



April 24, 2015

## PANDA BEAR NEWS



### Important Dates

**WUNS Play Date and Bike Helmet Check**  
Wednesday, 4/29/15; 3:15 – 5:00

**Moms, Grandmas, Special Friends Day**  
Friday, 5/8/15 (More details soon)

**School Picnic**  
Tuesday, 5/12/15; 5:30 pm  
Shaw Park—North Shelter

Dear Parents,

We enjoyed meeting you for Parent/Teacher conferences last week and sharing our insights about your child's progress this year. Your Panda Bear is at an age of incredible growth and change, and we have delighted in being a part of their development since September.

In the last few weeks, Panda Bears have explored several springtime topics, such as eggs, baseball and vegetables. For our egg week, we decorated hard-boiled eggs with fun faces and then ate them for snack. (Amazing to us, most of the children LOVE hard-boiled eggs and persevered as they tried to unpeel them.)

The following week, we dug into vegetables, learning which grew above and which grew below ground, thanks to a clever book, Up, Down And Around. Perhaps your child talked about carrots, tomatoes and broccoli? (Or not.) We even enjoyed Panda Bear-mashed potatoes one day.



Baseball—a sure sign of spring—was the theme last week. The weather cooperated, and many Panda Bears practiced their swing, or tried a few at-bats for the first time. As pitchers, we teachers learned that even wiffle balls can sting!

With our classroom caterpillars now in their chrysalis stage, we decided to learn more about butterflies this week. We talked about the life cycle of a butterfly, what they like to eat, and how they sip nectar from flowers. The children also created caterpillars and butterflies from materials including coffee filters and egg cartons.

Several books captured the children's interest this week, including I'm a Caterpillar, A Butterfly is Patient, Waiting for Wings, and Butterfly House. We look forward to the little miracles of nature breaking free of their chrysalises next week. We will then set them free in our playground area to start the cycle over again.

Panda Bears who chose to help Miss Marsha plant flowers this week had the chance to meet a few worms in the process. We noticed that children are REALLY eager to water the plants, transporting buckets from the water trough. Digging in the hard ground? Not so much. ☺

Until next time,

Colleen & Marsha

