

Hamlet Learning Center's June 2009 Newsletter

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LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

The Public Schools will end the school year on Wednesday, June 24.

The Last Day for Hamlet Learning Center's Preschool Program is June 18. Only children attending for the summer program will continue attending on and after June 19.

See School Age Spotlight for more information about the transition from school year to summer program.

Happy Father's Day

To all of Hamlet's fathers, dads, peperes, grandfathers and grandpas. Your dedication and love for your children is appreciated by many.



Investigating Butterflies

Getting Ready for Summer Camp!

For those children enrolled in our summer camp, we will be caring for full time children ages 3-10 starting on Friday, June 19. However, our summer program will officially begin on June 29 when the school age children will be out of school for the summer. Please be sure your child is properly prepared for the summer program by having the following at the center on a daily basis:

- ◆ sunscreen (SPF 15 or higher recommended). Please apply before leaving your home in the morning. It will be reapplied at regular intervals.
- ◆ a towel, bathing suit, water shoes (NOT flip flops) or sandals for water use
- ◆ a weather-appropriate change of clothes

As always, please be sure your child's items are labeled with a permanent marker as many of the children's things are similar.

End of the Year

Celebration '09:

Celebrating Your Family

Our annual celebration to mark the end of the school year will take place on Thursday, June 18 from 5:30-7:00! As with every year, we will hold a pot luck supper. Please bring in your family favorite. Each classroom is once again working on a show that they are all looking forward to putting on for their families. A sign up list will be located at the sign in podium. We hope to see you there!



The Preschool sings songs at Circle

Preschool

It is really hard to believe that another school year is coming to a close. It seems as though we have just begun because we literally are having too much fun with the children and what interests them. This year planting seeds and watching the life cycle of a butterfly have really taken hold of the children's attention and has encouraged them to question everything about nature. Now, on a daily basis the children are looking for caterpillars and watching the changes in the garden the Pre-K children have planted with Miss Katie. It is really exciting for children to get involved in the natural world around them.

The children currently are working on two songs for the end of the year celebration. I will be sending home the words to each on June 8th with your child's daily note. It is also time for parent/teacher conferences: a chance to sit down with each family and discuss their child's growth during their time here at Hamlet Learning Center. This will also let you see what your child does here and in what he/she is interested. I will send home a note setting a time and date for this meeting. You can contact me here if another time will be more convenient.

Summer camp will start after the school year has finished. We will send home a note informing you of the items your child will need. As always, we encourage you to label everything you send to school with your child.

Have a happy and safe summer!

Miss Sharon & Miss Samantha



Olivia and Joelle, as well as many other friends, take care of our garden weeding and watering daily. It has been an exciting transformation!

Family Fun Activity

Enhancing Language Development and Communication

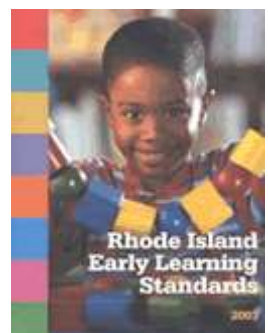
♣AMES

Play lots of different games so that your child can learn to listen to directions and follow them. Think about the games you remember from your own childhood and play them with your child.

Here are a few examples:

- √ Follow the Leader
- √ Simon Says
- √ The Hokey Pokey
- √ Red Light, Green Light
- √ Duck-Duck-Goose
- √ Mother May I

**excerpt from the RI Early Learning Standards "Family Fun Activities for Pre-Schoolers"*



Lunch with a Loved One

This month's Lunch with A Loved One will take place on Wednesday, June 10. Once again we will encourage your children to choose the loved one of their choice! Please speak with your child's teacher about starting times.

Pre-K

June??? Already??? Who can believe it? Although, spring time is such a time of growth and development in the school year the children have really made the time fly. Just like we thought at the Mid-Year Parent Teacher Conferences, rapid development has taken place since then. We have given a great effort to prep the children for Kindergarten with knowing and recognizing their first and last names. It is VERY important at this time that families remember the Rhode Island Early Learning Standards which are what children should know and be able to do when they enter Kindergarten. Many Kindergarten teachers refer to them at the start of next year for review and further enhance their foundation for future learning.

Many families have asked what they should be doing to help their children continue their preparations for Kindergarten over the summer. Activities to continue number and letter recognition, sounds of letters, beginning and ending sounds of words and writing activities are some of the more obvious ones. However, reading stories, making up stories, writing down those original stories and discussing events and characters in stories is also very valuable. Any kind of pretend activities in which to engage your child can support their writing, creativity and control of plots. Examples include playing school, restaurant or anything else your child may suggest! We can further discuss specific target areas for your child in our end of the year parent teacher conference. Please feel free to contact me prior with any specific issues.

Wishing you the best in future endeavors,
Miss Katie and Miss Anne

School Age Spotlight

No one seems to be happier for the close of school and the onset of the summer program as our school age group. They are thrilled to arrive off the buses to see that we are playing outside. They have been engaged in an ongoing operation playing war. It really can not be avoided when our country is at war and many of our families are serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. This does provide an opportunity to educate the children about current events and the state of the union.



Miss Christina and Miss Judy are also getting excited about the summer program and even more fun than they had last year with the group. Supplies and activity planning began a long time ago and it is sure to be an exciting, relaxing and enjoyable summer for all.

The last day for Woonsocket Public Schools is June 24. Therefore, the summer program will begin on Thursday, June 25 and officially the following Monday, June 29. For children not enrolled in the summer program the last day at Hamlet will be June 24.

Parent Teacher Conferences & Your Child's Portfolio

We would like to take the final opportunity of the school year to share your child's successes with you by meeting one last time to review their portfolio and share information that can be passed on to your child's teacher next year.

Your child's teacher is available for parent-teacher conferences before and after the school year for those children who will be attending the center during our summer program.

Please watch your child's daily note for meeting opportunities. Remember we are available at your convenience. Arrangements can be made with your child's classroom teacher.