

Week of Feb. 7th, 2022



Dear Nursery families,

Happy weekend on this gorgeous day!
I hope you are all enjoying this beautiful weather outside with your loved ones!

This week's newsletter is going to be a challenge that I want to give you to think about over the course of the week. In the Waldorf curriculum, you will find that there are always deeper meanings behind why we do the things we do. In Early Childhood, the selection of toys made out of natural materials give children a warm, inviting, and tactile sense of touch. The simple and unformed toys provide children the opportunity to imbue their imagination and for their creativity to thrive. Unformed materials also move in and out of a child's imagination and allow for flexibility and versatility in their play. So my challenge for you is to think of places where you already foster these capacities for your child's imagination to thrive and think of places where you may be able to stretch their capacities even more at home and school by:

- adding more open ended materials like different colored silks, pieces of cloth of varying sizes, pieces of soft, hand knitted rope, string and cord, branches, stones from outside, cardboard boxes of varying sizes to play at home
- adding toys like simple blocks that work on your child's dexterity instead of toys like legos that are fixed
- using chairs, couch cushions and tables to make a shelter, parking garage, castle, carshop, etc.
- using clothespins and clips with cloth and silks to make a shelter, den, burrow, cave, etc
- putting away toys associated with movies and T.V. shows (media) or plastic toys that make noise or light up
- replacing clothes, backpacks, lunch bags, water bottles that are associated with movies and T.V. shows (media), have a fixed image or something on it that calls so much attention for the child that gets in the way of their play or time at school

Our dress code at school encourages simple and plain attire so that children may be free to imagine and play. I hope you will find many things that you do already at home and also find the inspiration to simplify what is around your child's environment to [support the ingenuity of play which exists in every child.](#)

We are scheduled to have our second parent conferences after the February break (Feb 15-21st). I will soon have the sign-up sheets available to you.

I will see you and your lovely children tomorrow!

Warmest regards,

Maria Morioka

WSOC Nursery Teacher