

## Shelley & Erin's FMOU

Summer is almost here and with it comes the end of the beginning of your child's first adventures in preschool. It is hard to believe that just nine months ago we began this new journey together. How much your children have grown! It has been a wonderful year and we want to thank you for sharing your children with us. They have certainly brought joy to both Erin and I. They have also added many smiles to our faces with what they have said and done. ☺

It was nice to sit with each of you again this spring to talk with you about your children at conferences. This is such an amazing year full of growth and independence and it is so enjoyable for me to share with you all the growth we have seen.

We have had and still have some fun activities planned for the class for the next few weeks. As you probably have heard and seen, we had some classroom visitors. Five Painted Lady caterpillars came to us, spun their chrysalises, transformed into beautiful butterflies and we released them into the garden. It has all been very exciting. We have ended our year talking about spring bugs and ice cream. We have taken walks into the garden, planted a surprise for you and had the chance to explore worms right in our classroom. All of the children have shown delight. We will be making flowers for the Memorial Day Parade float and will make ice cream during the next two weeks. We also have some new pet hermit crabs. We will take care of them for the next few weeks in our classroom. The children are busy exploring and sharing with peers and the teachers lately. We have so much to do in the next few weeks!!

Remember that although the end of the year seems so close for us, it still seems far away for the children. On May 24<sup>th</sup> or 25<sup>th</sup>, we will walk around and tour the 3-year-old classrooms. We will talk about how the classroom activities are planned for 3 year olds turning 4 and how I know best how to plan activities for 2 year olds turning 3.

I will mention that Erin works in a 3 year old turning 4 year old room and how some children may have her as their teacher and some children may have some of the other great Carol Nursery School teachers or teachers at other schools. I would like to ask that you wait to talk about the end of the year and summer until after we do. It will hopefully help the children enjoy where they are without worry about what is to come. You can reassure them that you choose Carol Nursery School because all the teachers are there to keep the children safe and give them lots of opportunities just like Erin and Shelley have. Remember to validate their feelings – it is scary to think about a new teacher but also provide them with all the positive information you know and love about next year's school.

To celebrate the end of the year, on the last day of school, we hope to have a Popsicle party, outside if possible, inside otherwise. This will take place at the end of the day and we want to invite you to join us if you can at 11:20 or so to say goodbye with your child. Remember that all of the children will say goodbye in different ways just like we adults do too.

We want to thank you all for your help and support this year. A special thank you goes out to our room parents Carrie Twardokus and Claire Brinkley. You all have helped to make this a great year for your children and us!

I also want to send lots of thanks to Erin! This was our second year teaching together and for me it was a great journey again. I could not have a better support teacher. She is able to pick up where I leave off and read my mind when it has its little lapses.

Have a safe and happy summer and please remember to come by and say "Hi" next year!