

Carnegie Mellon University Children's School April 2023 Family Newsletter

Pittsburgh Alliance of University Schools

Several years prior to the pandemic, Maggie Rosenblum and the Children's School administrative team launched the Pittsburgh Alliance of University Schools (PAUS) to foster collaborative professional development among the university schools at CMU, U. Pitt, and Carlow University. We started by hosting open house events to begin building relationships, then added book clubs, special interest groups, job shadowing, and even hosted three full-day conferences to support the ~250 educators. The pandemic brought the in-person events to a halt, but virtual connections were key for the administrators from across the schools to support each other in handling the complex issues we were all facing. For 2023, we have committed to renewing our connections by beginning a series of open house events, which are especially important because all the programs have new educators who are unfamiliar with the university school landscape in Pittsburgh. On Thursday, March 16th, the Children's School hosted the first open house and had evening visits from about 40 educators from CMU's Cyert Center, Pitt's University Child Development Center, and Carlow's Campus School and Early Learning Center. What a pleasure it was to connect with educators who share our vision for high quality early education in a campus context!



April 2023 Dates

April 3rd – 7th

April 10th – 17th

Friday, April 14th

Saturday, April 15th

Friday, April 21st

April 25th – 29th

NAEYC's Week of the Young Child

Stories Like Me Online Book Fair (<https://storieslikeme.com/>)

CMU Spring Carnival / PM Parent Teacher Conferences (NO SCHOOL)

10:30am Story Time & Sing Along @ Stories Like Me Bookstore

Parent Teacher Conferences (NO SCHOOL)

Mrs. Bird & Dr. Carver will attend the conference of the International Association of Laboratory Schools (IALS) in Toronto, Canada.

All these dates are posted on our web calendar
@ <https://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/psychology/cs/>



Summer Camp Enrollment: BUGS

The Children's School Summer Camp is an in-person, mixed-age, four-week program that will run weekdays from June 5th to June 30th from 9 am to 1 pm with as much outdoor time on our playground as weather permits. Greeting will be at 8:45 am and dismissal at 1:00 pm. Children must be potty-trained to attend camp. The children will need to bring their snack, lunch, and water bottle, just like they did throughout the school year.

This year, Mr. Allen, Ms. Aylwin, Mrs. Bird, Mrs. Clemens, Mrs. Mack, Ms. Potter, and Ms. Rau will engage the children in a study of "**BUGS**". As usual, we will read fiction and non-fiction books and offer science, arts, sensory, and other hands-on activities to enhance the thematic study.

June camp registration is now live via your Facts Family Portal!

Week 1 (\$325) – June 5th – June 9th

Week 2 (\$325) – June 12th – June 16th

Week 3 (\$260) – June 20th – June 23rd *No camp for Juneteenth Holiday (Monday, June 19th)*

Week 4 (\$325) – June 26th – June 30th

Register for all 4 weeks for a total cost of \$1,100, a discount of \$135

To register, login to your Family Portal. In the left hand menu, under School, click WEB FORMS. Here you will see a link for June camp. Click this link to register. Registration is due by Friday, May 1st. You will receive an invoice, and full payment will be due by May 15th.

2023-24 School Year Enrollment Update

Enrollment for next year is continuing to move along nicely! Our 4's class for next year is fully enrolled. Any new applicants will be added to the current waitlist for that class. We currently have a small number of openings available in both our 3's program and our PreK/K program for next year. If you know of anyone looking for 3-year-old preschool, PreK, or Kindergarten, please encourage them to apply.

Finding Payment Summaries in FACTS

Periodically, you may need access to your family's Payment Summary. The Payment Summary shows the total paid for each student. You can select a year or a date range for the summary. It also includes the school's address and Federal Tax ID. While many expenses may not be applicable for tax deductions, some families keep a record of the expenditures with their taxes.



To do this, log in to the FACTS Family Portal and click on "Financial" in the left-hand menu. You will be directed to Tuition Management. Then follow these steps to print the payment summary:

1. On the home page, click **View Details**.
2. Click **View Payment Summary** on the details screen.
3. Ensure the correct **Calendar Year** or date range is selected.
4. Click **Print**.

Please contact Miss Hancock at lh37@andrew.cmu.edu if you need further assistance.

Book Fair and Storytime Sing Along



Stories Like Me

In April, we are collaborating with the **Stories Like Me** bookstore in the Greenfield neighborhood for an online Book Fair and an in-store Storytime / Sing Along. Stories Like Me is "Pittsburgh's local indie bookstore where all children and families can find themselves in books". We are excited to partner with a bookstore promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion!

Saturday, April 8th – Saturday, April 15th – Online Book Fair!

During the week of April 8th-15th, 10% of all online sales will be donated to The Children's School for purchasing new books for our school library. You can click here to shop online:

<https://storieslikeme.com/>. Please feel free to share this link with family and friends so that they can help support The Children's School as well! If you would like to shop in store, that's great! Just let them know at check out that you are there to support the Children's School Book Fair and your purchase will count towards our fundraiser.

Saturday, April 15th at 10:30AM- Storytime Sing Along with Mrs. Bird!

Bring the whole family to Stories Like Me for a Storytime Sing Along with Mrs. Bird and her musician husband, Mr. Bird! All purchases during the sing along will count towards our fundraiser! Masks are optional for this event.

CMU Carnival April 13th to 16th

CMU's oldest tradition, Spring Carnival, is a 3-day event that features the famous Buggy races, amusement park rides, and booths created by various student organizations. This year's theme is "**Scotty in Wonderland**".

*"Get ready to step into an alternate universe with Spring Carnival's 2023 Theme, **Scotty in Wonderland**. Inspired by the Alice in Wonderland book and film, we wanted to make it more fitting to our Tartan tradition by replacing Alice with Scotty! This year's theme will be a way for organizations to embrace CMU's beloved Scotty dog into one of our oldest traditions, which is Carnival, in a fun and creative way. Anything that is impossible or seems impossible in our world can come true at Spring Carnival 2023!"*

For more information, visit <https://www.springcarnival.org/>.

If you are interested in learning more about CMU Buggy, please enjoy this video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sMYVNk0axvQ>

TRAFFIC ALERTS:

April 7th-13th: The Carnival midway is in the CFA parking lot adjacent to our building. As a result, please be patient and use caution during greeting and dismissal as there may be extra pedestrian and vehicle traffic in the area during this week. Friday, April 14th: The Buggy races will begin at 8:00AM. The racecourse begins at the intersection of Margaret Morrison and Tech Streets, loops around Flagstaff hill turning right, and finishes at the intersection of Tech and Frew Streets. As a result, all the streets around our building are closed to vehicular traffic for much of the day, which is the reason there is no school on Friday, April 14th. **If you have an in-person parent teacher conference scheduled for this day, you will receive an email with parking information soon.**



Building New Hope Coffee Fundraiser

Great Coffee for a Great Cause

The Children's School continues to partner with Building New Hope in a coffee fundraising effort in which 30% of the proceeds raised will be donated to the Children's School.

"Building New Hope is a volunteer-driven nonprofit organization based in Pittsburgh and Nicaragua. In Nicaragua, we partner with a worker owned organic coffee cooperative, operate two supplemental schools for at-risk youth, and provide high school scholarships for students in need. In Pittsburgh, we engage with local schools and universities, faith groups, farmers, non-profits, community groups, and businesses to promote healthy ecosystems and to spread awareness about how fair-trade relationships can help to reduce poverty and inequalities. Our reach may be broad, but our mission is simple: help those in need by providing educational opportunities and fair prices for goods and services."



This fair and direct trade coffee is certified organic, shade-grown, and certified bird-friendly by Smithsonian. Regular and dark roasted beans are single-source and come from El Porvenir in Nicaragua. The decaf is certified organic and fair trade, is decaffeinated using a chemical-free Swiss water process and is sourced from cooperatives in Latin America.

Order coffee online any time via the directions below. Coffee will be available for pick up at the Children's School on the last Friday of each month.

1. Visit <https://www.buildingnewhope.org/product-page/fundraise-with-bnh>
2. Choose the size, grind, roast, organization, and quantity.

Make sure you choose "CMU Children's School" as the organization.

Click either "add item to cart" and when a little window opens with the products click "view cart".

3. Under order summary, select from the drop-down menu "Fundraising Pick-up Point" as your delivery option.
4. Select either "Checkout" for other payments different from PayPal or "PayPal".
5. At the "checkout page" fill out all the information and continue.
7. You will be redirected to the Review and Place your order page. After reviewing your order click "Place Order".

Please contact Miss Hancock at lh37@andrew.cmu.edu if you need further assistance.

Community Service Committee Update

Diaper Drive

This April, CMU Children's School is collaborating with SHIM (<https://shimcares.org/>) to host a diaper drive. SHIM is an organization working to reduce the devastating effects of suburban poverty among the working poor, unemployed, families, single parents, senior citizens, women, and refugee families in Pittsburgh's southern suburban neighborhoods. As every CMU family knows, the cost of diapers adds up, so anything you share in all sizes would be appreciated! Sizes most needed are 3-6 for babies and adult diapers (especially larger sizes). Open packages are accepted too. Please send donations with your child throughout the month of April, and we will drive them to SHIM at the end of the month. If you are interested in making a monetary donation, you can do so at shimcares.org or call 412-854-9120 x109.



Thanks to Christine Larson – mom to Aidan in the Preschool 3's – for organizing this drive!

Race for Grace

This year, The Children's School is planning to participate in the 15th Annual "Race for Grace" Fundraiser that will take place on April 22nd at Norwin High School, and we hope you all will join us. The event activities begin at 7am, and the race starts at 9am. There will be three separate races: a 5K Run, a 5K Walk, and a 1 Mile Walk. The event is suitable for the entire family, and there will be activities, raffles/auctions, and food provided before and after the race.



"Race For Grace" and its beneficiary foundation are named after Grace Elizabeth Ekis who in 2008 lost her battle with a rare cancerous brain tumor. Grace's cancer was a diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma (DIPG), a tumor of the brainstem for which there is no known cure, and there have been no advances in treatment options in more than 40 years.

More information and the online registration form can be found here: <https://www.reflectionsofgrace.org/index.php/events/race-for-grace>.

***Once you register, please complete this google doc so that we can all meet on race day (<https://forms.gle/F6Nm5sFkWBvMqnBE6>).

We hope to see you all there! If you have any questions, please contact Alysia McCray, mom to Amelia in the 3's, at alysia.mccray@gmail.com.

If you are interested in joining the Community Service Committee, please contact Kim Yetter at kyetter@andrew.cmu.edu.

Family Performing Arts Adventure

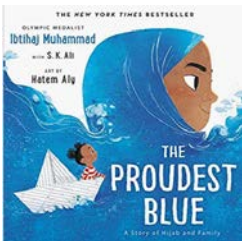
On Thursday, March 2nd, 75% of our families joined our Family Performing Arts Adventure IN PERSON!! We had opportunities for a family sing-along with Mrs. Bird, Mr. Bird, and Preschool 4's parent Guy Russo, as well as multiple performances by "Weird Eric", the magician. The children made ribbon dancers in the Blue Room and then joined a dance party in the Red Room. The Green Room had a stage for re-enacting "Delicious" and a shadow screen for telling the story of "Abiyoyo". In the Kindergarten classroom, families made puppets and staged spontaneous puppet shows, as well as watched recordings of informal classroom performances from throughout the unit. Families could also have their photos taken on the red carpet, had opportunities to explore diverse instruments in our outdoor "instrument petting zoo", and enjoyed pretzels, clementines, and cheese sticks for a light snack. We used the Make Shop as a quiet area for exploring our collection of Performing Arts books.



Arab American Heritage Month

April is Arab American Heritage Month. This month is an opportunity to recognize and celebrate the history and culture of Arab Americans. The recognition of this month is relatively recent. A bill to make Arab Heritage Month recognized on the national level was introduced in 2019 by Representative Rashida Tlaib and is still pending. However, in April of 2021 the US State Department officially declared April Arab American Heritage Month, and President Biden was the first sitting president to officially recognize Arab American Heritage Month on April 19th, 2021. Consult this article for some background information on National Arab American Heritage Month: <https://www.insightintodiversity.com/national-arab-american-heritage-month/>.

<https://www.arabamerica.com/> This website was founded with the purpose of “promoting an accurate image of the Arab American community and the Arab world”. Here, you can learn a new Arabic word each day, explore a library of Arabic recipes, and find many different online events celebrating National Arab American Heritage month.



“The Proudest Blue” is great book to read for Arab American Heritage Month. A powerful, vibrantly illustrated story about the first day of school--and two sisters on one's first day of hijab -- by Olympic medalist and social justice activist Ibtihaj Muhammad.

Here at school, we will have several books on display for children to explore and teachers to use that celebrate Arab-American culture.

CS Parent Discussion Group

The Parent Discussion Group met on March 23rd from 9:30am until 11:30am at the **Stories Like Me** bookstore located at 4381 Murray Avenue in Squirrel Hill. We considered how to discuss sensitive topics such as racial inequality and gender fluidity with young children and how to use books to introduce such discussions.

Stories Like Me (<https://storieslikeme.com>) aims “to be the most comprehensive resource for diverse, accessible and empowering children’s literature so that all children can see themselves in a story. Our store is a community hub promoting equality, equity and inclusion, and we share the stories of the world to generate empathy and peace through books.”



Our next meeting will be on April 20th from 9:30 am until 11:30 am. We will be continuing our conversation about sensitive topics and young children at a campus location TBD. If you would be interested in attending, please contact Maggie Rosenblum at rosenblu@andrew.cmu.edu.

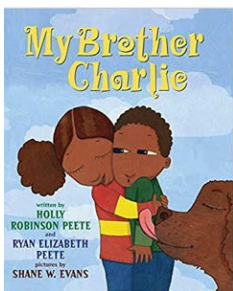


April is Autism Acceptance Month

You may have previously heard April called Autism Awareness Month. However, since 2011, several Autism Advocacy groups, such as The Autism Society of America and the Autistic Self Advocacy Network (ASAN), have called for rebranding this month to be about **Autism Acceptance**. These groups suggest that while awareness of Autism is now quite widespread, *acceptance* is an area where much growth is still needed. To learn more about Autism Awareness VS Autism Acceptance, click here: <https://www.autismparentingmagazine.com/autism-acceptance-vs-autism-awareness/>.

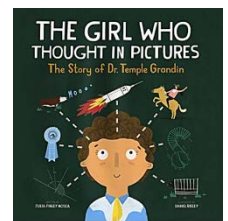
“Ultimately, the goal of Autism Acceptance Month is to be more inclusive of the very community it seeks to celebrate. It promotes not just education about the differences of people with autism, but understanding and respecting those differences. It calls for more tangible progress toward equal rights and resources.”

Here at The Children's School, we focus on both celebrating and respecting our many differences. When it comes to helping children understand and respect behavioral differences in neurodivergent individuals, it is often helpful to incorporate children's literature that highlights these differences in a caring way. The following are some of our favorite books that help promote Autism Acceptance:

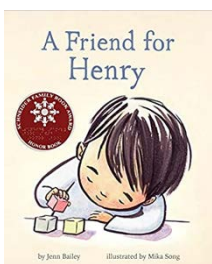


Callie is very proud of her brother Charlie. He's good at so many things - swimming, playing the piano, running fast. And Charlie has a special way with animals, especially their dog, Harriett. But sometimes Charlie gets very quiet. His words get locked inside him, and he seems far away. Then, when Callie and Charlie start to play, Charlie is back to laughing, holding hands, having fun. Charlie is like any other boy - except he has autism. In this story, told from a sister's point of view, we meet a family whose oldest son teaches them important lessons about togetherness, hope, tolerance, and love.

No one expected this autistic girl to speak, but Temple did and demonstrated her talent for visual thinking that's made a lasting impact on farm management.



NOTE: Temple Grandin has been connected with the Psychology department's Center for Cognitive Brain Imaging (<http://www.ccbi.cmu.edu>) for many years, as well as an occasional speaker at CMU. During one of her visits to campus, she toured the Children's School and made several important suggestions for tailoring our environment to children on the Autism Spectrum, including altering the color scheme of our classrooms with more neutral tones, decluttering our walls, and changing the classroom lighting, all of which CMU supported.



In Classroom Six, second left down the hall, Henry has been on the lookout for a friend. A friend who shares. A friend who listens. Maybe even a friend who likes things to stay the same and all in order, as Henry does. But on a day full of too close and too loud, when nothing seems to go right, will Henry ever find a friend—or will a friend find him? With insight and warmth, this heartfelt story from the perspective of a boy on the autism spectrum celebrates the everyday magic of friendship.

Family Spotlight: Alumni Families & Their Children

The Children's School has been offering high quality early childhood education to our community for since 1968. Sometimes, we have the delightful circumstance of having former Children's School students return to our school as parents. This year, we have several parents who once attended the Children's School as preschoolers themselves! Below are a few of their stories:



Mike Borrebach: I am the father of Isla, one of the Preschool 3's Red Room friends. I am also a Children's School alumni class of 1992. Many of my earliest memories are from the classrooms and playground at Margaret Morrison. I remember my teachers greeting & smiling at me when my Mom dropped me off, singing songs during circle time, and playing on the playground with my very first best friend, Mark (hope you're doing well, Mark—it's been a while!). I also went on to attend CMU for undergrad and met my wife Cameron here as well. When it came time to decide on a preschool for Isla, choosing the Children's School was our immediate choice. We have both had such positive experiences here, and we truly believe Carnegie Mellon is a special place. Isla is loving school, and we all love the wonderful educators here. I'm so happy that Carnegie Mellon continues to be a part of my life and is now a part of Isla's life as well!

Ali Gitomer Rizzo: As I reflect on my time at the Children's School, I can't help but smile. I remember the playground on the other side of the building, with tricycles and climbers. I remember lots of sensory play with finger paint and shaving cream. One of my favorite days in younger 3's (now the Red Room), was when the whole room was set up like a real grocery store. I remember cooking lunch in Kindergarten and doing a life-size painted self-portrait. Miss Hancock was my Kindergarten teacher!



When considering preschools for Sage, I knew the Children's School would give her an incredible foundation in early learning. When I asked my mom about the Children's School, she said it provided a wonderful creative learning foundation for my sister and me. She would definitely send her granddaughter there, too! My husband, Ben, and I really didn't consider any other options since I had had such a good experience and was so well prepared for Ellis. We are very happy with our choice and love seeing how excited Sage is for school every day.



Leslie Markel: I chose the Children's School for Finn because of the great experience that I had there as a child. I have very fond memories of being in Mrs. Smalley's classroom, singing songs at circle time, learning some important manners, and speeding around the playground track on tricycles (in what is now the reflection garden). Even though a lot has changed over the years, the things that have always made the Children's School such a special place are still there today. I knew that Finn would be in good hands, and I've been so happy to see how much he's grown and flourished these last two years.

Artists in Residence for Spring 2023

With funds from the Judy Smalley Memorial Fund, and support from CMU assistant professor Isla Hansen, we recruited two performing artists to support and extend our children's learning this semester. Kennedy Dixon and Max Watkins are both MFA candidates at CMU. These two Artists in Residence alternate weeks with the children to enhance our exploration of Performing Arts. Kennedy introduced the children to the concept of stage directions by playing a game that helped them to learn the terms upstage, downstage, Stage Left and Stage Right. In another workshop, they played a game called "What do you hear?" that involved listening to different sounds. They talked about how the sound makes us feel and then created dance moves to express those feelings. Max has focused on exploring the ways that actors use their bodies and faces to express feelings and emotions. In the first session, the friends played "What is your animal?" by using their bodies to move like animals. The next workshop involved "speaking from our animals" and collaboration in small groups to create a performance. The 3's and 4's groups were given one emotion to express together while the Kindergarten groups were given a more challenging scenario with roles to dramatize using emotions.



Spontaneous Opportunity to Help

During a recent Preschool 4's walk on campus, groundskeepers Greg and Steve responded to the children's curiosity about their backhoe and engaged them in helping to spread the grass seed. Thank you so much to our wonderful campus partners! We appreciate all of your expertise and hard work to create a beautiful campus environment.



Undergraduate Spotlight

Undergraduate Employees enrich the Children's School program by sharing their diverse perspectives and talents with us.

• Student Employee Jillian Weatherford (Preschool 4's)



My name is Jillian Weatherford, and I am from Fayetteville, West Virginia. I am a first-year student in the Dietrich College of Humanities and Social Sciences. I am currently majoring in psychology and hoping to minor in developmental psychology. I started working at the Children's School because before I entered college I had decided that I wanted to work in developmental research. When I told this to my academic advisor, she recommended that I work at the Children's School. I work with the Preschool 4's group, and my favorite thing to do is read with the children. I love getting to know all the children and seeing

how they show off their personalities in the ways they play in the classroom. When I am home, I enjoy hiking, baking, and spending time outside. My favorite activity is snowboarding, and I have been working as a children's snowboard instructor for five years. I am currently a member of the Carnegie Mellon Ski and Snowboard team. Working as a snowboard instructor is what introduced me to my passion of working with children, and I am grateful I get to continue that through working with the Children's School.



Return to In Person Professional Conferences

From March 22nd to 25th, Dr. Carver and Mrs. Sweet traveled to New Orleans to participate in the National Coalition for Campus Children's Centers (N4C) annual conference. About 200 educational leaders gathered in person for the first time since 2019 to share best practices and encourage each other's efforts. The Children's School delegation presented a seminar entitled, "Rediscovering the Roots of our Professional Development and Early Childhood Pedagogy". Many of the presentation's themes related to the ways we have applied the lessons we learned from our staff book club on When You Wonder, You're Learning (Behr and Rydzewski, 2021). Our colleagues' sessions were inspiring, and we also enjoyed the informal evening opportunities to share stories while enjoying the New Orleans cuisine. We also had an opportunity to stroll along the Mississippi River and to watch a traditional wedding parade with a band and police escort.



Research Spotlight

Research Methods Final Projects

The students in Dr. Caterina Vales' Research Methods class have proposed, piloted, and almost finished conducting their small group final projects for the semester.



The Memory Game

These student researchers investigate how children's use of interactive story technology affects story content recall compared with traditional book reading. As a comparison, the researchers had the children recall as many object pictures presented one at a time as they could, with some children seeing the pictures displayed on a digital tablet and others seeing paper flashcards. Based on prior research, the team predicted that children would perform better in the story recall task compared to the picture recall task, regardless of the presentation medium. They also hypothesized children would perform better with digital materials than traditional paper because of the extra engagement with technology.

Today is a person's birthday and they'll get lots of presents. They are happy.

This person just found a bug in his sandwich. They feel yucky.

The Story Game

This team examined children's ability to decode facial expressions with and without masks. The COVID-19 pandemic has led to an increase in the use of facial masks in



many social settings, raising the possibility that this could impact children's ability to identify emotions. On each trial, the child hears a very brief scenario and sees two photographs of the same person showing two different emotions. On some trials, the person is wearing a facial covering and on some there are no masks. If results show that children decode facial expressions better without masks, it is most likely because masks cover half the face and occlude important facial features like the nose and mouth. On the other hand, if children decode emotion better in the masked condition, it might be because they have been exposed to masks during their early childhood. Therefore, they may be able to decode emotional information with only partial information available.

The Matching Feelings to Faces Game

This student team examined children's ability to identify mixed emotions vs. singular emotions. On each trial, the researcher shows one photo of a facial expression (either a child, an adult, or a two-headed imaginary creature). Facial expressions included happy, sad, mad, or a combination of two of them. Based on prior research, the team hypothesized that children would be less likely to identify mixed emotions on a child or adult's facial expression than they would on a two-headed imaginary creature where the two emotions are represented separately. The importance of this research game is to understand children's ability to recognize simple versus complex emotions.



Happy

Happy/Angry

Sad

Sad/Angry

Happy

Angry/Sad

Director's Corner: Connection



In the final chapter of *When You Wonder, You're Learning* (2021), Behr and Rydzewski describe the challenge of human evolutionary wiring. Connection is one of our most basic human needs and is “as essential to our well-being as food and water” (p. 173). Human bonding draws us together, striving for belonging and safety to be ourselves within the group. At the same time, the evolutionary need to quickly judge friend vs. foe has led to the surprisingly early emergence of the “us versus them” mentality. Researcher Kang Lee noted “evidence of racial bias among six-month-olds, when babies begin to associate faces from their own race with happy music and faces from other races with sad music” (p. 176). Slightly older infants preferred puppet show characters who shared their own taste preferences and those who harmed dissimilar characters. Essentially, while evolution has prepared us for deep connections, we are not naturally equipped for the inclusion necessary for peace in today's diverse world, or as Behr and Rydzewski say, “for relating across our human differences as equals” (p. 177).

Fred Rogers' Neighborhood offered purposeful lessons on building a kind and inclusive community, both in real life and in “make believe”. Acceptance and inclusion were the explicit goal in the neighborhood atmosphere “that allows people to be comfortable enough to be who they are.” Remember the opening message of belonging and worth for each child expressed in the words, “I have always wanted to have a neighbor just like you” (p. 184). The storytelling in each episode helped the audience learn the stories of others and, thus, better understand their own, all of which fosters empathy, which can then broaden our view of others as our neighbors.

Many of the conditions for deep connection begin with kindness, which is why our primary emphasis at the Children's School is to “Be a kind friend.” We reinforce that goal in our deliberate reference to each other as “friends” (as in, “The kindergarten friends ...”). It's also why we say, “Everyone is a friend, and everyone can play.”



Similarly, our ability to achieve any of the goals we set at the Children's School starts with the relationships we build, among our team, with all our partners on campus, and with our children and families. There are many simple, but intentional ways that we forge these connections, starting with rotating the educators and administrators who greet children each morning with a warm smile and personal welcome. Seating arrangements for snack and lunch are also purposely varied so that the children have opportunities to build broad networks of peer relationships. We offer many opportunities for children to share their perspectives and hear others, as well as to observe the teacher recording each idea while affirming its value.

The final weeks of the school year afford many opportunities for deepening connections with and among families, starting with parent-teacher conferences and the year-end celebrations. We hope you'll commit the time to engaging with us and each other so that we can together contribute to building a caring and inclusive learning community at the Children's School.

April

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
April is National Arab American Heritage Month & World Autism Month						1
2 World Autism Awareness Day	3 NAEYC's Week of the Young Child	4	5	6	7	8
9 3's Theme: Plants & Dirt 4's Theme: Games K Theme: Birds & Flight	10 Stories Like Me Online Book Fair thru 4/15 April Safety Week	11	12	13 Music with Mrs. Hraber	14 NO SCHOOL PM - Parent Teacher Conferences ← CMU Spring Carnival →	15 10:30AM Story Time Sing-a-long @ Stories Like Me Bookstore
16	17	18	19	20 9:30 Children's School Discussion Group in CUC Danforth Lounge	21 NO SCHOOL Parent Teacher Conferences	22
23	24	25 Mrs. Bird & Dr. Carver @ IALS Conference in Toronto, Canada	26	27 Music with Mrs. Hraber	28	29
30						



Children's School

CMUChSch@andrew.cmu.edu www.cmu.edu/dietrich/psychology/cs/index.html

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2023