

CALENDAR – APRIL & MAY

Puma Cubs Egg Hunt
Friday 4/14 3:30 PM

Spring Sing & Dinner
Tuesday 4/18 6:00-8:00 PM

Site Council Meeting
Wednesday 4/19 5:15-6:00 PM

Pre-K Field Trip
Alexander Park, Belmont
Friday 4/21 10:00-12:00

April Parent's Night Out
Friday, 4/21 6:00-11:00 PM

Family Workday
Saturday 4/22 9:00 AM–2:00 PM

Trike-A-Thon
Friday 4/28 10:00 AM & 3:30 PM

Family Movie Night
Host - Footsteps Interact Club
Friday, 4/28 6:30-9:00 PM
Footsteps@Shores

Memorial Day
Footsteps Child Care Closed
Monday, 5/29

THIS MONTH'S NEWS!



Preschool Classroom

Infant/Toddler Classroom

In April we will work with Farm Animals, making cotton ball sheep, a farmhouse, and we will definitely work on our farm animal sounds. We will sing Old MacDonald Had A Farm, and you can sing it at home too. Our library will have books with farm animals, and if you know of any good books, please let us know.



April is all about Planet Earth. The children will make and eat Earth muffins and Earth eggs, make a 3-D nature Suncatcher and an Earth suncatcher, fluffy slime, marble painted planets, and they will grow beans in jars. Throughout the month, they can try reaching for the stars hanging from the ceiling! They will create their own constellations using star stickers.



We will also discuss and learn about the importance of taking care of the Earth! We will include a few Easter crafts as well.

Preschool Wish List Small Empty Water Bottles with Lids Plastic Lids Mason Jars

Pre-K Classroom

April showers Bring May Flowers! We will focus on weather, clouds rainbows, gardening, and the life cycle of plants, bugs, and birds. We will experiment with of different materials and do some fun Easter and Passover activities.



Pre-K Field Trip Alexander Park, Belmont Friday 4/21 10:00-12:00
Please provide a bag lunch for your child to eat at the park

TRIKE-A-THON

Friday 4/28 10:00 AM Puma Cubs & Cipriani Preschool
3:30 PM Puma Cubs

It's that time again Puma Cub Families! Our Annual Trike-a-thon is right around the corner. Soon you will begin to hear your child talk about Trike-A-Thon lessons and get excited about the event.

- This event raises money for St. Jude Hospital to find new treatments for cancer and other deadly diseases, while teaching children how to ride their bikes, trikes, scooters, or skates safely. Last year we raised over \$2300 and with Cipriani Preschool joining the fun this year, we hope to raise \$2500.
- Be on the lookout for the fundraising slips and weekly coloring assignments to go with the safety lessons.
- On the day of the event, please bring a riding vehicle for your child, along with a helmet (kneepads and elbow pads, if needed). We will label your child's bike with its very own trike license.
- The Infant-Toddler Class even participates! They will ride in style in our strollers.
- If you have any questions about this event, please contact Darlene or Jennifer



PUMA CUBS ANNUAL EGG HUNT

Friday April 14 3:30 PM Puma cubs Play Yard

SPRING SING!

Tuesday April 18 6:00-8:00 PM Nesbit School Multi-Purpose Room

Children will perform for families in the Nesbit School Multi-Use Room. We will serve pastas, salad, bread, and water. We hope your family can join us! The cost of dinner is a suggested donation of \$10.00 per family!



PUMA CUBS FAMILY WORK DAY!

Saturday 4/22 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM Child Care & Lunch Provided!

It's that time again! We hope to see families join us on Saturday to help us prepare the garden for planting, organize the rooms, and prepare the front wall for our mural. Child care and lunch, as always, will be provided for our hard working parents.

The more the merrier! Many hands make light work! Mark your calendars today. We will have sign-up sheets out in early April.



MURAL PROJECT

In April and May we will make the entrance of Puma Cubs Preschool more welcoming with the installation of a large colorful mural. We have contacted mural artist, Florence deBretagne, and she has agreed to help. We think the mural would have a tremendous impact on the community by bringing a colorful design, and all would enjoy their new environment.



The mural will have a native California theme with trees, plants, animals, and insects painted in bright colors to complement our garden. A grant from The Norman & Joan Kinsey Foundation is generously funding this project.

In April, we will begin by priming and painting the plywood that will be affixed to the front wall of the buildings. The children will begin drawing California native plants, animals, and insects to give to the artist to be recreated on the mural.

The week of May 8-12, the artist will begin painting, with the community helping to paint the grasses.

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

Hosted by Footsteps Interact Club

Friday, April 28 6:30-9:00 PM Footsteps@Shores 225 Shearwater

Movie Only \$2 per person

Dinner & Movie \$7 per person



STAFF UPDATES

- **Sarah Benedetto** – Out Infant-Toddler Teacher will be out on medical leave through May 26. In her place, we will have Miriam Campos and Lama Keewan, both long-term substitutes with the program, and of course, Jennifer Foletta will be available as needed, with the Admin Team providing back-up support.
- **Stephanie Charter** – We are sad to announce that Stephanie will leave Footsteps on April 5. Stephanie has purchased a house in Salem, Oregon and has decided to move there permanently. We wish Stephanie all the best in her future endeavors.



CLASSROOM NEWS



Infant/Toddler Classroom

In March, we worked on transportation. We painted stoplights, made racecars and we painted tire tracks with trucks. On our walks, we had fun pointing out buses, PG&E trucks, the mail carrier, and we even went to the train station. The babies did many hand and foot print art projects.

We would like to say thank you to all the parents for working with us on the new licensing updates regarding the food. Please be sure to keep up on it every day, so we comply with licensing.





Talia is now a full time walker! We have a new baby boy, **Sylvan**, starting mid-March. **Naomi** is starting to take steps. **Dexter** has been greeting **Jackson** every morning by trying to say his name. **Kyle** has found his voice and lets us know when to turn off the lights for nap and when to get his pacifier and to keep writing. **Jackson** is doing great with the sippie cup and **Talia** is drinking formula from her cup. Everyone is teething at the same time!



Preschool Classroom



The children learned about and explored the world of Dr. Seuss. They made and ate Cat In The Hat parfaits, Cat In The Hat strawberry and banana snack, One Fish Two Fish snack, and even made who-pudding. They did a Cat In The Hat toss, made hats and decorated Seuss socks for the story Fox In Socks. After reading the Foot Book, they did right and left footprints. The children were all excited to wear their green for St. Patrick's Day and loved eating the special green snacks!

As much as we all like and need the rain, we are happy to see sunny days and warmer weather. Although the rainy days gave us the opportunity to have dance parties, pre-k boot camp, and indoor activities.



March was book month and we focused on four different children's series authors, Dr. Seuss, Laura Numeroff, Eric Carle, and Curious George. Teacher Dedra has spearheaded our Read-A-Thon.

Pre-K Classroom



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We went on a field trip to the Redwood Shores Library.

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Sign-ups for Parent Teacher conferences will be posted on our Shutterfly website soon. Please be sure you check up on the site to make sure you can get the time slots in which your child's teacher is available for this conference. We are making conferences mandatory for all families.



LEARNING GENIE MOBILE APP

All parents have been sent a code in which to link their child's account so that they can view what their children are doing during the day. Please download the app or create an online account so that you can view these daily activities in your child's class. If you have questions about Learning Genie, please contact Jenn by phone (650)226-3356 or by e-mail jennifer.foletta@footstepschildcare.org.

- You are responsible for adding your child manually. Please check the [Roster](#) to see if their information is there or if it is outdated.
 - Here are instructions:
 1. Sign in to puma cubs.shutterfly.com
 2. Click "[Class List & Contacts](#)"
 3. Go to "Options" on the right hand side and select "Add Students" from the drop-down menu. Include your child's information and parent contact info of your choice. In the Notes section, include your child's class (i.e. PreK, Preschool, Infant/Toddler)
- To update information previously entered:
 1. Sign in to puma cubs.shutterfly.com
 2. Click "[Class List & Contacts](#)"
 3. Click on your child's name and Edit information

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION FREE ZONE

In the best interest of the families and children in our programs, our Preschool Programs are cell phone-texting-emailing free zones. We feel it is important for the teachers to be able to connect with parents at drop-off and pick up time and for parents to be able to focus on their child. Please complete your electronic conversations before entering the classroom.

REMINDERS

- Please check your child's art folder frequently
- Please bring a share item for your child
- Please make sure to bring home any wet/soiled clothing
- Please send extra clothing for your child, making sure they are appropriate for the season
- If you would like for your child to use a specific type of sunscreen other than what we provide, please send a bottle labeled

