

Pembroke News

September 2014

Miss Andrea

Busy, busy summer! Summer at Pembroke was tons of fun! All the fun is now a fond memory as we are ready for an awesome 2014-2015 school year. Welcome back!

Our **Teaching Strategies Gold** (TS Gold) study group has been working hard to have this new curriculum and assessment tool fully functional. We have already had several staff training sessions and will have lesson plans online soon. These weekly plans will also be posted outside of each classroom.

We will be having parent meetings to provide families guidance in navigating TS Gold parent portals. Look for a notice about meetings with Cecilia where she will provide more details and answer questions. Stay tuned, more to come.

The scope of TS Gold encompasses preschool only at this time.

Communication: If you have questions, concerns, or observations, please don't hesitate to speak to either Steve or me. One of us is always in the building and willing to help you.

Volunteer Opportunities: Attached to this newsletter is an information-gathering survey where we have listed some ways parents can be more involved in their child's education. This is your chance to let us know the types of activities you are interested in participating in. Some ideas and ongoing projects are: Scholastic Books, all-school celebrations (Halloween, Polar Express, Valentine's Day), Friday morning library help. These are our initial ideas. As time passes, we will refine our list based on interests and needs.

Question for families: Pembroke has the opportunity to partner with New Life Massage. Meilssa, the owner, is interested in organizing a children's yoga class. The class would be taught here at Pembroke when classes are not in session. Class length is to be determined, but probably one half hour to no more than one hour. Please stop by the office or send me an email to let me know your thoughts. Yoga is a wonderful exercise to help

children stay fit, reduce stress, and have fun with a lifelong exercise program.

If you DO NOT HAVE A PARENT HANDBOOK, please stop by the office and ask for one.

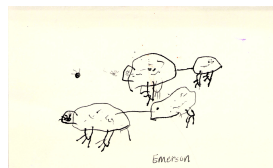
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Miss Sue and Miss Rebecca

Welcome to a new school year!!

It's been fun to see our returning students and we are getting to know our new students as well. Our returning students have jumped right back into their routines and are actually good role models to our younger new students. We have been getting acquainted with each other and our classroom surroundings the first week of school.

Our new class pet leopard gecko has been a big hit with all the children. By the end of the week we will vote on our favorite name for him. Some of the great name suggestions are: Rainbow, George, Spots, Goldie, and Jewel. We will post the new name outside of our classroom door. We are also learning about our gecko. He likes to eat meal worms and crickets, he's nocturnal, he sheds his skin, and he'll bark if agitated!



"What will my name be?"

(artwork by Nanako,
Mara, and Emerson)

During the second week of school the children will take their name card off the wall and add it to our job jar. Also, look for our Mystery Can. This is a way the children can bring one toy or something special from home for Show and Tell. Each child gets approximately 3 turns with the Mystery Can during the school year. Instructions will be included in the can.

Thank you for all the much needed and much appreciated supplies! If you need to reach us for any reason our email addresses are:

sue@pembrokekids.com
rebecca@pembrokekids.com

Miss Theresa and Miss Kathy

Welcome to Miss Theresa and Miss Kathy's class! We hope you have enjoyed the more relaxing pace of summer and have had some great adventures too! We are looking forward to having your wonderful preschoolers back in the classroom to hear about all of their summer fun!

The beginning of the school year is always a busy time for us. We have met new teachers and friends, and the children have quickly become more comfortable with all the transitions at school. We are working hard to learn the rules and routines of our day, and we are exploring and learning new things everyday. In September, some of the themes we will introduce are All About Me, Pets, and Nursery Rhymes. In future newsletters, we will review the month's activities as well as highlight different learning activities and centers in our classroom. We hope this information will give you some insight as to what and why we offer particular activities throughout the year.

It has been nice meeting new families and seeing familiar ones. As always, please feel free to contact us through phone or email at any time with questions or concerns. We know we will have a fantastic year with your children!

theresa@pembrokekids.com
kathy@pembrokekids.com

Miss Carrie and Miss Kelly

Welcome to Miss Kelly's and Miss Carrie's class! We are excited to have the opportunity to get to know our new parents and make genuine connections with each child. Our goal is to provide an environment that will encourage the children to explore their new classroom and discover "what I can do." This is important because it encourages increased language awareness, self-esteem and independence. We realize you may have questions or concerns, so please feel free to speak with one of us directly or e-mail us at anytime to ensure that the lines of communication remain open.

We look forward to sharing this year with your children and watching them gain new skills as well

as create new relationships that will be a stepping stone to fulfilling their full potential.

Also, thank you for all your generous donations!

carrie@pembrokekids.com
kelly@pembrokekids.com

Miss Molly

Welcome to Miss Molly's mixed-age morning class! I am so excited to be teaching here at Pembroke and, more specifically, your children. Over the first couple of weeks, we will be learning the routine of the classroom, becoming a classroom community, and getting to know all of our new friends. Some of the activities we will be doing include art, center exploration, and social-emotional scenarios. Please feel free to contact me about any information you may need! I look forward to the rest of the year.

molly@pembrokekids.com

Miss Molly and Miss Carrie - Pre-K

Welcome to Pre-K with Miss Molly and Miss Carrie! We are so excited to be teaching all of your children. We are the "big kids" of preschool and we are working on creating our Pre-K classroom community. Some of the activities we will be focusing on include alphabet knowledge and sound recognition of letters, various number activities, sorting, and matching. Please do not hesitate to contact us about anything. We both look forward to the new school year!

molly@pembrokekids.com
carrie@pembrokekids.com

Miss Stefanie - Kindergarten

Welcome to Kindergarten! We have had a very busy first week of school! The first few weeks we will be working on our daily routines, classroom schedule, classroom rules, and getting to know one another. It is important to establish these routines in order for the classroom to run smoothly for the year. All of the children have done a great job this week adjusting to a new classroom, new teacher, and new friends!

We are beginning our year with an "All About Me" and Friendship unit. We will be doing activities that will help us learn about each other and teach us about being a good friend. We will also review the letters of the alphabet and work on our counting

skills. These are skills that can be worked on at home along with writing their name appropriately on lines. I will be sending home writing paper so you can work on this at home.

Please make sure that you send a snack with your child to school everyday. We do not eat lunch until 12:30, so it's important to have a snack in the morning to get them through until lunch.

I will be sending a weekly newsletter home via email. Please make sure that I have an updated email address from you.

Thanks for a great first week of school!

stefanie@pembrokekids.com

Teaching Strategies Gold

Teaching Strategies Gold is our new online assessment system for our Preschoolers. Teachers will use this program to plan, instruct, observe, and assess your children. Administration will use the report features of the system to evaluate children's learning and teacher performance. **Teaching Strategies Gold** will also play a big role in Pembroke's communication to you. Through this new system, you will be able to view documentation shared by teachers, lesson plans, home-school connection activities, newsletters and calendars. Our teachers have been trained and are learning to navigate the system and enter lesson plans and documentation. The next step will be to activate parent portals so that you can access this information. In the next few weeks, you will receive an email invitation from *Teaching Strategies* at the email address you provided with your technology payment.

At the end of September, we will hold several parent workshops to introduce the features of the parent portal site and how to navigate through it and find pertinent information. We are very excited about all the wonderful benefits **Teaching Strategies Gold** will bring to Pembroke. Thank you for your patience as we venture into this introductory year.

Note to Preschool Parents: We must have your \$20 technology fee in order to send your invitation to the parent portal.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call or email.

cecilia@pembrokekids.com

Snack and Lunch Reminders

When packing snacks and lunches for your child, please remember that Pembroke is a peanut, tree nut, and egg-free environment. Foods that cannot be in any classroom include: hard-boiled eggs, raw eggs, peanut butter, and any form of tree nuts. Also, foods that are processed in a facility handling peanuts or tree nuts, walnuts, hazel nuts, and pistachios cannot be in any classroom.

School Pictures - Sept. 23 - 25

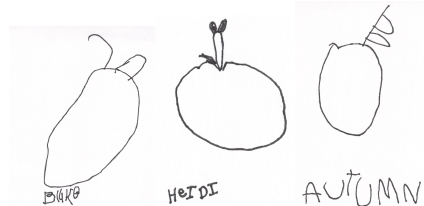
Lil' Angels Photography will again be taking our school pictures. We will notify you well in advance of the day your child's class will be photographed so your child can wear that special outfit and have their hair fixed just right. More information will be coming home soon. If you have more than one child attending Pembroke, you may have photos taken of your children together.

All-School Field Trip - Burnham Orchards - October 1st



Before we know it, fall will be here and we've already scheduled our first field trip for the year to Burnham Orchards in Berlin Heights. Besides touring the packing facility and cider mill, everyone will be able to ride a tractor-driven wagon and pick apples and pumpkins as well as enjoy some delicious apple cider. This is an activity for the whole family.

Reservation slips and details are coming home soon.



Pembroke Store is open!

Have you had a chance to browse through the logo wear in our Pembroke Store? It's located in the hallway around the corner from the office. We carry special Hobbes Logo tee shirts for students in an array of colors. With cooler weather just around the corner, a long-sleeved tee shirt, fleece vest, or jacket is just the thing to keep us warm. We also carry adult sizes. We will be placing an order before the holidays, so be sure to take a look!

Box Tops for Education

Again this year we will be collecting Box Tops for Education emblems. Simply clip the Box Tops emblem found on hundreds of products and bring them into your child's classroom. You can also earn eBox Tops for our school. Before you shop on line, check out BTF.com/marketplace.

Labels for Education

We are also collecting Labels of Education that help schools earn educational materials. Just drop these labels in the red box outside of the office. A list of brands and products that carry these labels is listed above the box.

Giant Eagle shoppers can help earn even more labels by registering your frequent shopper card at www.elabelsforeducation.com.

Did you know . . .

Pembroke Offers Tutoring

To help inspire the love of learning in the new school year or minimize academic stress, Pembroke offers one-to-one and group tutoring. Tutoring is available for pre-kindergarten through 8th grade. Each student's program is built around their personal needs.

School-age students are introduced to different learning practices and coached to find a combination of methods that work for them. These include effective reading and writing skills, in-class note-taking and participation, test preparation, and organizational skills. We help students learn course material provided by their primary educators or we can develop a complementary curriculum to broaden or deepen their understanding.

For our younger students preparing to enter kindergarten to second grade, methods include recognizing and naming all uppercase and lowercase letters of the alphabet as well as identifying and building sounds associated with letters, math foundational skills, and much more based on their needs.

If you know of a friend or neighbor that could benefit from our services, please tell them about our unique approach!

. . . and 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 and After Care Program. Designed for students in kindergarten through 6th grade, we can provide a safe, supportive environment guided by experienced teachers. We offer a variety of activities for children to explore, which include computer technology, art, building with Legos, and board games. Our fenced playground, nature trails, and wide-open playing fields offer well over an acre of space to run, play and explore. Homework help and tutoring can also be done at this time. Avon Lake school bus pickup and drop off are available.

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.

Communication Survey

Please take a few minutes to complete the attached survey and let us know how we can best communicate with you and keep you informed about what's going on at Pembroke. You can drop off the survey in the office or slip it into the plastic box on the wall outside the office. Thank you for your input.

Dates to Remember

- Sept. 23-25 School Pictures
- Oct. 1 All School Field Trip – Burnham Orchards
- Oct. 17 NEOEA Day – NO SCHOOL
- Oct. 24 All School Halloween Celebration 5 – 6:30 PM

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

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