

WILD LILAC PRESCHOOL

HONORING ALL CHILDREN

Iris House 1533 SE 32nd Ave, Portland OR, 97214
Daffodil House 1540 SE 32nd Ave, Portland OR, 97214
(503)236-3240



Iris House **April Newsletter**

Play After Play

Last month we had such a great time attending a performance of The Drum with Play after Play performers, Mark and Melanya. It was great fun joining the Daffodil House for a field trip. The children were a wonderful audience and enjoyed participating in the Play after the Play. Thank you so very much to Mark and Melanya, the grant funders who support art in education, and to all of the Wild Lilac parent drivers who make these experiences possible! We look forward to two more Play After Play performances. The upcoming field trips will be on April 30th and May 28th. If your child does not attend on Friday you are, of course, welcome to join us.



Creating Our Penny Jars



Counting Pennies

Pennies for Portland

We are entering the next stage of our Pennies for Portland project. As you know we have been diligently collecting pennies from our piggy banks, our families, our friends and our neighbors, and we are almost ready to count our money. On Tuesday April 13th we be joined by Caitlin, the youth program coordinator from Growing Gardens. She will talk to us about what Growing Gardens does for the community of Portland, how our money will be spent, and what other things we can do to help the Earth and our community. Please bring your jars or money by Monday April 12th so we can turn our pennies into dollars before Caitlin arrives.

Trip to Portland Nursery

Following our visit from Caitlin, we will take a trip to Portland Nursery on Tuesday

April 20th. We will take a tour of the nursery, look at what is in season to grow, and gather supplies to further help Growing Gardens. Portland Nursery will donate seeds and the supplies to start them to schools willing to volunteer their gardening skills to Growing Gardens. Later we will give the vegetable starts to Growing Gardens, who will then install them in gardens throughout Portland. We will need drivers to make this trip happen. Please email us at wildlilac.irishouse@gmail.com if you are able to drive. We will leave Wild Lilac around 9:30 and return around 11:30. Thank you for supporting our experiences outside of the classroom. If your child does not attend on Tuesday you are welcome to join us.



Watching Play After Play

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Springtime = Mud Play =More Clothes!

We have been enjoying this roller coaster of weather. Sunny, blustery, rainy, and everything in between. We have even seen it hailing. The children have really enjoyed the changes it has been bringing to the yard...blossoms and mud! Please make sure your child has a full set of clothes to change into when he/she returns to the classroom, including socks and underwear. It is also very helpful if your child's clothes are labeled with their names. It will increase the chances of those items making their way back to the appropriate cubby. Our lost and found is beginning to fill up. Please take a moment to check the lost and found for anything that belongs to your child.

Welcome Matthew

We have a new friend joining us from the Daffodil House. Many of the Iris House kids know Matthew from afternoons when the Daffodils join us for naptime. We are happy to have him join our group and encourage you to welcome him with play dates or play time at the park!

Bring/Email Pics

We are collecting baby pics for a game of "Who's That Baby?" Please bring or email a picture of your child as a sweet little baby. We will tuck them away until we have all of the children's pictures and then display them and guess who is who. We are also putting together a family book. Please bring or email a photo of your family. Thank you!

Book Club

The book we will be reading for the book club meeting this month is That's Not Fair: A Teacher's Guide to Activism with Young Children by Ann Pelo and Fran Davidson (ISBN 1884834744). We encourage you join us for the book club meeting even if you have not read the book.

4/5 – Parent Discussion Night
7pm

4/9 – NO SCHOOL: Teacher
Planning Day

From Michelle in the Wild Lilac Kitchen...

Spring is here!
A brisk walk through the Irvington neighborhood this evening has me feeling the buzz of spring. The colors and textures are truly enchanting & I am so excited

to become reacquainted with the foods of this flavorful season! Soon the earth will be offering cruciferous vegetables for our quiches and stir fries and the loveliest berries to speckle our tart yogurt. Our strawberry planter is packed and ready to fuel our friends with sweet crimson snacks as they find new ways to explore the outside world. Oh how we love our apples and pears, but how wonderful it will be to welcome the fruits of summer, the peaches, the plums & my favorite, melon! I have many ideas brewing for the coming months...having just finished fermenting a batch of delicious rose petal kombucha at home, this week we will explore the art of fermentation at Wild Lilac and make our very own yogurt, a simple and practical way to introduce fermentation. We do love our yogurt!

And to pair with that yogurt, here is my recipe for coconut granola. Enjoy!

4 cups thick rolled oats
1/2 cup unsweetened dried coconut
pinch of salt
1/3 cup honey
scant 1/4 cup canola oil

Combine dry ingredients in one bowl & toss. Combine

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oil and honey into a measuring cup. Pour honey/oil over dry mixture and mix well (clean hands work like a charm, I usually rub a dab of oil onto my hands to prevent excessive stickiness. Spread granola onto parchment lined or oiled baking sheet and bake at 250 degrees for 30-40 minutes. Remove from oven and immediately sprinkle with a few pinches brown sugar (if you have it, this makes the granola extra crunchy!). Let cool on baking sheets at least 30 minutes before adding any optional dried fruit. Store in an airtight container.

Calendar

4/12 – Pennies for Portland jars due

4/13 – Visitor from growing Gardens 9-9:30

4/20 – Field Trip: Portland Nursery 9:30-11:30 *WE NEED DRIVERS*

4/22 – Earth Day Planting Celebration 10am

4/29 – Book Club Meeting 7 pm

4/30 – Field Trip: Play After Play 9:30-11:30

5/8 – MAY FAIRE!!!!