



June 2010

Fraser School[®] News

A Newsletter for Parents of Fraser School Students

Director's Corner

Thank you to those families who took the time to attend parent/teacher conferences. We had great response! Communication between you and your child's teachers is so important throughout your child's education. It is great to get that pattern established early so that your child builds that expectation. It also ensures consistency between the two environments which is so vital to a young child.

Speaking of your child's future education, did you know that all children attending kindergarten must have a preschool screening? Each school district schedules their own preschool screenings. You can call your local district to schedule this appointment as early as 3 1/2 years of age. During this appointment, your child's vision and hearing will be evaluated, as well as, screening to make sure your child is developing within the typical range. If there are no questions or concerns, your district will have your child's information for kindergarten. If there are any questions or concerns after this initial screening, a more comprehensive evaluation may be recommended.

In addition, there is a state-wide initiative if you have concerns or questions about your child's development and you're not yet ready to schedule a preschool screening. The program is called "Help Me Grow". Children are eligible from birth until 5 years of age. If your child qualifies for these services, they are free to your family regardless of income or immigration status.

You can find more information regarding the Help Me Grow program at www.MNParentsKnow.info or you can call 1-866-693-GROW. There is also a poster on the parent communication bulletin board (by the school's side door) and I have brochures in my office. If you would like a brochure, either stop by my office or you can email me and I will put one into your child's mailbox.

Thanks for sharing your children with us,

Deedee Stevens-Neal
deedees@fraser.org
612-798-8319



Schedule Notes

June 8 & 9 Fraser Art Fair

**June 10 & 11 Closed
Staff Development Days**

**July 5 Closed
Independence Day holiday**

The Fraser School calendar can be found at www.fraser.org/calendar

Learn Talk Play is Enrolling for Fall

We are nearing a successful and exciting end of our first Learn Talk Play school year! Families have shared that their children are playing appropriately with toys, cooperating with other children, communicating more effectively, and remaining calm in new and different settings. If these are areas of concern for your child then s/he could benefit from participating in the Learn Talk Play program.

What is Learn Talk Play?

The Fraser Learn Talk Play Program is an innovative small-group program for children who need help learning to interact with other children, communicate more effectively, and remain calm in new and different settings. The program team includes a teacher, a speech-language pathologist, and an occupational therapist.

Who will benefit from participating in Learn Talk Play?

Program activities are designed for children ages 4-6. Children nearing their 4th birthday will also be considered based on their skill levels. Learn Talk Play is best for children who can speak in sentences, can participate in an adult-directed activity for at least 5 minutes, and can tolerate playing near other children.

What will my child learn?

Children will learn how to use language for a variety of social communication purposes, to play and cooperate with other children, to play appropriately with toys, to participate in sensory and fine-motor activities, to remain calm across activities, and to express emotions appropriately. If your child needs help in developing these skills, Learn Talk Play can help.

Will my child receive speech-language AND occupational therapy?

Yes. All of the children in Learn Talk Play must qualify for both speech-language and occupational therapy, and will receive individual speech-language and occupational therapy within this small group. Your child's treatment objectives will be integrated into program activities. Therapy is billed to your family's insurance.

Where/When does Learn Talk Play meet?

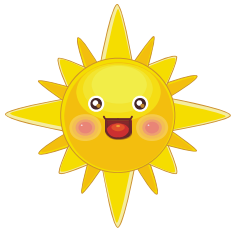
The group meets Monday, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 1:00-3:30 p.m. The program is located at Fraser School in Richfield. Additional child care hours can be scheduled in an inclusive classroom at Fraser School before or after this group for more comprehensive programming.

What does Learn Talk Play cost?

Learn Talk Play is the same hourly rate of a Fraser School classroom, \$45 per week. Families are also responsible for the cost of speech and occupational therapy as determined by your medical insurance. This could include co-pays, deductibles, and any out of pocket expenses.

How do I find out more information about Learn, Talk, Play?

Andrea Nelson, Speech-Language Pathologist, (612) 798-8330 or andrea@fraser.org
Becky Hall, Occupational Therapist, at (612) 798-8341 or beckyh@fraser.org



The following is an excerpt from the website “Healthy Children” sponsored by the American Academy of Pediatrics (<http://www.healthychildren.org>).

Sunscreen

How to pick sunscreen

- Use a sunscreen that says “broad spectrum” on the label—that means it will screen out both UVB and UVA rays.
- Use a sunscreen with an SPF (sun protection factor) of at least 15. The higher the SPF, the more UVB protection the sunscreen has.
- Look for the new UVA “star” rating system on the label.
 - One star is low UVA protection.
 - Two stars is medium protection.
 - Three stars is high protection.
 - Four stars is the highest UVA protection available in an over-the-counter sunscreen product.
- For sensitive areas of the body, such as the nose, cheeks, tops of the ears, and the shoulders, choose a sunscreen or sunblock with zinc oxide or titanium dioxide. While these products usually stay visible on the skin even after you rub them in, some now come in fun colors that kids enjoy.

Sunscreen for babies

For babies younger than 6 months. Use sunscreen on small areas of the body, such as face and the backs of hands, if protective clothing and shade are not available.

For babies older than 6 months. Apply to all areas of the body, but be careful around the eyes. If your baby rubs sunscreen into her eyes, wipe the eyes and hands clean with a damp cloth. If the sunscreen irritates her skin, try a different brand or try a sunscreen stick or sunscreen or sunblock with titanium dioxide or zinc oxide. If a rash develops, talk with your child’s doctor.

How to apply sunscreen

- Use enough sunscreen to cover all exposed areas, especially the face, nose, ears, feet, and hands and even the backs of the knees. Rub it in well.
- Put sunscreen on 30 minutes before going outdoors. It needs time to absorb into the skin.
- Use sunscreen any time you or your child might sunburn. Remember that you can get sunburn even on cloudy days. Also, UV rays can bounce back from water, sand, snow, and concrete so make sure you’re protected.
- Reapply sunscreen every 2 hours. Sunscreen wears off after swimming, sweating, or just from soaking into the skin.

*Fraser is here for you and your family for the long-term. As your needs change, Fraser has many services that may be helpful. Please visit our website www.fraser.org and select **Our Services** for more information.*



Bright Gardens for Fraser®

Enjoy the award-winning beauty of eight Twin Cities private gardens. Proceeds benefit Fraser, a nationally renowned Minnesota nonprofit serving children and adults with special needs.

- Gardens located in Minneapolis, St. Louis Park and Golden Valley;
- Select gardens will display the work of local artists where you can appreciate watercolor, sculpture and other media in a beautiful garden setting.
- Hennepin County master gardeners will be at each garden to answer questions.



Order at

www.fraser.org/calendar

or call

612-798-8343.

Tickets: \$20 per person; \$30 includes box lunch

Presented in partnership with:



ARTS & FLOWERS
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Saturday, July 17, 2010

9 a.m. — 4 p.m.

