

Pembroke News

May 2014

Miss Andrea

It is hard to believe the end of school is only 5 weeks away! We have accomplished so much and have much more to do! Peas are sprouted in the garden and the strawberry plants have numerous flowers. Mother Nature is teasing us with the arrival of warmer temperatures. Spring weather is unpredictable. Please err on the side of caution with your children. They will need warm jackets, garden boots, and gloves. The play yard and garden can be muddy. It is usually windy, creating a cooler air temperature. All children are participating in spring cleanup. They will get dirty pulling weeds and digging for worms, so please send children to school wearing work clothes.

There are two more weather-related items to mention. As the weather gets sunnier and warmer we have to deal with insects and ultra-violet rays. The moist weather and abundance of wild life in the area creates an environment in which insects, most notably, ticks and fleas can flourish. Pembroke is on a regular spraying schedule with a local company to control ticks. The grassy areas around the building and playground are kept short and well trimmed. I would ask that you check your children for ticks. Teachers do check children. If we are all vigilant, we can manage. Hobbes began his regimen on May 1st so he is doing his part to keep these pests at bay!

Sun - we love and fear its power. If we have a particularly sunny day and you think your child will need sunscreen, we ask that you apply the sunscreen BEFORE you arrive at school. Teachers are unable to apply sunscreen in class due to time constraints and restrictions from ODJFS licensing restrictions.

Progress Reports: Teachers are finishing up the last assessments of the year in order to prepare this school year's final progress report. Teachers are all very proud of the exceptional progress each student has made. Parent-Teacher Conferences are optional at the end of the year. Signups will be available after you receive your child's progress report.

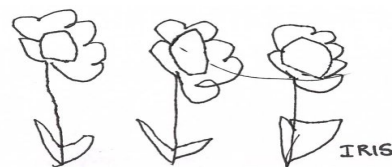
Teacher News: Miss Sara had a baby girl May 1! Mom and baby are doing fine. She will take the summer to enjoy her new bundle of joy and will return to teaching this fall.

Each year we invite Pembroke families to join Steve and me to march in Avon Lake's Memorial Day Parade. The parade route is approximately one mile beginning and ending in Avon Lake High School's north parking lot. The route is just long enough and it is a wonderful way to honor those who have served our country. Our

Pembroke families are invited to join us. Strollers and wagons are welcome. We supply pounds and pounds of candy to toss to the parade onlookers. Alas, we never have enough candy and always welcome more. We have never had candy left over ☺. It is an enjoyable patriotic tradition and the children have fun. Watch for details.

We have many events in May and June. Please, please check backpacks, the website, and bulletin boards for notices.

Like us on Facebook



Miss Sue and Miss Sara

Spring is finally here!!! Just last week three butterflies emerged from their cocoons! Our Friday class actually witnessed the first butterfly emerge. The children were very excited about this! We discussed what to feed them and they went to their lunch bags and gave an orange slice and a strawberry to the butterflies.

Thank you so much for attending Muffins with Mom! This is a much anticipated and fun time for the children. We always enjoy seeing moms and dads at school.

There are some changes in our classroom. Miss Sara is on maternity leave until the fall semester. Miss Rebecca will be in the classroom for the remainder of the school year. The children are very comfortable with Rebecca, as she has been a substitute at the school all year.

We are finishing up our current theme of baby animals. The children have learned the names of different baby animals and have had fun sorting and making animal crafts. Our next two-week theme will be all about the zoo! We look forward to this fun topic! We will then learn about bugs/gardens with an Eric Carle focus as we end our school year!!

Don't forget . . . please plan to attend our field trip to Cleveland Botanical Garden Wednesday, May 28. Look for permission slips coming home soon!

Thank you for sharing your son/daughter with us! It is truly a blessing to watch them grow!

sue@pembrokekids.com or rebecca@pembrokekids.com



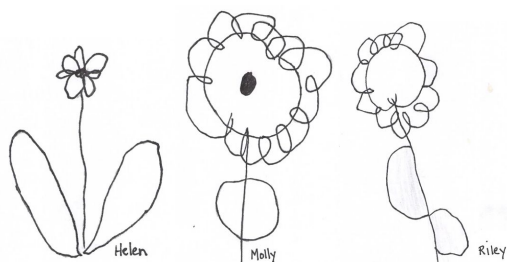
Miss Theresa and Miss Cecilia

We hoped that spending two weeks studying spring related topics would help expedite the season change, but we are not sure it really worked! We are enjoying some needed rain, but our garden needs more sun. So far, we have planted some seeds in our classroom greenhouse as well as some peas outside. The children are looking forward to seeing our plants grow. Speaking of growth, the children have loved watching our little bear grow in water. It measured 2 inches before we placed it in a water bath, and we took it out every morning to see that it had grown almost half an inch every night! It has been very exciting, and it has also been great practice using our ruler. We then took the bear out and watched it shrink.

The rest of April was all drama! In preparation for Muffins with Mom, we read fairy tales and chose our two favorites to perform for moms. *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* and *The Little Red Hen* were chosen, and we had great fun playing all the different characters in the stories. We found that we have several budding actors in the group. Theater in the classroom provides so much more than just fun. When children act, they use facial and vocal expression and body movements to demonstrate emotions and feelings and they can then more easily identify with other people (or animals). It was fun having our moms in the audience!

As always, May will fly by. We plan to spend a week looking at our beloved *Pete the Cat* books. Then we will have a week of "student favorite" activities and a week of our "teacher favorites." We will end the year preparing for our all school field trip to the Cleveland Botanical Garden.

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Miss Katie and Miss Elena

Whoa! The month of April has flown by so quickly. We have done so much this month. We started by talking about BUGS!!!! We read many books about bugs and drew pictures about bugs. The children showed off their knowledge about bugs by filling in an information web. The children created butterflies and ladybugs and even had the opportunity to create their own bugs. During the second week, we got a special delivery of our very own caterpillars. We watched them eat their food, grow, and then go into their chrysalis. Soon we will have three butterflies!

After bug week, we moved on to an author study of Laura Numeroff. The Young 3's class especially liked the book *If You Give a Moose a Muffin*. To correspond with the *If You Give a.....* book series, we ate what we read. The Mixed-Age class enjoyed making and eating pancakes (with a side of sausage) and decorating their cupcakes, while the Young 3's class enjoyed eating blueberry muffins and chocolate chip cookies. It was a tasty week.

The last two weeks of April took us to the beach to study the ocean and all things living in it. The children made fish, seahorses, starfish and coral. All of these can be found on our ocean mural in the hallway. Please be sure to check it out. The children played on the "beach" and in the "ocean" in our sensory table. The students even made their own ocean scene in a bag.

We also would like to take time to thank all the moms and special friends who were able to make it to Muffins with Mom. We enjoy getting to know you all better and the children love showing you their room.

<http://katieandelenaprek.blogspot.com/>



Miss Krista

We are hatching DUCKS! The kindergarteners are very excited to have duck eggs in the incubator. We brought the eggs back from our field trip to Fisherman's Folly Farm. We learned about chickens, ducks, turkeys, goats, and horses. The children made comparisons about their feet and what the animals use their feet for. We even got the chance to see one-day-old baby goats!

The other classrooms will be visiting the kindergarten class periodically to see the duck eggs. We will be making observations and documenting changes over the next few weeks. The eggs are expected to hatch at the end of May.

In May, we are going to Playhouse Square to see the children's performance of Pinocchio. After the trip, we will begin writing our own play. The children will have the chance to create characters, story elements, sets, and props. We will be performing our play for the preschool classes as well as families.

- May 9: Pinocchio play
- May 22: Student play performance at school
- May 27: Student led conferences
- May 28: All school trip to Botanical Garden

kristaskindergarten.blogspot.com



Miss Clare

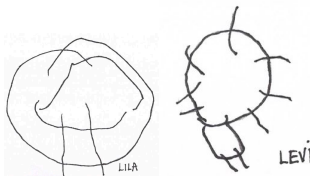
May will be a month full of excitement! We will be learning about rocks and how rocks are formed. We will also be learning about the uses of rocks. We will also be finishing up our unit on poetry. We will even have a "poetry jam" in our classroom with our favorite poems.

After our trip to see Pinocchio, we will be presenting our own version of The Wizard of Oz. We have added a few of our own characters and changed a few parts of the story around.

Our last theme of the school year will be about Learning About Other Cultures. We will discuss food, clothes, languages, homes, and more around the world.

The students have been excellent learners this year and I am very proud of their achievements!

missclareclassroom.blogspot.com



Preschool spring Conferences - May 20th - 21st

Progress reports will be coming home on May 16th. Our preschool spring conferences are OPTIONAL. If you have any concerns or would like to discuss your child's progress, you may arrange for a conference before or after school on Tuesday, May 20th, or Wednesday, May

21st. Please see your teacher to schedule a time. Again, these conferences are OPTIONAL.

Summer Camp at Pembroke

Summer Camp registration is well underway. In fact, some of our classes have closed out already. If you are considering signing up your child for a session, we urge you to do so as soon as possible and tell your friends about us!

We have weekly sessions for preschool children ages 3 to 5 and school-age children entering kindergarten through sixth grade in the fall. Our camp is open to the public and registration takes place on a first-come-first-served basis. Before and after school care is available.

Check out our schedule at www.pembrokekids.com.

Memorial Day - May 26th

Pembroke will be closed on Monday, May 26th, in observance of Memorial Day. Classes will resume on Tuesday, May 27th.

Memorial Day Parade - May 26th

Again this year, Pembroke Kids will be taking part in Avon Lake's Memorial Day Parade. We invite all our Pembroke families to march with us! This is a perfect parade for young children and a great opportunity to celebrate this holiday in a special way. We will be tossing out candy along the parade route – something the children LOVE to do! Please join us!

Botanical Garden Field Trip - May 28th

Information and reservation slips regarding our all-school field trip to Cleveland Botanical Garden will be coming home soon. We are very excited about this field trip as it promises to be both fun and educational for everyone.

Our preschoolers will be attending a class called "Water in the Garden." Our K-2 students will attend "Plants and Me." Weather permitting these classes will be held outside. Besides our classes, you will have plenty of time to stroll through Hershey Children's Garden as well as the Glasshouse. You can even bring your lunch and picnic on Wade Oval.

Be sure to see the newly opened exhibit, Nature Connects, where you will encounter 14 LEGO brick sculptures depicting plants and animals.

We encourage you to participate in this field trip, even if your child does not attend Pembroke on Wednesdays. Please note: THERE WILL BE NO CLASSES AT PEMBROKE ON MAY 28th.

10th Annual All School Picnic and Preschool Graduation - June 4th

Our annual All-School Picnic is scheduled for Wednesday, June 4th, from 5 – 7 PM. It will be held at Weiss Park on Webber Road in Avon Lake. Bring your picnic dinner, chairs, and your whole family. Our preschool graduation ceremony will take place following dinner and a medley of songs our students have been preparing for you.

More information to follow.

CSA - Community Supported Agriculture

Pembroke Kids hosts an annual CSA with Covered Bridge Gardens' farmers Mick and Kay Portchko. For 16 weeks, beginning in early June, they deliver farm-fresh produce grown on their farm. The selections vary week by week. The produce is picked only one day before delivery. Kay writes a weekly newsletter, including recipes for the current week delivery. The newsletters are available online.

Let Andrea or Steve know if you are interested in learning more about this program.

Tutoring

Pembroke offers one-to-one and group tutoring for pre-kindergarten through 8th grade. Each student's program is built around his/her personal needs. If you know of a friend or neighbor that could benefit from our services, please tell them about us. We offer tutoring focused on new legislation relating to the "Third Grade Reading Guarantee."

Before and After School Care

Do you have to leave for work before the school day begins or do you need a safe place for your child after school? Consider Pembroke's Before & After Care Program. Designed for students in kindergarten through 6th grade, we provide a safe, supportive environment guided by experienced teachers. Call the office for more information.

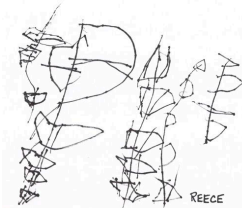
School Absences

We appreciate a phone call when your child is absent due to illness or other reasons. Please call the office as soon as you know your child will not be attending school – 440-933-3782.

Dates to Remember

- May 9 K-2 Field Trip – Pinocchio
- May 16 Progress reports sent home
- May 20-21 Preschool conferences (Optional)
- May 22 K Students perform Pinocchio
1-2 Students perform Wizard of Oz
- May 26 Memorial Day – NO SCHOOL
Come march with us!
- May 27 K-2 Student-led conferences
- May 28 All-School field trip to Cleveland
Botanical Garden
- June 4 K-2 Celebration – 2 PM
- June 4 All-School Picnic and Preschool
Graduation 5-7 PM
- Aug. 25 Fall Classes Begin

Have a wonderful summer!!!



Thanks to Iris, Haruka, Helen, Molly, Riley, Juliet, Megan, Lila, and Levi for all the beautiful spring flowers. Also, thanks to Reece for the beanstalks above.

Keep up to date with school activities by checking our school calendar in the Parent section of our website: www.pembrokekids.com.

Like us on Facebook – www.Facebook.com/pembroke.kids