom Donations:**

\*We would love any sticker donations. Stickers with animals, flowers, insects, cars, dinosaurs, would be greatly appreciated!

\*We need small ice packs for the children for small injuries in the playground.

### **A Note from Our Board:**

**Tamalpais & Strawberry Annual Preschool Fundraiser: Saturday, April 18th at 6:30 pm, at the Mill Valley Golf Clubhouse**

I hope you all can attend the Preschool fundraiser. At the fundraiser there will be a silent and live auction and 100% of the donations will go to the school. Last year's fundraiser was hugely successful because of help from our parent community. The funds paid for the new playground, mud kitchen, a new art room, dramatic play area, and a small library in the classrooms at TAM Pre-school. The funds are also used to pay for Scott the Storyteller, Music Makers, Mika, Jamaroo, and all our classroom specialists.

We are looking for donations from the parents that can be auctioned off such as:

- Sports Tickets
- Vacation Homes
- Wine to be donated
- Experiences, such as round of golf, theater.
- Gift Certificates to restaurants, apparel, or services, spa
- Sign-up Parties that could take place at your house for either kids or adults (cookie decorating party, movie night, a dinner party for adults, etc.)

Please let me know if you are interested in donating! Thank you.

Lauren Burke (Wyatt + Dylans mom) + Board of Directors: [laurenwburke@gmail.com](mailto:laurenwburke@gmail.com)

### **AmazonSmile:**

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com). The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to Tamalpais & Strawberry Preschool.

### **It's as easy as 1, 2, 3:**

1. To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.

2. On your first visit to AmazonSmile [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), you need to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. Amazon will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) will result in a donation.

3. For mobile devices: Click here for instructions on setting up AmazonSmile on your **Android** device: <https://www.amazon.com/b?ie=UTF8&node=15576745011>. Currently there is not an AmazonSmile app for the iPhone, though it is coming soon. One work-around: Add all of your items to your cart using the Amazon app on your iPhone, then checkout using either your mobile browser, or a desktop browser. And you're all set to shop at Amazon while making a difference in the lives of kids! Thank you for your support!

### **Billing:**

For billing questions, please contact Rose Lofrano, our Chief Operating Officer. Her contact information is: 415- 246-4941 and [rosetsp1@yahoo.com](mailto:rosetsp1@yahoo.com).

A quick reminder that invoices are sent out on the 5th of each month and will include this month's tuition and last month's childcare. Payments need to be made by the 25th. Late fee will apply if payments are received after the 25th. Please let Rose know if you have any questions or difficulties.

**School donations:** Tamalpais Preschool is a Non-Profit Corporation. Any donation is tax deductible and is greatly appreciated. Please contact Rose for more information.

### **Thank You Notes:**

\*Thank you to our Play-Dough Makers and Laundry Helpers: Jenn Child, Natasha Stoe, Dawn Vitale, Brittney Creasey, and Renee Foster!

\*Thank you to Lisa Wiseman and Jamie Johnson for donating hand soap!

\*Thank you to Joahn Ginsberg for donating stickers and eggs!

\*Thank you to Natasha Stoe for donating toys!

\*Thank you to our amazing board members. We appreciate all of their hard work! Our Tam 2019-20 Board Member are Lauren Burke, Megan Jochimsen, Michelle Morrone, Renee Foster, Carrie Campos, and our President, Carolyn Schwartz. If you would like to help our board and have fun participating in school activities, please reach out to these lovely ladies.

### **Dates to Remember:**

**Music Makers:** Wednesday, March 4, and Thursday, March 5

**Photo Days:** Wednesday, March 11, and, Thursdays, March 12

**Staff In-service Day (No School):** Friday, March 13

**Scott the Storyteller:** Thursday, March 26, and Friday, March 27

### **Spring Conference Days:**

**Monday, March 30, or Friday, April 3: for the MWF and 5-Day Class.**

**Tuesday, March 31, or Thursday, April 2: for the T/TH and 5-Day Class.**

**Spring Recess (No School):** April 6 to 10

**Tamalpais & Strawberry Annual Preschool Fundraiser:** Saturday, April 18, starting at 6:30 p.m.

**Tam Summer Camp:** June 15 to July 24, closed July 3<sup>rd</sup>