

GRACE NOTES

The Newsletter of
Grace Covenant Community School

End-of-Year Edition
May 2010

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End of Year Events

Our last day of Preschool will be Thursday, May 27. Our End of Year Program and Preschool Graduation will also be held on Thursday, May 27. The Program will be in the sanctuary at First Mennonite Church and will begin at 6:30 PM. A reception will follow—please bring a beverage, dessert, finger food or hors d'oeuvre to share.

Our last day of the Afterschool Program will be on Thursday, June 17.

Upcoming Events

- Coffee and Fellowship—First Mennonite Church, Tues., May 18, 9:30-10:30 AM
- Imagination Richmond—Willow Lawn, Sat., May 15, 10 am-2 pm, music, juggler, balloon art, face painting, giveaways, etc.
- Nature Works workshop—Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, Sat., May 15, 10-11:30 am, visit www.lewisginter.org for dates and times
- KidFest—Deep Run Park, Sat., May 15, 1-4 pm, FREE
- Saxon Shoes Stroller Stories with Lite 98's Bill and Shelly—Saxon Shoes, Short Pump Town Center, Sat., May 8, 9-10 am, FREE
- Family Fun and Games: Dominos—Dumbarton Library, Sat., May 8, 10 am
- Family Craft—North Park Library, Sat., May 8, 10:30 am
- Family Storytime—North Park and Twin Hickory Libraries, Sat., May 15, 10:30 am

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Summer Camp Info



Grace Covenant Community School will be offering a summer camp program this summer. The program will run for 8 weeks, from Mon., June 21 to Thurs.,

Aug. 12, 2010. The program will run from 8:30 AM to 1 PM each day and is for children ages 3-7. Each week will be filled with theme-related activities, including storytime, water activities, music and movement, sensory play, arts and crafts, sports and games. Field trips will include library visits, trips to Three Lakes Park, movies and other field trips related to our weekly theme. For more information and registration materials, please contact Linda

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The Newsletter of Grace Covenant Community School

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Help Children Bounce: Teach children to be resilient (from Richmond Quality Child Care Newsletter, April 2010)

Parents play a critical role in boosting their children's resiliency. It means not just yelling, "You can do it!" from the sidelines, but also "I will be there to support you!" Parents can teach children the skills, attitudes and beliefs needed to bounce.

Children need three things from their parents/caregivers to be resilient:

1. Caring relationships—A child who feels loved and valued is more confident and better able to cope with challenges.
2. Positive expectations—Overcoming obstacles starts with the belief that a child can and will succeed.
3. Opportunities for participation—Giving children responsibilities, choices and decision making power not only makes them feel like they belong and are valued, but also nurtures independence.

Things Parents can do every day to foster resilience:

Be connected: Actively listen to your children every day and get to know their unique gifts. Stay compassionate, teach empathy and model respect for yourself and others.

Get involved: Have your family join a club, congregation or volunteer organization. Find something fun your family can do together, but also help your children identify a hobby or skill.

Foster independence: Give children age appropriate choices and responsibilities, and let them try new things.

Get flexible: Allow children to solve problems and make mistakes. Think optimistically about challenges and face your own problems and mistakes with a sense of humor. Laughter can be one of your greatest gifts.

Items of Note

- May's Preschool tuition is now due. Please make checks payable to "Grace Covenant Community Ministries."
- We are in need of board games and art supplies. Please consider donating if you have extras.
- Our summer camp program is currently accepting applications. We will be offering Tae Kwon Do lessons in our summer program.
- Preschool registration for Fall 2010 is now open. We will be accepting registrations all month.

