



OUR MISSION:  
To provide excellent learning programs  
that nurture the development of  
the whole child in a safe and secure  
environment.

## CALENDAR



Haircuts are available  
on the following dates:  
3/9 and 3/24

Tuesday, March 9  
Primary School  
Family Update Meeting  
5:30 pm

Saturday, March 13  
Parents' Night Out & Weekend Campers  
5:00 pm - 10:00 pm  
The cost is \$35.00 per child  
and \$15.00 per sibling.  
You must sign up in advance.

Wednesday, March 17  
Primary School  
End of 3rd Quarter Grading Period

Wednesday, March 17 - Friday, March 19  
Spring Pictures

Thursday, March 25  
Primary School  
3rd Quarter Report Cards Issued

Thursday, March 25  
Art Show  
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Saturday, March 27  
Parents' Night Out & Weekend Campers  
5:00 pm - 10:00 pm  
You must sign up in advance.

Monday, March 29 - Friday, April 2  
Primary School Closed  
Spring Break (Holiday Camp available)

PALMETTO PREP

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# Palmetto Press

MARCH 2010

## Tired of winter? Think 'Summer Adventures'!

Summer is just around the corner...we promise! With summer comes children anxious for freedom and fun. Reserve your child's spot now for Palmetto Prep's Summer Adventures 2010! Any kindergartener through 5th grader can be a part of the day camp fun! Each week, campers participate in a new adventure; from farming to cooking to cheerleading to acting and much more, Summer Adventures 2010 offers something to interest every child! The children are engaged daily in crafting, outdoor recreation, organized games, and literacy activities. Weekly, the children participate in Art, Spanish, Physical Education, and Music classes. Camp is open Monday through Friday from 6:30 a.m. until 6:30 p.m. Lunch and snacks are provided daily. To provide the maximum benefit to each child, teachers are assigned to no more than 14 children each on campus and no more than 10 children each during field trips. Your child can come dressed to play! Comfortable clothing and sneakers is the "uniform" for Summer Adventures 2010! Call (864) 675-1002 today to secure a spot for your child! To view the dates and themes for each week of Summer Adventures, visit [www.palmettoprep.com/summeradventures.shtml](http://www.palmettoprep.com/summeradventures.shtml).



## 2010 Art Show

Palmetto Prep has teamed with Artworks, Inc., to present an Art Show to parents, family members, and friends of Palmetto Prep's Pre-K through 5th Grade students. At least two pieces of each child's artwork will be matted, framed, and presented gallery style in the Palmetto Prep Fieldhouse on Thursday, March 25, from 6-8 p.m. This is an amazing way to share your child's pride in their artwork! More information about the Art Show and Palmetto Prep's Art program can be found at <http://art.palmettoprep.net>.

## Quiz Bowl Results

On February 26, the 3rd Annual Quiz Bowl pitted the kindergarteners against their parents to answer geography-based questions about the seven continents. With a stunning 42-3 defeat of the parents, the kindergarteners really proved that they were world travelers! After the Quiz Bowl, the friends celebrated by searching through the suitcases filled with artifacts they had created during their lessons on the continents. Congratulations to the kindergarteners for their awesome victory!



# Primary School Highlights

## KINDERGARTEN

The Kindergarteners have finished their trip around the globe! The final leg of the adventure included stops in Asia, Europe, and Africa. While in Asia, we explored the traditions of the Chinese New Year, celebrated the Japanese holiday, Boys' and Girls' Day, and tasted some Indian cuisine. We also met the helpful reindeer living in the Siberian Desert. We crossed into Europe, by way of Russia, the only country on two continents. There, we were immersed in the diverse cultures of the European countries. We went sightseeing at many landmarks like the Eiffel Tower, the London Eye, Big Ben, and Stonehenge. We also were able to try our hand at traditional Celtic sports during the Highland Games. We concluded our worldwide exploration by touring the many different land regions in Africa. The Sahara Desert, the Savannah, and the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans provided us with a plethora of wildlife to discover. Even after such an exhausting trip, the Kindergarteners were ready to take on their parents in the 3rd Annual Kindergarten Quiz Bowl. Who prevailed? See the front page of the newsletter for results!



## FIRST GRADE

Not everything moves in the same way! First Graders discovered balance and motion firsthand in science. We experimented with finding our balance points, spinning, rolling, and creating force with pushes and pulls. We put our balancing skills to the test on the balance beam. Students learned that their arms create a counterbalance to help them keep steady on the beam. We also made our own spinners using small straws as the axis point and plastic discs to add weight. Students added color with paper circles on top of the discs. Some students also discovered that if the paper is colored with two primary colors, the top looks like a secondary color when it spins! This was one VERY cool science unit!

## SECOND GRADE

The Second Graders have been studying matter! We began by learning that all things are made up of matter. Students then learned that matter can exist as a solid, liquid, or gas and they observed each state individually, measuring the length, volume, and/or temperature of each. The students conducted hands-on experiments to not only observe the physical properties of matter, but also to observe matter changing from one form to another. We had a great time identifying different types of matter in our environment.



## THIRD GRADE

The Third Grade friends were very busy this month. They visited Roper Mountain Science Center for a presentation on "Earth's Greatest Storms." There, the students enjoyed taking an adventure through the atmosphere to see thunderstorms, tornadoes, and hurricanes. They were also able to explore space and learn about constellations, such as Orion and the Little Dipper. The Third Graders have also been great helpers to their book buddies in Ms. Doyle's kindergarten class. Not only have we been helping the younger friends read books, but we have also been writing friendly letters to each other. We had the opportunity to help our book buddies make crafts for a Valentine's Day party as well. We love our book buddies! In Social Studies, we learned how our country came to be through the establishment of the 13 colonies. We learned about their climates, the reasons they were established, and how they grew to what they are today.





# Primary School Highlights CONTINUED

## FOURTH GRADE



Fourth Graders have enjoyed their study of China and its dynasties. They made Chinese picture books using complex Chinese characters. Students also completed a specialized Internet research project to learn more about leaders of the various dynasties. Our favorite activity was partnering with Mrs. Ross' kindergarten class (who was studying Asia) to recreate Ming Dynasty porcelain! After making paper, we realized just how much time and effort it took to produce one simple sheet. We have a great appreciation for China and its contributions to our world! Our study ended with a Chinese feast. YUM!



## FIFTH GRADE

The Civil War divided our classroom this month into North vs. South, or Yankees vs. Rebels, which led to brothers fighting brothers! The Fifth Graders participated in a Civil War simulation where they learned that war was not full of adventure and glory. In fact, it was just the opposite! Some of our students were unfortunate enough not to have shoes as they went to meet the elephant (a phrase meaning "to be in a real battle"). Several students even suffered wounds such as broken ribs or punctured lungs! To further understand the war, they took a trip downtown to the Upcountry History Museum. Among other things, the students learned which items the soldiers' families might send to them on the war front. The care packages included such things as honey, pepper, and blankets.



# Pre-School Highlights

## INFANTS

What an exciting month for our Infant 1 babies! Some have started eating finger foods, while others have learned to hold their own bottles! We are continuing to work on our sign language for "eat," "milk" and "more."

In Infant 2, February was the month of LOVE! The early part of the month, the little friends were busy preparing for Valentine's Day. They finger-painted red hearts and made a special card for Dad and Mom. We also had a valentine sensory box which they all loved searching through to find hidden treats! The last two weeks of February our theme was "All About Me." We are learning to identify our friends by name and also working on body part identification. Everyone is practicing their fine and gross motor skills, with activities such as stacking blocks to climbing in the gym. By the way, the gym is still the favorite place to be! The friends love to watch themselves in the huge mirrors!



## TODDLERS



Our Toddler friends learned all about friendship this month. With 2010 being an Olympic year, we decided that having our own Olympics would be a fantastic way to celebrate friendship! We had events that took us outside, just like the real Olympics, such as downhill ride-on toy races and the Toddler dash. Our very cute athletes also enjoyed events in the gym. They jumped through the Olympic rings and took part in the Olympic ring toss. Each Toddler was awarded a gold medal for their outstanding sportsmanship! We recognized Valentine's Day with a fun-filled Valentine exchange and party! The Toddlers invited their "valentines" (parents!) for snacks and everyone had a lovely time!



# Pre-School Highlights CONTINUED

## PRE-PREPPERS

The Pre-Preppers have been very busy this month discussing Valentine's Day, community helpers, and staying healthy. Talking about Valentine's Day was the favorite among the friends. We celebrated the end of that lesson by decorating cookies and exchanging valentines! The children also learned about visiting the dentist, taking care of their teeth, and eating healthy foods. They practiced using a toothbrush the correct way, and learned that they only need to use a tiny amount of toothpaste when brushing. The friends also found out that if they do not brush, sugar bugs can attack their teeth creating holes that are painful. We also talked about which foods are healthy for our bodies and which foods are not. During some of the rainy days this month, the Pre-Preppers enjoyed shaving cream art indoors since they couldn't play outside.



## PREPPERS

February was full of interesting lessons for the Preppers! After discovering which important inventions we credit to African-Americans for Black History Month, the friends had lots of fun dressing in traditional Asian clothing to celebrate the Lunar New Year. To help ring in the new year, we taste-tested many Asian foods, with cheese wontons being the Preppers' favorite! We also had a blast during the Prepper Olympics! Just like the real Olympics, the goals for our version were to promote friendship, have fun, and try our best. During our medal ceremony, each friend received a gold medal for ice racing, hula jumping and the ball walk. The final week of the month, we learned how very important it is to have healthy teeth. To bring the lesson to life, we soaked an egg (representing our teeth) in cola and saw how the cola would stain our teeth if we do not brush them. It was also fun to graph our toothbrush colors and make a "healthy smile" snack.



## PRE-K

With February designated as Black History Month, the Pre-K friends first studied the hardships endured by historically famous African-Americans including Martin Luther King, Rosa Parks, and Jackie Robinson. They also learned how courageous these people were in their situations. The friends seemed amazed that people could be treated differently because of the color of their skin. We also researched black inventors such as George Washington Carver, Garret Morgan, and C.J. Walker, and the students were fascinated to explore a traffic light up close. During the week following Presidents' Day, we talked about our first president, George Washington, and discovered he was the only president who did not live in the White House. The Pre-K friends enjoyed making their own log cabins after a lesson about Abraham Lincoln. We also included a lesson about community helpers in February, and were invited to visit a local dentist, Mrs. Dhillon. The friends were excited to go to the dentist without having to sit in the patient's chair! They were able to explore the equipment a dentist uses, including trying on a mask!





# Enrichment Highlights

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

This month in Physical Education, the students completed a unit on jumping. We focused on the high and long jumps. Kindergarten and First Grade practiced the mechanics of the “one-foot jump, two-foot land” used in the long jump, and the “scissors” kick used in the high jump. Second through Fifth Graders improved their jumping heights and distances by focusing on speed, arm movement, and landing technique. All grades completed the unit by participating in a friendly high and long jump competition. Each year, the heights and distances the children jump increase dramatically across all grade levels. Kids love to jump!

## AFTER SCHOOL

This month in Afterschool we had a great time participating in art and music lessons. We also had fun with Soccer Shots and playing games. We hope everyone had a wonderful Valentine’s Day! Although we loved eating our valentine treats, we got an even better treat in February...snow! It was so much fun to play outside in the snow, if only for a little while!

## SPANISH

This month, the Preschoolers learned all about farm, domestic, and zoo animals! The friends enjoyed practicing each animal’s sound and singing the song *Mono, Monkey*. For our cultural lesson, we explored South America! The Pre-K friends loved making sea turtles using paper plates and construction paper. The Kindergarteners went around the world while studying the seven continents! In Europe, we focused mainly on Spain, looking at customs, major cities, and landmarks. The First Graders did a great job studying the Mayan, Aztec, and Incan civilizations. The students loved making “authentic” gold and turquoise jewelry. The Second Graders had a great month exploring simple machines! We discussed the lever, inclined plane, pulley, wheel and axle, and wedge. Third Grade had a blast studying ecology and discussing ways to take care of our planet. Fourth and Fifth Graders studied China, and explored Chinese inventions, dynasties, and the Chinese zodiac.



## ART

In Art, the Preschool students worked on Valentine’s Day projects. They painted heart-shaped coffee filters and stamped with heart sponges. In addition, the students had a great time using spray bottles of paint to create a handprint picture. The Pre-K students viewed VanGogh’s *Sunflowers* painting, then used tissue paper to create giant sunflowers and assembled these collage-style on a background that they painted. The Kindergarteners used shaving cream puff paint to create a Valentine’s Day painting. They also worked with chalk pastels to draw a lion, a project correlated with their classroom study of Africa. The First Graders viewed hearts painted by artist Jim Dine, and then created awesome hearts in his style. They also drew and painted birthday cakes which they then decorated with patterns inspired by Matisse. The Second Grade students worked on watercolor paintings of a cheeseburger, and then, along with Third Grade, created an outer space picture. The Third Graders also painted Palmetto trees. The Fourth and Fifth Grade students learned about the artistry of African masks, and drew masks of their own, adding tissue paper, beading and fringe.

## MUSIC

This month, the Preppers and Pre-Preppers became familiar with several common rhythm patterns in Western music. They began learning how to play a steady beat, and then how to subdivide it into smaller, equal sounds. The Prepper friends learned to recognize standard notation using quarter notes and eighth notes, which we call “Ta” and “Ti.” Pre-K through Fifth Grade students worked hard to learn the music for our upcoming performance on April 22nd. Pre-K focused on thinking about the meaning of the text while singing it and differentiating between their shouting and singing voices. Kindergarten and First Grade concentrated on matching pitch and blending their voices, while Second through Fifth Grades learned to sing harmony parts!