



# Newsletter

## March

### 2011



#### Working Together

This past Friday was a very busy day at Fairville: parent-teacher conferences were taking place, children were being cared for by assistant teachers downstairs in the gross motor room, the Book Fair was in full swing in the Meeting room, and a play-yard play date was scheduled for later in the afternoon. As I anticipated the day, I admit that I was feeling a bit tense. Managing all of these pieces without a strong team of supporters would have been difficult. However, I need not have worried. With a true spirit of cooperation, and plenty of smiles on their faces, Fairville teachers, parents and Board members all stepped in to help in a variety of capacities. Teachers worked extra hours to finish their conferences in one day. Parents and Board members signed up for hour-long shifts at the Book Fair. Assistant teachers kept children happy with a variety of toys, games and art activities. Jeannine provided us with tasty treats and drinks throughout the day. Mary's daughter, Heather, substituted in the office so I could be free to provide support wherever it was needed. The parent coordinators supervised and cleaned up after

the play-yard play date. All in all, by working together, we were able to manage the day very well—a testimony to the strength and commitment of the members of our school community.

It is wonderful when we have opportunities to show our young students how what one of us cannot accomplish alone can readily be accomplished by all of us working together. Fairville is a wonderful school community, one with a plethora of strengths. I am proud to be working in a school like ours, and with each and every one of you. Thank you for the many ways in which you support the school and its mission. It truly does "take a village" and I am well aware of just how much and how often I depend on your support.

With sincere appreciation,  
Sharon

*"We are not put on this earth to see through one another, but to see one another through."  
(source unknown)*

## The Power of their Words

Just the other week, the Fireflies turned a cardboard box into a rocketship. It was one of those giant boxes that are white on one side and brown on the other. The students filled the white side with marks from crayons, marker pens, and paint. They took their rocketship on countless journeys to the moon and beyond. A week went by and a little girl I hadn't seen in a couple of days told me she had been to Florida and had seen a real rocketship take off. I asked her if it looked like the one they had made in class. After a long and thoughtful pause she replied, "Yeah, 'cept it wasn't all colored in."

Her remark really got me thinking. I never before realized that someone had forgotten to color in all the rocketships. Maybe it's because I had never made my own rocketship that I didn't realize what rocketships were missing. It's times like this that I live for—times when a child's boundless imagination and creativity cause me to see the world in a new and different way. And these are daily occurrences at Fairville because art and creative practice are infused into every aspect of learning. I love to see the Grasshoppers with all their instruments in hand, marching lightly down the hall, as quiet as can be. Who would have thought that a silent parade could sound so beautiful?

The students at Fairville are truly inspiring. I've learned so much and have been so influenced by the wonderful teachers that I've decided to apply to graduate school to get a masters of arts in teaching. I've been accepted to a school in Boston and one in New York and I will start my program next fall. I am so excited. Unfortunately, this means I will not be returning to Fairville next year. But I would like you all to know how fortunate I feel to have experienced the magical place that is Fairville and that this experience and each one of you have helped to change the course of the rest of my life. I thank you all for that.

Alder Suttles

### Join us for Camp Aka Maka Ages 3 through 7

This year we are offering camp for 8 weeks of the summer, from June 6th to July 29th. Camp runs from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm each weekday. Campers can register for either 3 (TWR) or 5 (M-F) days per week for a cost of \$100 (TWR) or \$150 (M-F) per week. 20% sibling discounts are available.

Tell your friends and neighbors--camp is open to the public and space is still available.

## ANNUAL GIVING

Like all independent schools, we depend on donors to bridge the gap between the tuition we charge and the actual cost of operating the school. Our ability to secure grants to support the school is also tied directly to the percentage of participation we receive from the members of our community. Every gift, large and small, is important to us.

Thanks again to everyone who has already given. If you haven't given yet, there is still time to donate.

Donate online:

<http://www.fairvillefriends.org/support/>

Or, drop off a check at the office.

Thank you!

## Wish List Items

Magna-tiles building toys

Classroom CD Players

Upright Carpet Steamer

## Events Calendar

Friday, April 1	Financial agreements/deposits for 2011-12 due
Thursday, April 7	Soccer Shots Demonstrations 9:30-10:15
Friday, April 8	Soccer Shots Demonstrations 9:30-10:15
Thursday, April 14th	Green Up Day (Rain Date April 15)
Monday, April 18 - Monday, April 25	School Closed for Spring Break
Tuesday, April 26	Welcome Back!

### Thank You...

...To everyone who volunteered at the Book Fair, purchased books for their children at the Book Fair, or donated a book to Fairville.

...To all of the expert bakers out there who help to keep the teachers and staff supplied with sweet treats.

...To all of the volunteers working on Fun Fair preparations. You are doing a fabulous job organizing this big event!

...To everyone who kept sick children home this month.

...To everyone who supported the school in any way not mentioned above!

Dear Fairville Families,

I have had so much fun with your children so far this school year. I can't get enough of their treats and visits! I don't want to be lonely this summer, so I am looking for a few loving families interested in stopping by to make sure that I have fresh food and water. I'm very happy to stay at the school but would really love to have someone see that I'm fully stocked with all my bunny essentials. Please call the office at 610-388-01268 if you're interested.

I'm also looking for an indoor bunny cage so I can spend the hottest summer days inside where it's cool. If you have a cage that you think might work, please email Maia Tolsdorf at [maiat23@gmail.com](mailto:maiat23@gmail.com). She knows just what I will need to stay comfortable!

Thanks and Love,

Oscar

### Soccer Shots Demonstrations

Doug Schneider and his assistants will be at Fairville on Thursday and Friday, April 8th and 9th, beginning at 9:30 am for a short demonstration of the Soccer Shots program. All children except the Ladybugs will participate. Soccer Shots will be offered on Thursdays from 11:30 to 12:30 during all 8 weeks of our summer camp.

There is an additional fee to sign up for Soccer Shots. You may sign up even if you are not a camper. You are welcome to watch the demonstrations on either day.





## In the Classrooms.....

Vicki's Ladybugs spent most of this month "down on the farm". They played with barns and farm animals, learned farm songs and read several different farm animal stories. My favorite activity was when the Ladybugs read The Little Red Hen and made homemade rolls. They shared them with the teachers—delicious!

Amy's Ladybugs were busy this month studying trains, trucks, cars and things that move! They learned all kinds of transportation songs and had loads of fun using vehicles to paint tracks! They also learned about stars in the night sky and read some space stories to prepare for their visit to the StarLab.



The Bumblebees are our school experts on signs of spring. They have read books about spring and made models of two of the critters we find in our play yards: ladybugs and caterpillars! They made creative pompom bugs, too. The Bumblebees also celebrated Dr. Seuss this month by reading a selection of the children's favorite books by the famous author.



The Fireflies continued their study of transportation this month, learning about trucks, trains, and buses. Then they took to the air, reading about and constructing rockets and planes, and experimenting with balloons and kites. It has been fun watching them "blast off" in their classroom rocketship on many pretend adventures. The Fireflies spent time reading and talking about outer space and the night sky in preparation for StarLab. They enjoyed viewing the constellations inside the portable planetarium.



The Grasshoppers became Three Little Pig experts this month. They read every version of the story they could find, acted out the story outside on the playground and in their classroom, and then put their heads together to write their own book (Tu/Th class) and own play (MWF class). Watching the play was a special treat. It was so nice to see some of the quieter children speak loudly and clearly in front of an audience. The wolf, coyote and crocodile were also quite impressive!



The Butterflies began the month by focusing on the alphabet, especially letter identification and sound/symbol relationships. They read several alphabet books, played letter/sound games and made their own "ABC" book. They spent time reading about and studying the planets and the night sky as they prepared for their visit to the StarLab. The Butterflies then moved on to studying various forms of transportation: trains, cars, buses, boats, etc. In the housekeeping area the Butterflies set up a great shoe store (walking is a mode of transportation) and spent time trying on shoes and measuring their feet with a real Brannock device. The Butterfly class has been enjoying listening to chapter books. This month they will have the pleasure of hearing The Mouse and the Motorcycle—one of my favorites!