



## IT'S YOUR CHOICE– LOVE OR FEAR

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Do you ever wonder why you do certain things, like why do you reward yourself with a piece of cake or a new pair of shoes for being a responsible citizen? Why did I just eat two pieces of chocolate cake for just making a good grade? Well, today I got a glimpse of where it might come from, with some other insights along the way.

I went for a walk in my neighborhood this morning and ran into a neighbor with her three-year-old daughter. I joined up with them and we began to catch up with each other's lives. Her daughter was on her tricycle having a great time. Her stuffed animal dog was along for the ride. Of course, the dog slipped off the bike and none of us noticed for quite a distance. The daughter was the first to notice and she gladly went back on her bike and picked up the dog.

Mom watched her safely go back and return. Mom states loudly, "Good job!" I immediately responded to my neighbor "What was so good about that?" She looked at me puzzled. I said "Look at how responsible she was to go back happily and willingly to pick up her dog. Notice and describe what she did and then add that was helpful. When you notice and describe it stimulates her frontal lobes. You've authentically noticed her being responsible."

My neighbor immediately responded to her daughter and did a "high five." The daughter's face lit up like a Christmas tree. I looked at my neighbor and said, "You have a choice. You can say 'good job' or you can notice and describe and get a lit up Christmas tree every time."

On we go around the block and my neighbor raises her voice to her daughter to "STOP" at the street as a car was approaching the intersection. The daughter stops and my neighbor rushes to her daughter's side with anxiety and fear flowing through every cell of her body. She begins to utter the usual remarks as every parent encounters a fearful moment.

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Please check your child's folder & Brightwheel every day. There is important information there! Also, make sure your child always has a change of clothes and diapers/pull-ups, if necessary. Thank You!

## Caterpillars/Buttercup Butterflies



We've been busy building our school family these first few weeks of school. Coloring and painting together to work on introducing social skills like gentle hands with our new smaller friends. We look forward to learning about the colors in the world around us.

**-Ms. Stacey, Ms. Shay, & Ms. Natalie**

## Pixie Butterflies

Children, Children, What Do You See? We see colors looking at us! Inspired by the book *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* By Bill Martin Jr. Our Pixies will participate in creating their own books! Pixies will begin to work on color recognition by focusing on certain colors per week. We look forward to a month of colorful learning!

**- Ms. Maria & Ms. Vanessa**



## Elf Butterflies



We are off to a bright start this school year, making new friends and learning the class rules and expectations. Have fun reading with your child when you take home your library book on Tuesdays. It is due the following Monday. A reminder to provide your child with extra clothes and only a naptime soft toy is to be brought to school if desired.

**-Ms. Jessica & Ms. Beryl**

## Julia Butterflies

Welcome to September! Our class will continue with our Creative Curriculum and continue to learn about our new friends, classroom rules and talking about families. This month we will be learning about who works at our school, when do things happen at school, how do we make and keep friends and how we can be part of a group. Please be sure to check Brightwheel and your child's folder daily.

**-Ms. Paige & Ms. Vicky**





## Events

**Ms. Megan has her baby boy!- September 10th**

**Open House- September 12th**

**Ms. Crystal's birthday- September 12th**

**Ms. Yulissa's birthday- September 13th**

**Ms. Vanessa's 1st work anniversary- September 24th**

**Ms. Shirley's 17th work anniversary- September 25th**

### IT'S YOUR CHOICE- LOVE OR FEAR continued...

I kept up with my neighbor and quickly and gently interrupted her remarks by saying to the daughter, "You heard your Mom scream 'stop' and you stopped. Mommy's job is to keep you safe. You stopped. You did it." Again, her face lit up that she had indeed stopped. She had listened.

We continued on our way and my neighbor said to her daughter, "You get five jelly beans when we get home." The daughter's face looked a bit confused as to why, but she wasn't about to turn down jelly beans. I asked, "Why?" My neighbor answers as if I am from Mars. "We give out jelly beans for good behavior." My brain is wondering why she is rewarding her daughter for just being responsible ... for listening.

My brain raced ahead 20 years and I could see this preschooler as a young girl rewarding herself with chocolate cake when she was good. And then I began to go deeper and wonder what compels parents to parent from a posture of fear; a fear that their child won't be a responsible citizen unless they "reward" their child for just being good. I believe that being in relationship with your child will motivate them to "behave." Children will more likely choose to behave if they feel noticed for kind acts; for listening. Your words of noticing are the reward!

"You went back and picked up your dog. That was helpful." Your reward is that your child will grow up to be a cooperative, loving and caring adult.

It's your choice: love or fear.

### Negative Space Fall Hand Print Art

We've all had fun making fall hand trees with our children. I was inspired to explore negative space with the kiddos in this fall hand print art project!

Here's what you'll need:

- ◆ Construction Paper (brown and white)
- ◆ Poster Putty
- ◆ Sponge Paint Wands (yellow, red & orange)

1. Trace child's hand and forearm on brown construction paper, then cut it out.
2. Use poster putty to secure the "tree" to white construction paper.
3. Once the hand print is in place, allow the child to sponge paint all around it with fall colors. (Be sure to encourage the child to leave little or no white around the edges of the "tree".)
4. Gently remove the brown hand print, and be sure to remove any vestiges of poster putty.
5. Allow to dry, then display!



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**WPDN will be closed Monday, September 2, 2019 in observance of Labor Day.**

### Super Supper

**Baked Ziti w/ Ground Beef and a Side Salad. Payment is due Wednesday, September 25th and pick-up is Thursday, September 26th.**

**Feeds 1 adult and 2 children. \$5.00 each Sign-up at the front desk.**

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