



*“To the world you are mother but to us you are the world.” Unknown*

Dear Tiny Thinkers Families,

We hope this newsletter finds you well. As we move closer to the end of the school year, we have planned a range of fun and educational activities for our preschoolers in the month of May.

In the month of May, we have the opportunity to appreciate and honor the dedication, enthusiasm, and special connection that teachers and mothers have with children. A heartfelt thank you, a drawing, or a hug can go a long way in inspiring and motivating them. Also please don't forget to take the time to thank the teachers and mothers for all they do and give them a simple gesture of appreciation to show them how valued they are.

We've made a couple of changes to our menu for the lunch program, not big changes but enough to suggest looking it over again. It's the same amazing meals that the children love just moved around in the week to better adjust to our deliveries and make it easier for our kitchen staff.

Here are some of the exciting things we have planned:

**Upcoming Events:**

- 1) **Mother's Day celebration:** We will be celebrating Mother's Day on May 10th. Our preschoolers will be creating special cards and small gifts for their moms. Tune into our live performance via Facebook and Instagram at 10:00 am May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
- 2) **Cinco de Mayo celebration:** For our annual Cinco de Mayo celebration, we will have a potluck sign up, and we encourage children to dress up and celebrate with us in true Mexican style!
- 3) **Memorial Day:** On May 27th, our school will be closed due to Memorial Day. The week prior we will be teaching our preschoolers about Memorial Day and what it means to honor and remember those who have served our country.

We encourage parents and guardians to get involved and ask their children about what they have been learning in preschool. As always, please feel free to reach out to us if you have any questions or concerns.

**Reminders:**

- The weather is changing and is getting hotter every day. Please make sure to send your children with weather appropriate clothes. Please keep in mind how strong the sun rays can be, we suggest bringing in a sunscreen for your child for the upcoming hot and sunny days.
- Please make sure that your child has an appropriate water bottle/cup for them to be able to stay hydrated.
- Sunscreen is recommended, if you wish to provide sunscreen make sure to fill out the sunscreen form, without that form we will not be able to administer sunscreen.
- Please keep an eye out for Summer Program 2024 sign ups. Openings begin in Mid- May.

- For Teacher Appreciation Week, we will have a week full of fun, where children can show how much appreciation they have towards their teachers where there will be a different way to show appreciation each day of the week.
- Reminder school will be closed on May 27th Memorial Day.
- Please, no open-toe shoes are allowed at school and please make sure that your children's shoes are well fitted and are not too tight or loose for safety issues.
- Please make sure that your child's nails are clipped before arriving at school.
- Please make sure to sign in and out your child in the correct spot.
- Pre-K parents, we highly encourage you to notify administration of your child's last day of school after graduation.
- Kind reminder: Please ensure that any snacks you send with your child do not contain peanuts, as we are a nut-free zone school.

### Resources:

All behavior is a form of communication—especially for children. Adults recognize some of these communications right away—like a smile showing a child's happiness or a frown that shows disappointment. But some behaviors can be more difficult to figure out.

Young children do not yet have the words or communication skills to clearly tell us what they need and want or how they feel. They let adults know their wants and needs through their behavior. Sometimes, behavior that adults would think is disruptive is often a "clue" to help us understand what children are trying to communicate.

You may feel unsure how to respond to your child's challenging or unpredictable behaviors. Often, just when you feel you have finally figured out how to manage your child's behavior, something changes, and it gets challenging again. Here are some examples of challenging behavior:

- Toddlers sometimes hit, bite, fall to the floor, cry, kick, or yell "no."
- Some preschoolers argue or fight over toys, refuse to take turns, struggle to follow directions, whine, or yell.
- Many young children may also have moments of overly energetic play, move quickly from activity to activity, or withdraw and not want to participate in activities.

Many behaviors like the ones listed above result from a child not knowing how to recognize or manage their feelings or how to express themselves and their needs. Most of the time, these behaviors are developmentally appropriate, typical, and normal—and they can be managed with the help of their caregivers.

Understanding why these behaviors happen will help you meet your child's needs and help them learn more appropriate ways to express their feelings. Here are some resources and tips that can help.

## Resources to Promote Positive Behavior

Use the following tools and resources to help build a positive relationship with your child and understand and respond to common parenting challenges. Though information can be a useful guide, remember that your child's path is unique, and your journey will be unique as well.

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC's) "Essentials for Parenting" may help you handle common parenting challenges. It has fun videos and tips for specific parenting skills.
- Learn how to teach social-emotional skills at home with this resource from the National Center for Pyramid Model Innovations.
- Zero to Three's "Positive Parenting" resource web page provides tips and tools you can use to help provide positive support to your child.
- Explore the National Center on Child Health and Wellness resource *Nurture Them, Nurture Yourself* for tips and tools to help you respond positively to your child's behavior.
- The Head Start Center for Inclusion offers useful tips to promote positive behavior during common family activities and routines that can sometimes be challenging.
- The American Academy of Pediatrics' (AAP's) Parenting Website provides helpful tips for managing challenging behavior for all ages of children—from infants to teens.
- Tantrums are a normal part of a child's development. This resource from AAP provides tips to help you manage frequent tantrums. Learn more about how to respond to temper tantrums and ways to prevent them in the Mayo Clinic's resource "Temper Tantrums in Toddlers: How to Keep the Peace."
- Listening to a crying child can be very frustrating. AAP provides helpful tips you can use to respond to your crying baby and prevent shaken baby syndrome.

## Partnering with Your Childcare Provider

Your childcare provider can be a source of support when you are finding your child's behavior challenging. A trusted provider can work with you to handle challenging behaviors in constructive ways. You are more likely to be successful if you and your childcare provider are using the same strategies to address challenging behavior. When you have a strong relationship with your childcare provider, it's easier to discuss challenging and unwanted behaviors as they happen.

Here are some tips for partnering with your childcare provider:

- Talk with your provider about changes in your child's behavior and any concerns you have.
- Offer your opinion and ask questions.
- Find out the behaviors your provider is seeing when you are not there.
- Try to identify the cause of the behavior together.
- Work together to create a plan to address the behavior with consistent strategies.

Please make a note! The school is unable to allow make-up or substitute days for times that a child is absent. There will be NO refund given for days not attended. We DO NOT pro-rate tuition for vacation, sickness, holidays, or school closures. Have any questions or concerns, please email or call.

### North Hills

Email: [info.nh@tinythinkers.com](mailto:info.nh@tinythinkers.com)

Telephone: 818-892-2655

### Canoga Park

Email: [info.cp@tinythinkers.com](mailto:info.cp@tinythinkers.com)

Telephone: 818-346-3035



## Teachers Corner

**This month our focus topic will be:**

Theme: Insects, bugs, butterflies

Letter: Yy and Zz

Book: *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, By: Eric Carl's

Number: 19 and 20

Color: Green, Yellow, Orange

Shape: Octagon and Circle

Science: Stacking electricity butterfly experiment and Ice Cream Volcano

Sign Language: Letters and numbers of the week

Vocabulary: Mom, love, insects, bugs, butterfly, antennas, wings, leg

Spanish Vocabulario: Mamá, amor, insectos, gusanos, mariposas, antenas, ojos, patas

Canción en Español: Los insectos

Songs: Insect songs for children

Character of Education: Leadership and Happy

Outdoor Painting: Waterfall using droppers

Cooking activity: Snail and Caterpillar in a log and Ice Cream



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO EVERYONE**

**BORN IN THIS MONTH OF MAY**



*On your birthday, we wish the best things for you. May you breeze through life with smiles and giggles. May people always see your greatness. May all your dreams come true.*



**Fri. 5/3/2024 – Cinco de Mayo Potluck**

**Mon. 5/6/2024 – Fri. 5/10/2024 – Teacher Appreciation Week**

**Fri. 5/10/2024 – Mother's Day Program**

**Mon. 5/27/2024 – Memorial Day School Closed**

**Fri. 6/7/2024 – Pre-K Graduation**

**HAPPY  
TEACHER  
APPRECIATION  
WEEK**



**Happy  
Memorial Day**  
*Remembering the people who died while serving*



## Parent's/Guardian's Permission To Apply Sunscreen To Child

(Name of Child) \_\_\_\_\_

As the parent or guardian of the above child, I recognize that too much sunlight may increase my child's risk of getting skin cancer someday.

Therefore, I give my permission for personnel at **Tiny Thinkers Preschool** To use following sunscreen brand \_\_\_\_\_



Parent/Guardian full name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Note: Please label your child's sunscreen.**