



FIELD MICE NEWSLETTER

May 2008

Dear Parents,

April has been a very busy month for the Field Mice! We began extremely excited about bugs, collecting them from the playground and our own backyards! We enjoyed observing and interacting with a variety of bugs, including a hoard of ladybugs and Painted Lady caterpillars. As you may have noticed recently our caterpillars have emerged from their chrysalis and we have been very excited to view and discuss their transformation over time. In addition to capturing bugs, many families helped us collect a variety of seeds to compare in our collection. We actively explored the growing process in a number of different activities including a fruit salad seed hunt, germination observation, dirt and seeds in the sensory table, books about gardens and growth, and the “grass guys” project. We will continue interacting with plants throughout the month of May and into the summer by planting and caring for our own Field Mice garden!

It has been inspiring to watch the activity level in the classroom recently. We have been able to carry out and initiate complex projects that have lasted for days! We are so proud of our work and are happy to share it, encourage our classmates and expand upon it. We feel pride and ownership of our classroom, however at this point in the year, this ownership often leads to boundary testing. During this last month before summer camp we may be experimenting with words (not all of them kind) and testing the limits of our surroundings. In many cases we teachers are allowing the freedom of materials to continue, however we are setting firm guidelines and limits to reinforce the importance of safety, kindness and awareness of others.

We Field Mice intend to end our year with a bang! We will be continuing our gardening project, expanding our discussions to the earth and conservation, and exploring mammal behavior. We will also visit Emmet’s family’s veterinary clinic the last week in May. End of the year parent teacher conferences are scheduled for May 20th and 21st so please mark your calendars. It has been a truly remarkable year!

The Field Mice Team
Kyla, Amanda, Katie