



SUMMER 2017

Saint Dominic Child Care Newsletter

Announcements:

- Please check that your child has appropriate extra clothes for the change of season as well as water play attire weekly.
- Please bring in a family photo for the classroom photo board.
- July 4th we are CLOSED for Independence Day
- August 31st Family Ice Cream Social 4:30-6pm

What we have done so far:

Our Infants explored bubbles as we sang fun songs about the bubbles. They developed their eye hand coordination and spatial awareness by catching the bubbles before they popped. The children have been exploring the world around them. We have been taking stroller rides on our campus and visiting our playground to participate in water play activities daily. We gave the children water toys to further expand on their play and they strengthened their fine motor skills as we practiced how to pour.

Our Toddler 1 Through the early months of summer we focused on encouraging the children to become more independent. We have been encouraging fun ways for the children to clean up after themselves during meal times, on the playground, and after playtime. We have explored our summer themes where the children have stimulated their senses by tasting cold ice cream and expanded on their creativity by creating a messy art mural.

Our Toddler 2 We had fun in the sun as we introduced the children to the sprinklers outside. The children explored a new texture during bubble week and painted with foam. We read books such as "Bubble Bubble" and "Where do Balloons Go" to the children. This introduced them to new language and helped them with word recognition skills. The children also learned about different body parts and we made elephants, lions, and, clowns.

Our Over 3 We kicked off our summer program by enjoying "Water Adventures" outside, as well as in the classroom. The children explored water and cups in the sensory table; they painted with water colors, and even worked on their number recognition skills through a water drop activity. The children created circus animals in art, and worked on their balance as they braved the tightrope during "Circus" week. We were even visited by Valentine the Clown! We ended our month of June exploring our creative side. The children took part in Messy Art Day, and used their imaginations to engage in pretend play.

Taking a look at the rest of the summer:

Our Infants We will be exploring sound by using various musical instruments. The children will develop a sense of rhythm and learn how to listen to different beats. We will help the children and encourage them to move their bodies to music as well as participate in Michelle's special music and movement class. We will also be working on social skills and turn taking. The children will work together in group activities to promote socialization.

Our Toddler 1 We will continue to transition our children out of their sippy cups and into Dixie cups. We are very excited to explore the rest of our summer themes. The children will develop their "green thumb" as we learn about plants, where they come from and prepare gardens for the center. We will encourage the children's imaginations as we explore puppets and create classrooms stories. We will continue to utilize the beautiful weather and explore the water sprinklers outside.

Our Toddler 2 We will be splashing right into the rest of the summer as we explore the under the sea week. We will be discussing and listening to the different sounds near the ocean such as whales, birds, waves, and boats. The children will then be able to see and touch real sea creatures as Mystic Aquarium comes for a visit. We will also explore our outdoor environment as we work on identifying the different colors of the flowers and discover what we can plant in our garden. The children will use gardening tools and water the flowers daily.

Our Over 3 We will continue the rest of the summer months learning about sea life, as the children will learn about various creatures in the ocean. They will use this knowledge to prepare them for a visit from Mystic Aquarium. We will also be exploring as well as moving our bodies, as we learn about dance, music, and movement. We will end the week with a ZUMBA class by Miss Michelle. Finally, the children's independence and self-help skills will be encouraged as we explore how to use items found in the kitchen.



A Note from the Director:

Our summer kick off was a huge success! We also have officially received our state license to expand on our educational programs. We will be opening up our newest Infant room in July and moving our Over 3 children to their new building. Next, we will be planning our newest toddler room and organizing the rest of our fun summer time activities. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns as we transition and grow. ~Michelle