



# SWEET PCEL NEWS

Vol. 17, 2008

June 2008

Newsletter of the PARENTS' CO-OPERATIVE FOR EARLY LEARNING

## Dear PCEL Families,

As you know, this year we celebrate our 35th anniversary & are hosting a neighborhood gala/fundraiser "Jazz & Laughs." The event will be held from 3-6 p.m. on June 14, 2008 at the United Church of Christ, 1448 E. 53rd St.

The purpose of the fundraiser is to rehabilitate our playground, to make it a safer place for our children to play. The event will showcase local talent, Maggie Brown. She is a former PCEL mom. We will also be tickled pink by improve comedians. And, of course, there will be fun activities for our children. This is a fun for all ages event!

Our goal is \$10,000. This is where you come in!! As a cooperative, we anticipate that you, our parents & staff, will be enthusiastically selling event & raffle tickets, and that you will attend and help out. We still need you to do:

1. You should have already received a packet containing 10 event tickets and 10 raffle tickets. If you haven't received this, let us know. Do your very best to sell all of them. If each family attends the event and brings another family and sells 10 raffle tickets, we will easily make our goal.
2. We are doing follow up for donations to our "Taste of Hyde Park." Do you have time to help finish this follow up? If so, call me!
3. We will need help with event set up, execution, and clean up.
4. Calls, calls, and calls - we are making calls to current family and alumni. Can you help?

We are nearly 50 families and I know we can make this happen. Please check in with Monica to report your

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progress. There is a lavender box next to tuition box; (1) put your already sold raffle stubs in that box and (2) put your checks for sold raffle/event tickets in the tuition box next to it.

Our Raffle prizes are GREAT and include:

- One \$300 CASH prize
- Two \$100 CASH prizes
- \$220 Gift Certificate Red Door Spa
- \$80 Gift Certificate for Pool Party
- Two \$25 Gift Certificates to Hyde Park Record Shop
- One \$25 Gift Certificate to The Produce Store
- One FREE! yoga session
- One FREE! life coaching session
- One gorgeous floral arrangement
- A gift certificate to Concept Eye Care
- A \$150 punch card to a children's indoor playroom
- Tickets to the White Sox v. Red Sox (with parking)
- Dinner for two to Café Florian
- Books from Borders
- And more is still being donated...*

Now, our job is to, like King Julian from Madagascar said, "Move it! Move it!" Let's sell those raffle tickets!!

Our solicitation team did a wonderful job - thank you, thank you!!

Curtrice W. Scott  
President, Board of Directors  
(773) 310-2965

## INTERESTED IN JOINING THE PCEL BOARD OF DIRECTORS?

We would love your help!  
Please contact Curtrice Scott  
or Monica Foster  
for more information.

## EVENTS CALENDAR

### June

6/12 - Field trip to Peggy Notebaert Museum

6/14 - Jazz and Laughs 35th Anniversary Gala/Fundraiser, UCC, 1448 E. 53rd St., 3-6 pm

6/18 - PCEL Board Meeting, 6:15 pm

TBA - Walk-a-thon

6/30 - 10-month contract ends

6/30 - Field trip to Lincoln Park Zoo

### July

7/1 - Summer contracts begin

7/4 - Independence Day - NO SCHOOL

7/8 - Swimming begins

7/16 - PCEL Board Meeting, 6:15 pm

TBA - PCEL Rummage Sale

### August

8/14 - Last day of swimming

8/20 - Board Meeting, 6:15 pm

8/22 Summer Session Ends

8/25-29 - SCHOOL CLOSED

TBA - Vision Screening

Parent Co-op reopens September 4th

*Dates are subject to change*

## THE EXPLORERS ROOM

Summer is coming and it seems that everyone is ready for a change of pace including the Explorers. Our theme for the summer will be "fun in the Sun". We will plan carefree outdoor fun and take advantage of the warm weather and long summer. Days.

Summer can hold potential hazards for your child, but by following the precautions below we can help each other have an enjoyable and safe summer.

1) Please put sunscreen on all exposed skin every day before your child comes to school. \*We do not allow sunscreen in the cubbies where friends have easy access to it.

2) If you child wears "Crocs" or any type of sandals, please put socks on their feet. \*Friends do not like wood chips in their shoes and occasionally they scrape their toes on the concrete.

3) For the heat, please have your child wear a hat. \*Some of our friends are more prone to sun burn.

Finally, the Explorers would like to welcome the Anawo (Tiwalola) Family, and the Moore (Mia) Family. Sadly, we say good-bye to Saacha (Imagination Station), Eloise (Imagination Station), Elsa (moving), Holden, Molly (moving). Have a safe summer. Happy Birthday to all in June, July and August.

Stacey and Angi

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## SWIMMING

Swimming starts in July! Please see Monica and fill out an application to participate in the swimming program. The fee is \$135.

## IMAGINATION STATION

We are looking forward to our field trip planned for June 12th to the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum. The Butterfly Room is wonderful. In honor of this trip, we decided to order a butterfly kit. It arrived last Friday. We began our observations right away. We watched the caterpillars eating, climbing, and moving about the plastic container they stay in. On Thursday, we observed the cocoons that had formed over night. We are working on two books. One is an observations book about the process - what we see - drawing and answering questions. The second book is our art work - cutting an egg, gluing it on a green leaf that we also cut out. Tracy asked the children what they would feed their caterpillars. They cut their food choices out and glued them on construction paper. The most popular choices were pizza, chicken nuggets, and French fries. The next phase began 6/6/08 as we began to observe the cocoons. Our new word is the biggest word this year: metamorphosis.

We also look forward to the field trip to the Lincoln Park Zoo at the end of the month. July brings swimming and that is always fun, scary, and a great learning experience. July also brings no new friends, and so we say good-bye to old friends. Have a great 4th of July.

The Imagination Station Team

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## Fall Registration

Thank you for returning your fall contracts. There are still a few spots available for the 2008-2009 year, so if you have any friends who are looking for a preschool for their child for next year, please let them know about us.

If you have any questions, please see Monica.

## DISCOVERY ROOM

Hello from the Discovery Room.

Warm weather is finally here! Please make sure you check your child's cubby for extra change of clothes for summer. The Discovery Room is planning for our end of the year celebration, which this year will be a cookout. You can find info about the cookout in the Discovery Room by the sign in/out sheet. We are saying good-bye to our fall kindergarteners, and to Salif and Hannah, and Aneshia and their families for they are moving out of state.

For the month of June, our themes are:

June 2-6 - Gardening  
June 9-13 - Fathers  
June 16-20 - Insects  
June 23-27 - End of the Year

We look forward to our field trips to the Peggy Notebaert Museum (June 12th) and the Lincoln Park Zoo (June 30th).

Happy Father's Day to all our Daddies. Happy Birthday to all our June Birthdays.

Swimming starts July 8th. Make sure your child comes dressed for swimming and with their names on their towels. Days for swimming are Tuesday and Thursday.

Our themes for the month of July are:

July 1-4 - Independence Day  
July 7-11 - Ocean  
July 14-18 - Fruits  
July 21-25 - Weather  
July 28-31 - Summer Sun

Happy Fourth of July to all. Happy Birthday to all our July Birthdays.

Char and Jackie