

# MARCH

## CHERRY HILL SCHOOL NEWS



Dear Cherry Hill School Families,

The upcoming months of March and April are a busy time at Cherry Hill School with fun learning activities. It is the time of year we discuss and make plans for next year! Please take time to read through your child's IEP draft goals and call or email your child's team with any questions you may have. It is important that you are an active member of your child's team; your input is extremely valuable as we plan goals for next year.

As a reminder, placements in afternoon or morning sessions are determined in July. Students do change sessions from year to year. Typically, we move our second-year students to our afternoon session in order to make room for our first-year students in the morning.

We are looking forward to our Family Night on Thursday, March 19th. Please mark your calendars for this fun event!

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us.

Emily Schissler  
Principal

Jenny Christophersen  
Asst. Principal



### MARCH CALENDAR

- 3 PTO Spring Gift Card Fundraiser Begins
- 8 Daylight Savings Time Begins ~ turn your clocks ahead one hour!
- 9 PTO Dine and Donate @ Gatto's
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 17 PTO Spring Gift Card Fundraiser ends
- 17 Board of Education Meeting  
Haven Administration Center  
@ 6:30 pm
- 19 PTO Meeting - Tyler School @ 9:30 am
- 19 Family Night - 5:45 PM - 6:45 PM
- 20 "Cops Care" Food drive ends
- 27 Teacher Institute Day - **NO SCHOOL**



## Happy Spring Break

March 30 - April 3 Spring Break - **NO SCHOOL**

Monday, April 6th ~ **School Resumes**



**NLPD "Cops Care" Food Drive  
February 24th - March 20th**

The NLPD's annual food drive will commence on February 24th and conclude on March 20th. The food pantries have asked for nonperishable, non expired foods to be donated.



**Preschool Screening  
May 8, 2020**

New Lenox School District will be screening children from ages three to five in the areas of motor, cognitive, and speech/language development. Early childhood educators will present "game like" activities to your child which assess various developmental skills. All preschoolers who reside in our district are eligible to attend free of charge. This is a preschool screening, not a kindergarten readiness screening. This year the screenings will be held at Cherry Hill Early Elementary and Early Childhood Center.

Call Cherry Hill School at 815-462-7831 to schedule an appointment.

**Family Night at Cherry Hill School  
March 19th  
5:45 pm - 6:45 pm**

Join us for family fun including: Pizza, campfire songs, crafts, family reading in the library and get down with the Special Rec Center.

Usborne books will also be available for sale in the office.



**Calling Your Student Off of School**

If your child will be absent from school, please call **815-462-7831**. Please leave your child's name, teacher, and the reason for the absence. If your child is **NOT** in school and we have not received a call, one of our secretaries will need to call you to verify his/her absence. To ensure the safety of our students, if we cannot make contact with the parent/guardian, we will call the New Lenox Police Department, and they will make a well-being check to your home.

**PARKING LOT SAFETY**

- Please use safety precautions when driving in our parking lots. Always hold your child's hand
- walking through the parking lot. Please walk holding your child's hand on the grass side of the sidewalk when dropping off and picking up.
- Walk your child to the car rider door - do not let your child walk alone down the sidewalk to the drop off door. Thank you for your help keeping our children safe.

Office Hours:  
7:30 am to 4:00 pm

Office Phone:  
815-462-7831

Nurse Phone:  
815-462-7804

843 Transportation  
815-485-7611

Hopewell Transportation  
815-463-9092



### News from the Nurse

As we approach the end of the school year, we are planning for some of our precious preschool friends to move on to kindergarten. When you receive your registration packet for kindergarten, you will find forms for the exams that your child needs for kindergarten. I would encourage you to get started on the exams as they can sometimes be overwhelming for your child. Here is what your child will need by the first day of kindergarten:

1. A physical exam with updated immunizations is required. Any physical dated after September 2019 will meet the requirements. If your child has had an exam since then, please ask your pediatrician to complete the required form.
2. A vision exam is required. This exam must be completed by an eye doctor. Any vision exam performed after September 2019 will meet the requirement.
3. A dental exam is required. This exam must be completed by a dentist. Any dental exam performed after November 2019 will meet the requirement.

The forms can be submitted to me if you have them completed before school is out. If you do them over the summer, please turn them in at Spencer Trail School. Please note that if your child is attending preschool again next year, they do not need any new medical forms.

Thank you,  
Eileen Moss, DPN, RN, PEL-CSN  
Cherry Hill School Nurse



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As a reminder, New Lenox School District 122 has adopted E-Learning Days in lieu of closing school due to inclement weather. If you would like your child to have a paper packet, please let your child's teacher know.

Please note, if we have an E-Learning day, our teachers will be available throughout the day via email to assist students. If any student has difficulties with the assignments, then the teacher will help the student upon his/her return to school. This unique opportunity is new to our District and will be evaluated on an on-going basis.

More information can be found on our website at:

<http://www2.nlsd122.org/c/index.php/parents-and-students/e-learning/>.

### Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) Testing

The new Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) test will be administered online. Students will be tested in grades 3-8 from March 19 - March 26.



# March PTO Corner

To all who...

*Thank You*

- Dined and enjoyed the wonderful food at Tom Kelly's during our February 10th Dine & Donate
- Skated, ate pizza and played games on February 14th at our Family Skate Event at Family Fun Zone
- Joined us at our February 20th Meeting at Spencer Pointe School
- Bounced, climbed and had fun at Urban Air on February 26th



Feeling like Italian for lunch? Or maybe for dinner? Join us for some wonderful eats at Gatto's Restaurant on Monday, March 9th. Please mention that your purchases will benefit the PTO!



## Spring Gift Card Sale

Begins: Tuesday, March 3rd

Ends: Tuesday, March 17th

Delivery/Pick-up: Wednesday, April 8th

Plan for Easter, Mother's Day and end of the school year gifts!!



## Family Bowling Event

Where: Laraway Lanes

When: Saturday, March 21st, 3-5 pm

Who: You, your family and friends

How: Look for registration forms that will be sent home in early March



See you there!



Make that special person in your life a hand painted tea light holder. Join us March 6th - 14th for our annual Pots & Paints events at the elementary school closest to you!



Nothing Bundt Cakes is partnering with PTO to offer our families two opportunities to order their Cakes, Bundtlets, and Bundtinis for your upcoming special occasions or just for an everyday treat. Schedule your store pick up date at your convenience any day after April 6th. Forms will be sent home February 28th and are due March 23rd. An additional sale will occur in April, so plan ahead for your Mother's Day, Graduation, and summer events.

## March Highlights...

- ◆ Spring Gift Card Sale, March 3 - 17, delivery/pick-up Wednesday, April 8
- ◆ Dine & Donate at Gatto's, Monday, March 9th
- ◆ Pots & Paints, March 4 (SP), March 5 (T), March 12 (H), March 18 (NP)
- ◆ Nothing Bundt Cakes, February 28 - March 23, pick-up on your scheduled date after April 6th
- ◆ PTO Meeting: Thursday March 19th, 9:30 am, Tyler School
- ◆ PTO Family Bowling Event, Saturday, March 21st, 3:00 - 5:00 pm, Laraway Lanes



## Upcoming Events...

- ◆ Dine & Donate at Chicago Dough, Monday, April 6th
- ◆ PTO Gift Card Pick-up, Wednesday, March 9th, 10:00 - 11:30 and 4:00 - 6:00, Martino Jr. High
- ◆ PTO Meeting: Thursday, April 16th, 9:30 am, Liberty Jr. High
- ◆ Nothing Bundt Cakes, April 1 - April 20, pick-up on your scheduled date after May 4th
- ◆ Staff Appreciation Luncheon, Wednesday, May 6th - look for an email with a Signup Genius
- ◆ Flower Sale Pick Up, Wednesday, May 6th, 3:00 - 6:00 pm, Martino Jr. High

## Contact Us and Follow Us

nlsd122pto@gmail.com / www.newlenoxpto.org / www.facebook.com/NLSO122PTO / www.instagram.com/nlsd122pto

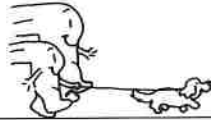
# Early Years

WORKING TOGETHER FOR A GREAT START

March 2020

Cherry Hill Early Childhood Center  
Mrs. Emily Schissler, Principal

## KID BITS



### Getting organized

Let your child help you set up a filing system for his paperwork. He can pick a different color folder for each type, such as green for school progress reports and yellow for notes from his checkups. He'll learn about organization, and you'll be less apt to misplace anything.

### Manners on display

When you see your youngster doing something polite, take a picture of her. Maybe you notice her putting her napkin in her lap before she eats a snack or writing a thank-you note to her aunt for a gift. Show her the photo so she sees what her good manners look like.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Eating a healthy breakfast boosts your child's concentration in school and keeps him satisfied until lunch. Look for shortcuts to make busy school mornings easier, like hard-boiling eggs and cutting up fruit the night before. On weekends, make double batches of whole-grain pancakes or muffins to reheat during the week.

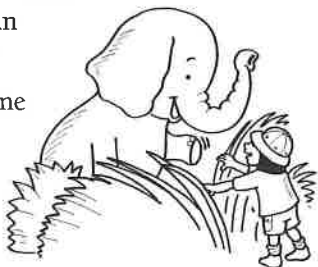
### Worth quoting

"There is nothing in a caterpillar that tells you it's going to be a butterfly."  
R. Buckminster Fuller

### Just for fun

**Q:** Where would you find an elephant?

**A:** The same place you lost her!



## A smart approach to screen time

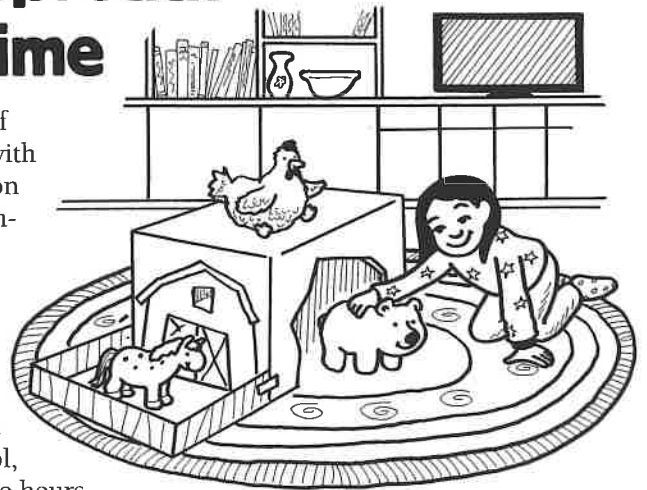
Your child needs plenty of time to play and to interact with people—and that's one reason that experts recommend limiting her screen time to no more than an hour a day. Here are strategies to use.

### Set rules

Designate times when electronics are off-limits, like in the morning before school, during meals, and at least two hours before bedtime. Put your youngster in charge of powering down devices—she'll feel important and be more likely to cooperate. Also, consider keeping electronics out of her bedroom so she's supervised when she does have screen time.

### Make a travel kit

It can be tempting to let your child entertain herself with electronics when you're on the go. Instead, help her make a special screen-free kit to keep in the car. You could include paper and crayons, a book of mazes, toy cars, and



Legos. Add a small tray she can use as a surface for drawing and playing.

### Encourage creative play

Your youngster may turn to electronics if she doesn't know what else to do. Together, come up with a list of interesting unplugged activities. *Examples:* Invent a board game by combining pieces from existing games. Create an obstacle course with outdoor toys (hula-hoop, wagon). Design habitats for stuffed animals. ♥

## Ready to spell

When your youngster begins writing his name or adding letters and words to drawings, he's discovering that letters go in a specific order to make words. Encourage his spelling efforts with these tips:

- Let your child help you spell. While making a grocery list, you might say, "What letter does *milk* start with?" Say each letter as you write it, then say each word as you finish it. ("M-i-l-k. Milk.")
- After your youngster draws a picture, suggest that he write about it. Help him think about which letters to write: "I like your dragon. Can you write any letters in the word *dragon*?" Whether he spells it correctly or not, he can read his writing to you. ♥



# Colorful science

“Red and blue make purple!”

With these activities, your child can make scientific observations and predictions while he investigates the science of colors.

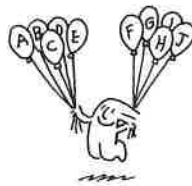
**1. Dye water.** Have your youngster line up three glasses and measure 1 cup water into each. Then, he should add 10 drops of a different-color food dye (red, yellow, and blue) to each.



**2. Watch colors mix.** Tell your child that red, yellow, and blue are primary colors—they mix together in different ways to make all the other colors! To see this with his own eyes, he can roll up a paper towel and put one end into the red water and the other end into the yellow. The towel soaks up the colors and turns orange where they meet. Red and yellow make orange! What does he predict will happen when he connects yellow and blue

water? Let him try it and find out (they'll create green). Finally, he could rearrange the cups and connect red and blue. It's purple!♥

## PARENT TO PARENT



### Teaching acceptance

At the store last week, my daughter Faye noticed a family using sign language. In the car, she asked me what they were doing with their hands. I explained that some people who can't hear use sign language to communicate.

On our next trip to the library, Faye wanted to check out a book about sign language. We also found a story about a little girl who was learning to sign. Although the character communicated in

a different way than we do, my daughter noticed that she had a lot in common with her. They both have pet dogs and big brothers, for example.

Now when Faye is curious about the way someone looks or acts, we try to find a book that will help her understand. She is discovering that you can be different from someone but also the same.♥



### Q & A

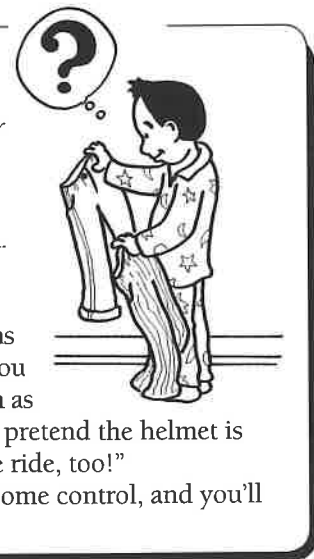
#### Tame power struggles

**Q:** I often find myself negotiating with my preschooler about whether he'll wear shorts when it's cold out or take a bath before bed. How can I break this cycle?

**A:** Children enjoy knowing their opinions are important. Your son is probably looking for choices that let him have a say.

Consider giving him options, like whether to wear jeans or corduroys or which bath toys he'd like to play with. You might get creative if the situation is non-negotiable, such as wearing a helmet when he rides his bike. For example, pretend the helmet is talking—you could make it say, “I want to go for a bike ride, too!”

Having his way will make your son feel like he has some control, and you'll avoid a power struggle.♥



### ACTIVITY CORNER

#### Workouts for little hands

Play time is prime time for building the hand strength and coordination your youngster needs for drawing, buttoning, and zipping. Try these ideas.

##### Tweezers

Have your child duct-tape an empty cardboard tube vertically to the refrigerator at her eye level. Put a bowl underneath. Now she can use tweezers to pick up small objects (cotton balls, dry beans), drop them into the tube, and watch them fall out into the bowl.

##### Hole-punch

Get construction paper or index cards in a variety of colors. Let your youngster punch holes all over several sheets or cards. She can save the tiny circles and glue them on paper to make a mosaic.

##### Toothpicks

Find a container with small holes in the lid, such as a cheese shaker or a spice jar.

Encourage your child to drop toothpicks into the holes. She could dump them out and play again.♥



**OUR PURPOSE**

To provide busy parents with practical ways to promote school readiness, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

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# Some Suggestions for How to Help Make This Asset Happen

In a religious, service, or other public organization

## t home

- Express confidence in your children's abilities.
- Help your children understand the difference between what we can and can't control.
- Encourage kids to find solutions when problems arise.
- Involve children of all ages in family decision making.
- Give kids age-appropriate choices at all stages of their lives.
- Help family members form healthy lifestyle habits.
- Work to build social competencies in your child.
- Encourage your children to serve others.
- Teach your children life skills.

## At school

- Talk with students about times when they felt powerless and times when they felt powerful.
- Whenever possible, give students choices.
- Reinforce the message of "the power of **one**" to make a difference.
- Emphasize each student's ability to control his or her own behavior.
- Provide a suggestion box for your classroom or school.
- Actively involve students in decision making within the school.
- Help teachers find ways to maintain order in the classroom without over-controlling their students.

## In the community

- Recognize and affirm young people who demonstrate good judgment.
- Model personal power by voting, speaking out about issues that matter to you, and being a **problem solver**.
- Include problem-solving skills in job training for teen workers.
- Involve youth in addressing youth issues and policies in the community.
- Train adults who work with youth to affirm their abilities and give them choices whenever possible.

•Make children and teens a vital, contributing part of your group by involving them in planning and decision making.

•Give youth a say in planning activities for the youth program.

•Within your group, explore healthy ways to handle stress.

•Provide young people with many options for involvement.

•Provide youth with **opportunities to serve** others.

## March Asset: Personal Power (Responsible Decision Making)

Young person feels he or she has control over "what happens to me."

March quote of the month

*"It takes both sides to build a bridge."*

Frederik Noel