The Extended Morning Program has a weekly Focus Book that expands on the Pre-School theme of the month. The teachers support the stories through related activities that include experiences in each of the Developmental Domains. The story is further enhanced by experiences in our make shop, with woodworking, and cooking activities in the kitchen. We also enjoy daily music with Mrs. Bird. A brief description of the focus book is included in each Monday’s email, and a list of available activities each day. The newsletter for each theme recaps the related activities through text and photographs, with captions highlighting the developmental emphasis.

September Pre-School Theme: Friendship & Community

A picture is worth a thousand words. These photos tell the story of our Friendship & Community theme at the Children’s School and express just how much we learn from our explorations!

Focus Books

Extended Morning Teachers: Mrs. Bird, Mrs. Loomis, Mrs. Myers, and Mrs. Opferman
Children work together to build with blocks and make creations with encouragement from one another.

Teachers listen attentively to each child’s idea. Bilingual children benefit from culturally diverse staff.

Independence is fostered through opportunities of discovery.

Running and climbing are wonderful activities that are encouraged on our extended day outdoor days.

Using a combination of larger muscles and smaller muscles is a developmentally appropriate approach.

Outdoor water play allows for added levels of discovery through opportunities of pouring and permitted spilling.

A “Friendship Tree” is a great way to include names and handprints.

During our singing time, we often use rhyming words, spelling songs, and varying tempos. All of these elements contribute to emerging reading skills.

Children are given various tools and materials to practice writing.
We enjoyed pouring water and filling containers to FULL, then comparing to HALF FULL.

A heavy load is challenging to push across the floor. Once you place it on wheels, the work is easier.

Chain links are good for practicing patterns.

Counting people and setting them up like dominoes is a great opportunity to count repeatedly.

Spatial intelligence comes to the surface with puzzles.

Caring for animals is one way we learn to be gentle, sympathetic, and kind.

Sports is a popular way to pass time in our culture. It offers practice in teamwork and discipline.

The water table is a great place to practice our life routines, like bathing.
We have opportunities to use iPads and computers at school, but sometimes an old-fashioned board game is equally enjoyable!

Using an easel is a fun way to create artwork.

Before learning to use technology such as the computer mouse, we must learn to control our fine motor skills.

Paint is used in lots of ways throughout the school year.

We use the “Imagination Playground” for building and dramatic play.

In the kitchen, children are introduced to kitchen gadgets, like the microwave, the apple peeler, and the blender.

In the sunshine, children are encouraged to use sunscreen and sun glasses.

We learn a special hand washing song to help us wash our hands thoroughly.

Please do not send foods in your child’s lunch that contain tree nuts.