



*Preschool Newsletter*  
*October 5, 2006*



Last Thursday, the children got a close up look at several of the stages of the life cycle of the monarch butterfly. In the picture above (from bottom right to top left) you can see the empty chrysalis, a developing chrysalis, an adult butterfly, and a monarch caterpillar. At the end of the morning, the butterfly was released to begin the journey to the oyamal forest in Mexico.

Fruit Smoothies 9/29  
 4 spoonfuls of yogurt  
 4 ice cubes  
 1 cup of seltzer or juice  
 2 cups of cut up fruit – apples, oranges, grapes, bananas, pineapple – what ever you have on hand

Place it all in a blender and enjoy with friends!



**Important Dates**

October 6,  
 Friday  
 Faculty In-Service Day  
 PUPIL HOLIDAY

October 9  
 Monday  
 Columbus Day  
 SCHOOL HOLIDAY

October 18  
 Wednesday  
 PICTURE DAY  
 Bring your smile!

October 27  
 Friday  
 Parent/Teacher Conferences  
 PUPIL HOLIDAY

October 31  
 Tuesday  
 Halloween Parade  
 8:30am

November 22  
 Wednesday  
 Grandfriends Day  
 Thanksgiving Holiday Begins

November 27  
 Monday  
 School Resumes

December 5 & 6  
 Tues & Wed.  
 Holiday Gift Sale (PTO)

December 17  
 Friday  
 All-School Coffee  
 10:00am  
 Holiday Meeting for Worship  
 11:00am  
 Winter Holiday Begins  
 11:45am Preschool

January 2  
 Tuesday  
 School Resumes



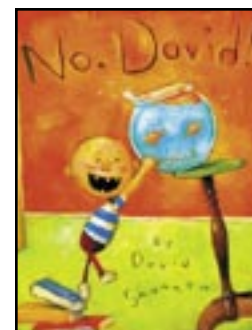
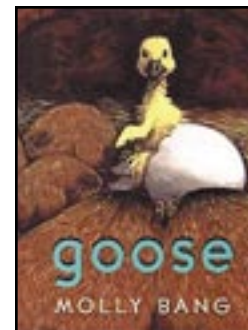
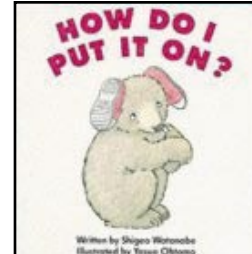
The children have been getting a lower-body workout on the scooters this week. In general, these scooters will be used in the gym, but on days when there is a small group, you can find them in the classroom and, for extra fun, down the hallways (only when the other classrooms are empty!).

This week preschoolers had lots of opportunities to increase their knowledge of balance. On Monday after working with small counting bears and the balance scale, children became living scales using their hands as the trays and objects from around the classroom as weights. A hand that went down indicated the heavier object. For snack everyone weighed out and then ate four bears worth of goldfish crackers. Later in the week all of the children had the thrill of teetering, balancing, and walking across the wooden see-saws. The facial expressions as each child experienced the feeling of being off the ground ranged from wonder to excitement! Weight, pounds, heavy, light, medium, same, equal, up, down, balance, more and less are some of the math terms we heard from the children in the classroom this week.



Books we have read recently include:

*How do I put it on?*, Shigeo Watanabe  
*Goose*, Molly Bang  
*Boo to a Goose*, Mem Fox  
*We're Going on a Bear Hunt*, Michael Rosen  
*No, David!*, David Shannon







This week's trip to the climbing tree was lovely except for the ubiquitous, and very pesky mosquitoes. Lily's mom, Lauren, and baby sister, Ella, joined the group. We had one child who "didn't give up" and reached the top of the Rockwell climbing stone. In general, the children seemed much more relaxed and willing to venture to greater heights this week. As we were walking home we met "Aunt Claudia", head grounds keeper at the college. (Claudia is the sister of Tessa's mom, Jemma!) She has offered to show the children her greenhouse. We look forward to it!



**Inspired by the "pea pod" strategy for assembling ourselves into a very small space, Wednesday's snack was hot, buttered peas! There was a little skepticism at first, but even the most reluctant child was able to appreciate the new food — one pea at a time!**



### Nitty Gritty

Some of the children's backpacks are getting heavy with items from home. In the interest of lightening the load on your child's back, please check to see that the backpack is empty when it comes to school. In the next few weeks, the backpacks will fill up quickly when cold weather arrives and all available backpack space will be filled with snow pants, boots, hats, mittens, etc. Thanks for your help in this.