

Butterfly Newsletter

June 2021

 Welcome to the Espree summer program in the Butterfly Classroom with Ashley Aquino and Ginette Kimball. We are excited to share learning adventures and lots of fun with your children this summer.

 I’m Mrs. Aquino and this will be my third summer in the Butterfly room. I have been here at Espree for five years in both the Butterfly and Bumblebee Rooms. I graduated from UNC with a reading minor and an emphasis in math and received my teaching license from MSCD. I spend most of my time outdoors with my two-and-a-half-year-old son. I am ecstatic to spend the summer with all your children.

 I’m Mrs. Kimball and this will be my first summer in the Butterfly Room. I started at Espree in 2000 as a teacher assistant and then taught in the Bumblebee Room for 12 years. I just finished my first year as a Butterfly teacher and am very excited to get to stay for the summer. I received my bachelor’s degree from MSCD and have an emphasis in social work. Outside of school I enjoy hiking, spending time with my husband, two children and dogs.

 During the month of June we will be learning about the ocean. We will learn fun and interesting facts about each of the five different oceans. We will learn about the layers of the ocean, plants and animals found in and around the oceans, and how to keep our oceans clean and healthy for marine life. Students will make many creative art projects and participate in engaging science experiments revolving around the ocean.

 Your child’s summer day will be filled with fun learning activities. He/She will start the day with a morning meeting with all of the Butterfly students, and then participate in a small group academic skill building activity, an art and centers time, snack, recess, as well as play and story times. In lieu of daily gross motor activities, your child will have a daily swim lesson that will be taught by a certified lifeguard. A classroom teacher will accompany your child to the pool. For those students who stay all day, there will be a second opportunity for a free swim in the afternoon.

**We will be outside in the early mornings; all children must arrive at school with sunscreen applied!**

**Thank you for your cooperation!**

 Each day, your child will need to bring a swimsuit, towel, and slip-on or water shoes. Please bring these labeled items in a sturdy swim bag labeled with your child’s name. This bag will be taken home each day so that swimsuits and towels can be dried before the next day. In addition to swim related items, each child will need to bring a bottle of plain waterproof sunscreen (**no spray please**) labeled with his/her name to be left at school. Given the space limitations and the number of items each child will need to bring to school during the summer, we ask that all toys, dolls and blankets be left at home. Thank you for your cooperation.

**Dates you may want to mark on your calendar:**

* Wednesday, June 23rd - **Hawaiian Day!** Please have your child come dressed in Hawaiian clothing and ready to enjoy fun luau activities and a delicious Hawaiian lunch!
* Thursday, July 1st - **Fourth of July Parade** – Come dressed in red, white and blue!!
* **Espree will be closed Friday, July 2nd thru Monday, July 5th** for the **Fourth of July holiday**!

 Summer gives us the opportunity to let your children learn in playful ways and to provide them with a relaxing and stimulating environment where their experiences are different from those of the regular school year. We look forward to this special time with them and our connection to you. Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Aquino and Mrs. Kimball

