

# APRIL EVENTS

In addition to our many wonderful monthly activities, the month of April is filled with special celebrations and events. April is a month-long celebration of our children and our Earth.

We start the month with our **Guest Readers** program (March 30-May 8). Please follow the instructions sent in your email.

## Week 1: April 1-3

**April Showers Bring May Flowers** - lots of outside fun with playing in our garden.

1. Guest readers month is here!
2. Drummers' Circle Snuggles 4/2
3. Pizza Thursday 4/2
4. **Spring Recess** School Closed 4/3

## Week 2: April 6-10

1. **Spring Recess** School Closed 4/6

2. **St. Jude Children's Research Hospital Bike-a-thon Week** is April 7-10

**Bike-a-thon Week** is our annual week-long program of learning bike safety practices with Bikewell Bear and friends and culminates in a fun "**Bring-a-Bike Day**" event on Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup>.

This event is a fundraiser for the children of St. Jude and for many years we have done this event with amazing results. Our donations over the years have amounted to over \$52,000. Our children are always so excited to participate in this event and to know they are helping friends who are sick. Refer to the Bike-a-Thon pledge form and directions you will receive before our event. Every lap around the playground is recorded. You will receive a lap card with the number of laps your child completed. You may pledge a \$ amount per lap or a set \$ amount. Remember that every penny helps a child living with cancer. Thank you for your kindness and compassion.

**Please Note:** Bikes, trikes, scooters, etc. may be brought to school **only** on Friday morning (4/10) and must be picked up by the end of the day. Park all bikes at the back of the parking lot by your child's class sign. Helmets are required. All bikes and extra gear must be clearly labeled with each child's name. Over the Rainbow bikes/trikes will also be available for children to ride. Our Babies and Bunnies will earn their laps in their buggies with the help of their teachers.

3. **Unicorn Day-Corny fun for all!-Thursday**

4. **Bring a Bike Day and Pizza Friday- Friday**

## Week 3: April 13-17

**"The Week of the Young Child"** - The Week of the Young Child is an annual celebration sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children ([www.naeyc.org](http://www.naeyc.org)).

**NAEYC** is the world's largest early childhood education association. As a member, OTR supports the **Week of the Young Child**. The purpose of the Week of the Young Child™ is to focus public attention on the needs of young children and their families and to recognize the early childhood programs and services that meet those needs. As always, we recognize the important role childcare plays in all our lives. NAEYC first established the Week of the Young Child™ in 1971, recognizing that the early childhood years (birth through age 8) lay the foundation for children's success in school and later life. "The Week of the Young Child is a time to recognize that children's opportunities are our responsibilities, and to recommit ourselves to ensuring that each

and every child experiences the type of early environment - at home, at child care, at school, and in the community - that will promote their early learning." OTR is planning a week of special fun events.

1. **Music Monday**, April 13 (Listening to our favorites)
2. **Tasty Tuesday**, April 14 (Tacos for snack)
3. **Work Together Wednesday/T-shirt Day**, April 15 (Classroom Team Building). Don't forget to wear your favorite t-shirt!
4. **Artsy Thursday and Pizza Thursday**, April 16 - all day special art projects
5. **Week of the Young Child and Celebration of Spring Party and Spring Lunch**, April 17- Our "Celebration of Spring Party" is a celebration of the wonderful "newness" blossoming all around us. We will be having an egg hunt, spring surprises, and lots of games and fun. Then we will share a delightful spring lunch together. A spring lunch sign-up link will be sent closer to the event.

#### **Week 4: April 20- 24**

1. **Drummers Circle Preschool**
2. **Earth Day Celebration** on Wednesday, April 22. We will be doing some fun activities to acknowledge our part in taking care of our earth. A display of our recycled works of art will be on display at our annual ART SHOW (4/24 more to come).
3. **World Book Day (4/23)** is a fun day of reading some of the favorites we have found through our themes this year. Weather permitting, we will also be doing some planting in the garden to get ready for Arbor Day.
4. **National Arbor Day** ([www.arborday.org](http://www.arborday.org)) is Friday, April 24. (Founded by J. Sterling Morton in Nebraska in 1872, this tree planting holiday is celebrated each year on the last Friday in April). We will celebrate with a **National Arbor Day and School Yard Habitat Day** on Friday, April 24. **Over the Rainbow has been a certified Schoolyard Habitat Site of the National Wildlife Federation Schoolyard Habitats Program since August of 2004.**

**Art Show** Parents are invited to join us on Friday afternoon to view our original works of art and imaginative uses of recycled materials. More details will be sent via email as we get a little closer to the event. So, mark your calendars now for April 24 from 4:00pm-5:30pm for an OTR Art Event you just have to see!

#### **Week 5: April 27- 30**

1. **Pink Day** is Monday, April 27. Wear something pink to school.

**That rounds out our April events.**

**Wow - we sure will be busy!!!!!!**