

H.O.P.E Newsletter

Celebrating our 5th Year!

H.O.P.E.
(Helping Others
Prepare to Excel)
Preschool

Volume 1, Issue 2

September 1

We are excited about beginning our 5th Year at H.O.P.E. Preschool. We are fortunate to have 99% of our original staff still with us. That shows we are committed to the success of our children. As we begin our 5th year at H.O.P.E we feel it is appropriate to formally introduce our staff to you.

Our Director, Mrs. **Lia Tate** is a Certified Child Development Associate, with 12 years of experience. She owns her own child care facility and has a deep commitment for children in the early learning stage. She is married to Darren Tate and they have three children. Mrs. Lia handles day to day activities such

as curriculum, staffing and scheduling of field trips.

Mrs. Patsy Thomas is the 4-5 year old teacher. Ms. Thomas is certified as a Child Development Associate and has over 20 years of experience in child care. Ms. Patsy has a very quiet spirit and has a special way with children. Ms. Patsy has three children.

Mrs. Ivory Mason is a retired public school elementary teacher. Mrs. Ivory assists Ms. Patsy in the 4-5 year old classroom. She is married to Fonzie Mason and they have two children. **Mrs. Norma Curtlett** is the teacher in the 3-4 year old classroom. This room consists of older 3 year olds and younger 4 year

olds. Ms. Norma has 14 years previous experience in a preschool setting prior to coming the H.O.P.E. She is married to John Curlett and they have four children. **Mrs. Charletha Harper** assists Mrs. Norma. She has vast experience in arts and crafts and she has chaired the arts and crafts area for her church's VBS for many years. Ms. Harper also directs the children's choir at her church. She is married to Arnez Harper and they have two children. **Mrs. Carolyn Lasker** also assists in the 3-4 year old classroom. Mrs. Lasker is retired from State Government after 17 years. Mrs. Lasker enjoys working

See Celebration Page 4

Special points of interest:

- *Meet the staff*
- *Open House Scheduled*
- *Parenting Tips*
- *About Epilepsy*

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OPEN HOUSE

OPEN
HOUSE

An Open House will be held on Thursday, September 18th from 6:00—7:30 PM. All parents and families

are invited to tour our facility and meet the staff personally.



September 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Labor Day	2 School's in!	3 School's in!	4 School's in!	5 School's out!	6
7	8 School's out!	9 School's in!	10 School's in!	11 School's in!	12 School's out!	13
14	15 School's out!	16 School's in!	17 School's in!	18 Open House!	19 School's out!	20
21	22 School's out!	23 School's in!	24 School's in!	25 School's in!	26 School's out!	27
28	29 School's out!	30 School's in!				

What's Going On!

What's coming in September!

- **Dinosaurs Go to School:** The children will learn about school and what takes place there throughout this theme. They will learn the importance of their names, sharing, and friends. Grandparent's Day is also included.
- **Feelin' Good/Stayin' Safe:** We can do many things with our bodies. The children will learn how to stay healthy through proper hygiene. Safety rules will be discussed.
- **Apples Everywhere:** Apples, apples, everywhere apples! Learn all about the different types of apples, how they grow, and the different foods that can be made with them



What's coming in October!

- **Fire Safety:** Fire-fighters help keep us safe. Learn how to be safe around fire and practice fire drills, crawling low in smoke, and "Stop, Drop, and Roll."
- **Four Seasons:** Fall, winter, spring, and summer are seasons full of their own fun! Children will learn what to expect as the seasons change. They also talk about their favorite things to do during each one.
- **Spin a Web!** Spin a web of fun with this spidery theme. Children will explore how these eight-legged arachnids build webs, wrap their food, and move. Pumpkins and other fall favorites will be examined as well.



What's Coming in November!

Sleep Tight! Everyone needs to sleep. Sleeping helps us to grow, feel good, and stay healthy. Bedtime can be fun! The children will share their bedtime routines and learn about the moon and stars.



- **Manners Matter:** Saying "please" and "thank you" are ways of showing respect and appreciation to other people. Manners, as well as character development, will make up this fun, important theme.

- **Let's Give Thanks:** Thanksgiving is a time for giving thanks. We celebrate with family and friends. The history and other symbols of this celebration will be explored.



Epilepsy...Say Hello to PEACE

Article Submitted by Tina Alexander

Say Hello to ... Parents Educating Arkansas about Children with Epilepsy (PEACE). A parent support/advocacy group and non profit 501(c)(3) organization located in Central Arkansas.

PEACE provides support, comfort, and education to parents dealing with the daily reality of seeing their child grow up with epilepsy. We assist parents in person, through parent packets, and scholarships to attend conferences. Our organization enriches the lives of Arkansas residents, families, and children by bringing awareness and education to help change the stigma attached to epilepsy today. We also promote volunteerism by working with college students, church groups, and high school students as they attend our events and volunteer their time and efforts.

Here are some Myths associated with people who have epilepsy and/or seizure disorders:

- You must put something in their mouth to keep them from swallowing their tongue.
WRONG---Never ever put anything in a child's mouth (or adult) who is having a seizure as you can hurt them or yourselves. People cannot swallow their tongue.
- It is contagious...you can catch it like a cold.
WRONG---No one can catch epilepsy, it is simply something a person has.
- It is a form of demonic possession.
WRONG---A person having a seizure is not possessed by the devil or any

Demon; they simply have a medical condition where they may have seizures.

For more information about our organization, upcoming events, and personal stories visit our web site at www.peaceinark.com.



Just for Parents

Submitted by Jessie Pierce

Parents, it is very important that you talk to your young child everyday. A good place to talk could be while you're preparing dinner. Discuss what and how you prepare food and where it comes from. Something as simple as how catsup is made, to the complex things such as how a house is built. Even as a youth, "knowledge is power". Helping your child to read and write doesn't have to take a lot of extra time or money. Here are some easy ways to build literacy skills at home.



- Make sure your child sees you reading and writing as you go through your day.
- Talk about what you read and write so your child can hear. Encourage your child to spell and write his name; at first he may use a few letters incorrectly, but keep practicing.
- Place alphabet magnets on your refrigerator or on another smooth, safe metal surface. When you are working in the kitchen, ask your child to name the letters he plays with and see if he can find all the letters that are alike. Talk about the sounds the letters make. Point to objects and say their names; for example, *sink*. Then ask your child to say as many words as he can that rhymes with the word sink. Other easy rhymed words are: ball, bread, rug, and clock. Let your child use some silly or non-sense words as well.



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We're on the Web!
Pinestreethopepreschool.com

*"Not for ourselves, but for all."
Class Motto Pine Street High School
Class of 1948-1949*



H.O.P.E Preschool is a 501(c)3 Non-Profit organization whose mission is to challenge students to exceed the kindergarten level of standards by developing skills in the following areas:

- *Academic*
- *Social*
- *Communication*

H.O.P.E. encourages students to develop a positive self-concept and identity by using positive praise and reinforcement. H.O.P.E. envisions that all students will not only maintain, but exceed grade levels during their lifelong learning experiences.

For more information or to enroll your child, contact Lia Tate at 501-358-0054 or visit our website at www.pinestreethopepreschool.com

Celebrating...

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with children in the 3-4 age group. She says what motivates her is to see a difference in children's lives, particularly those who lack attention at home; and to see their improvement at the end of the school year makes it all worth while. **Mrs. Leona Walton** is one of the teachers in the 3 year old classroom. Mrs. Leona was added to the staff as the 3 year old class room became larger. Ms. Leona also drives one of the vans that picks up the children. She is a former state employee with 16 years of service and has a nitch for doing what needs to be done. She admits children were not her first love, however after leaving state government and assisting her daughter with her daycare duties, she found that making a difference in the lives of others is what she is called to do. She is married to Bobby Walton and they have four children. **Mrs. Thelma Smith** is also

a teacher in the 3 year old classroom. She is a retired postal worker and moved to Conway from Victorville, California a four years ago. She loves children and believes that education is important, particularly in the early years. She and Mrs. Leona share the 3 year old class room and love it! Mrs. Thelma was married to her late husband Dewey for 47 years. **Mr. Reuel Shepherd** is a retired school teacher from the Conway Public School System and also drives one of the vans that picks up the children. He is dedicated to the success of this program and does all he can to see it grow. **Mrs. Terry Shepherd** is our Media Consultant. Mrs. Shepherd is a retired English teacher, also from Conway Public School System. The children look forward to her stories and vivid imagination. The Shepherds have two adult children. **Mrs. Jamisa Hogan** is our

Activity Coordinator. Mrs. Hogan assures that the children have fun ways to exercise indoors. She relieves the teachers for staff meetings and discussion of lesson plans. She is also a Certified Child Development Associate with over 15 years of experience. She is married to James Hogan and they have nine children. **Louis and Lillian Love**, from the Foster Grandparent Program, recently joined our volunteer staff. Mr. Love is beginning his second year with us. Mrs. Love joins us for the first time this year. They have been married for 5 years and have nine children.

Although we have only been operating for 5 years, we have over 100 years of combined experience on staff. We look forward to the day that we will be full time and still at **NO CHARGE** to our students. There is H.O.P.E.!