

EBJ NEWS

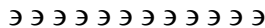
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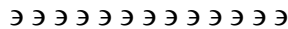
Donna Bella, Director

From the Director... For those of you who may remember, EBJ had a monthly newsletter which somehow disappeared. I don't really know how and I am not sure how much it matters, but the good thing is that the EBJ Newsletter is back. Having not stepped up to the new technology, I am asking any parent interested and willing to help me take that step. I am an able learner. I would like this to be part of our website as well as look more like a newsletter than an old WordPerfect document from the '09's.. As we approach the summer months, our groups will see a few changes in enrollment and some new staff. Children visit their next rooms a few times a week, a gentle transition for September. Curriculum goes outside as water and sand become the focus of play. Life at EBJ doesn't slow down but it does relax – these are children who have spent at least (almost a year) with their teachers and friends. They are comfortable in their groups and secure in anticipating their next moves. It's such a nice time of the year.

Donna



Your EBJ Board of Directors... Andy Junker, Todd Olmstead, and Marie Morgan have left the Board this year. We thank them for their interest and their support and wish them our very best. Grace Bright and Joanne Goldblum have stepped down from their positions as President and Vice President but will remain as Board members, a very lucky break for all of us. On our Board as officers for the coming year are: Leslie Stone, President; Peter Chemery, Vice President; Rona Richter, Secretary; and Ann Green, Treasurer. The Board members are: Peter Ammon, Robin Tousey Ayers, Donna Bella, Lucile Bruce, Anne Camp, Alice Colonna, Deborah Ferholt, Lisa Fernandez, Jane Gillis, Sherry Hermann, Sandra Bishop-Josef, Jo Kremer, Molly LeVan, Joya Marks, Alysia McCarthy, Barbara Nordhaus, Cathy Pamelard, and Paul Turner. Over the next few months we will find out more about the important work done by the Board and the ways in which the Board and our families work together for a successful program for young children.



From the Ones... All of the children in the Ones Room are walking! The children have been having a wonderful time hopping, turning in circles, clapping, dancing, sliding, running, and walking. On the playground they have been spending a lot of time digging, climbing and sliding. On our daily walks we sing songs and the children point out busses, trucks, and motorcycles. When indoors the children have been playing in the sensory table with water. They float boats, squeeze out sponges, pour water from small cups, and push little ducks around in the water. **Wyatt, Printha, Ophir, Gabriel, Nate, and Rosie** have all made transitions to napping on cots. **Maggie** has started walking and her tendency is to do it while the children are dancing in the living room. **Anna** climbs up the large climber on the playground and goes down the slide. **Isabella** is repeating many many words and singing songs. Some favorite songs are "Hop and Stop", "Ring Around the Rosie", "If You're Happy and You Know It" ... basically anything that means that the children can move around. Alex



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From the Twos...As usual the Twos are busy. Recently their art work ranges from creating wooden sculptures with glue and wood scraps, making animal prints with different kinds of stamping shapes and painting with odd instruments such as combs and Matchbox cars. The water table has been out quite a bit these past few weeks with special interest in measuring and discovering sizes of containers and “Exactly how much water can I get in this bottle?” Outdoors (that is what we have of it with all this rain) still sees digging in the sand as a #1 favorite, along with “cooking” in the play kitchen, making all sorts of sand food. The children have also enjoyed musical instruments outside, immediately forming a marching band, regardless of what they are playing. Our CD player adds to the outside when we paint to music. We certainly still enjoy a daily buggy walk/ride before the summer heat keeps us from doing this. The spring and summer changes do not go unnoticed. We point out new flowers, green grass, and new birds that we hear and see. Welcome back to Gabriel, who has rejoined his friends after a semester away. And goodbye to Leo. “We will miss you!!!!”

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From Preschool I...Summer Greetings from Preschool I! The children have been very busy expanding their friendships, learning new facts, inventing games, and engaging in a variety of conversations. Block building is the new craze within the classroom. Visitors are encouraged to stop by in the morning a check out the interesting block sculptures. **Sindre** and **Esther** really enjoy making chairs and houses for the animals with the blocks. After the structures are complete, **Arnar** comes through and inspects them. Another favorite activity in Preschool I is bookmaking. The children love to use markers, pastels, and crayons to draw pictures and “write the stories.” **Cassia**, **Rachel**, and **Hannah** keep busy creating books. **Sadie** enjoys writing notes to take home in the evening for her family. Filled with a classroom of explorers, the children love exploring different things in their environment. **Timothy's** favorite activity is the sand table. He loves to search through the sand box for hidden treasures and collect them in the strainer! Since the warm weather is finally upon us, we are taking more walks. Our favorite places to go are Albertus Magnus and “the new playground” at Celentano. During our walks, **Jackson** likes to show us his new house. **Ruth** and **Ellie** entertain the class with their singing. **Elijah** enjoys pointing out the different cars and trucks. On the playground **Sam** and **Jack** stay busy playing games. Some favorites

are soccer, basketball, football, and chase. Preschool I would like to say good-bye to Arnar. He is going to Iceland for the summer



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From Preschool II...It’s June and our garden is thriving, thanks to the hard work of Preschool I and Preschool II. Preschool II’s interest in growing plants began earlier in the spring when we planted radishes, carrots, and potatoes. Our pea plants are crawling up their poles, and soon to come? Lettuce and tomatoes! A friendly farewell to **Alex Y.** who moved to New York State in May; to **Nate** making a cross country journey to live in Oklahoma; and bon voyage to **Mila** who will be visiting relatives in Bulgaria for the summer before returning to kindergarten in New Haven. We miss you all. (Addresses are available upon request.) On the art scene, our still-life drawing study, inspired by **Alex C.’s** picture of a dog using a classroom stuffed animal, has motivated others to use objects in the classroom as models. **Eric** drew a picture of a Lego construction he built. **Alan** and **Yunrui** have become expert mask makers and have begun to teach other children. **Kevin** and **Finn** recently went on a whale watch and it has drummed up quite a bit of interest in an already popular topic: The Ocean. This compliments our study of living and non-living things. As a class we made a moss garden complete with moss, grass, soil, rocks, pinecones, and other found natural objects. **Zachary** has been building a sculpture of a tree and **Genevieve** has helped decorate it with leaves after it’s covered with papier mache. Demonstrative Writing! Perhaps you’ve seen a child’s note in a lunchbox or backpack? **Makieya** dictated to create our reminder sign for our art center to “please put your name on your artwork.” Stop in to see our writing!

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BIRTHDAY GREETINGS...Many happy birthday wishes go out to our children who celebrate their birthdays in the summer months. Happy Birthday wishes go out to **Leo** who will be 3 in June, to **Ellie** who will be 4 in June, to **Sam** who will be 4 in June, to **Ophir** who will be 2 in July, to **Hannah** who will be 4 in July to **Printha** and **Nate** who will be 2 in August, **Benjamin** who will be 3 in August, **Esther** and **Sadie** who will be 4 in August, to **Alex**, **Eric**, and **Zachary** who will be 5 in August.

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Family Pizza Party – Mark your calendars. Friday, July 31, from 5:15 pm EBJ families and friends gather for pizza and ice cream every summer and here we go again. Twos classmate Rafael’s dad Bob will play guitar and lead our EBJers in some well-loved songs.

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In House News – Welcome to David Nathaniel Brantley Fulton, born June 2nd to the family of Jessica Brantley and Thomas Fulton and Twos classmate Gabriel. Congratulations to all!
We say good-bye to Twos classmate Leo and to PSI’s Arnar who will leave both be leaving EBJ at the end of June. And we welcome Rosie’s big sister Josephine, back for the summer, into PS II.

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A Group of Parents needed...I am looking for a few parents who can meet to plan for next year - family gatherings, talks, groups. If you were a room parent and would like to continue, let me know. If you are interested in planning for EBJ families, let me know. I’d like to meet in early July. I would like to plan and I want it to come from your interests and needs. Stop by the office, email, or call.
Donna

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Evan=s Toy Shoppe in Hamden is chock full of fun for children. They have a full line of imaginative, open-ended ideas to keep children interested and engaged. Mention that you are from EBJ. Every year they donate a percentage of our sales to EBJ.

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SCHOLASTIC BOOKS ...gone for the summer. Look for new Fall choices in September. Thanks to all who ordered this year. EBJ received some great – free - additions to our library with your help.

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