



JUNE 2020

Jumping Jack Journal

Newsletter of the Fullerton Community Nursery School



Director Miss Sally's Message



Well, what a year this has been. Unprecedented, history making, frightening, inspiring (we can do hard things), and seemingly endless! I wish I could lay it all out for you and give you the exact plan for the next 6 months. Unfortunately, there is no crystal ball to help us out. The board met last week (virtually) and these things were decided:

Summer school will not be happening. Currently, only preschools that serve essential workers are allowed to open. This could change in the coming weeks, but we decided to play it safe and not have it. The teachers are going to continue to put out a few activity packets and add videos to the YouTube channel through June, just for fun! Each time we put out a packet, we will put out about 40 packets and the first 40 to pick up win! That's so we don't waste - there are some who have not been picking up, so it should work out that most who want one, will get one! We can adjust if we need to.

We applied for, and received the Payroll Protection loan/grant. This will help us with our financial obligations through summer. Many thanks to our treasurer, Elena Cruz, for making this happen!

As far as next year goes, there are very few decisions we can make at this time. As things stand, the requirements for preschools to open (for essential workers) are very stringent and would temporarily change our program dramatically. I'm talking about smaller class size, temp check on arrival, no parent volunteers, no mixing of classes, no family style snacks, no field trips, seat kids 6 ft. apart at snack and story time, limit the amount of toys and books kids play with, teacher's wear masks, and finally - the best - limit sharing of toys and books. Cleaning multiple times per day also. We CAN do those things if we have to. It is our hope that by mid-July, things might look a bit less restrictive, and we can plan for the new year. We can only wait and see. I continue to read, attend webinars, and check in with my director

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groups, to stay on top of things and can pass it along as needed.

We also realize that circumstances may have changed for some of our members who have signed up for next year, and they no longer will be able to attend. We hope not! We also could understand if some parents are not willing to put their child in a group situation yet. There are so many uncertainties at this time. We understand. If you currently know for sure that your child will not be attending, please let us know so we get a better feel for where we stand. If you are not sure yet, just let us know when you make up your mind. Understandably, you will be wanting to know what changes the school will be making. I am hopeful that by mid-July we should know more. It seems that things change daily - today I read that the virus does not seem to be shared easily from surfaces! Just think of all those Clorox wipes in the trash!!

It sounds so cheesy, but we are all in this together and will make it work together!

There are some accomplishment we can be proud of for the year! Let's give ourselves a pat on the back for these feats!



Accreditation

We earned another 5 years of accreditation! It seems like so long ago that the validator came and spent the morning observing, rating, and reading our documents. This is quite a great honor - assuring all our members we are a highly rated program nationally - and we should be proud. Thanks to Micky and Kelly for the extra work involved in making this happen!



The Toddler Class

We were so excited that the toddler class, led by Miss Melissa, was really picking up some steam this year - only the second year after we implemented it. We are hopeful that we don't run out of that steam!

Playgrounds

We have a new bike path installed in the 4 yr. old yard and a new structure in the three yr. old yard. While we were not able to complete the fundraising we needed to work on the 4 yr. old structure, we are thankful that we got started!



Shelf Storage

Last summer, Grace Rungsarangnont and her husband installed new shelving in the breezeway cupboards and increased our storage ability! Thanks, Grace!

Ballot Results

The tuition increase for the next school year has passed the vote! We are still waiting for someone to want to be our new secretary and maintenance chair. Let us know!

Fundraising

Scrip

We listened to our members and decided to make scrip sales not mandatory for next year! We had to increase tuition to allow for this, but most agree that it is worth it. There will still be options for those who want to continue to buy scrip and support the school.

In Other News . . .

Tiles

Because we are still not supposed to gather in groups, we are postponing the tile painting. It could be that this summer, when things hopefully look better, we can do it!

Open Positions

If you are returning next year, these are the positions that are open on the board, or committee chairs:

Groups I, III, and IV reps, Personnel, Parliamentarian, JJJ editor, Rummage sale chair, Family Fun Day chair, Raffle chair, Librarian, See's Candy chair, and historian. If interested, let us know and we can give you more details.



School Openings

There are openings for all classes for next year. It is possible we will have to make the classes smaller, in order to meet the CDC guidelines. We will have to see how this plays out.

Internet Reviews

If you are so inclined, we would love it if you would write a review of FCNS on Greatschools.org, Yelp, and Next Door apps. We have some great reviews but it's always nice to get more current ones. Thanks to those who added last month! People do mention them to us when they come to visit!

Thank You

Many thanks to all our board members and jobholders for the work they contributed to FCNS this year.

If you have a notebook that goes with your job, please take the time to clean it out for the new person. Add any helpful notes and tips that you think will help them. Any files you can put on a flash drive for the next person is fabulous! Please turn it in to the office this week. Please don't make me have to hunt it down! Appreciate it!

Car Good-byes

Each teacher has a picked a day and time to meet with her class and hand out their year-end gifts and other personal items.

Group I- Tuesday, May 26 10 AM in the school parking lot

Group II- Wednesday, May 27, 11:30-12 noon in the circular drive near the kitchen door

Group III- Thursday, May 28, 10 AM in the school parking lot

Group IV- Friday, May 29, 10 AM in the school parking lot

Hope you can make it. If not, we will try to find another way to get you your child's treasures!

Family Good-byes

This is the hardest part of the newsletter for me to write each year. It is so difficult to say goodbye to families that have been with us for years, and even those who haven't been around a long time but made a big impact while they were here



Ninh-Kieu Lee: The Lee family goes way back with FCNS! Jeff Lee attended here as a preschooler, and now their three boys have! Ninh-kieu has served as our treasurer for 4 ½ years! We were so fortunate to have her in that role, keeping our budget safe and bills paid. She has been instrumental in getting the playground project going, being the liaison with the companies, and getting us the service and price we needed. Her support has meant a lot to me and made my job easier. Also, Jeff's dad, Grandpa Doug, has been fixing toys and lending us carnival games for years! Such a great family- we are sorry to see them go!

Kristal Melendez: Kristal has been so supportive during her two boy's journey through FCNS. She just finished her presidential and parliamentarian duties on the board. She previously was our board secretary. Kristal's personality is bubbly and generous. Ask for a sign, card, or whatever, she put her creative juices to work and we receive something fabulous. We have loved the Melendez family- thank you!

Grace Rungsarangnont: Grace was only here 2 years, but she put her mark on FCNS! As maintenance chair she was fabulous. We would tell her something was broken or needed to be done and she either did it herself or got her husband, or Lindsay Caulford to help her! They fixed the earthquake meal storage area, built shelves in the breezeway, hung shade sails, and I can't remember what else right now, but I know I loved having her as a resource! She also donated some electronics for us! And when the school printer died, she researched and ordered me one to pick up at Staples 45 minutes later!

Lindsay Caulford: Lindsay also put her mark on FCNS. She and Grace are like the dynamic duo. They get things done. I love that! Lindsay is able to look at the vacuum cleaner, figure out why it's not working, research and send me the link to order the part. Together they also found our bug exterminator. They researched, and made appointments. All of this in addition to their regular jobs of scheduling maintenance and housekeeping, with no issues! Amazing help to me and I so appreciate it and will miss them both!!! Hopefully, Grace will return in 3 years with her son - due in a week! Best wishes!

Have to give a shout out to Michelle Joyce! Michelle was one of my students years ago and it means a lot that she returned to FCNS with her own 2 children. Michelle was historian for 2 years and then did Orientation this last August. Thank you, Michelle!

I am also thrilled that Natalie Lau brought her son to FCNS after being in my class years ago! It is truly heartwarming to get these people back in our lives again! Thanks, Natalie, for being our Librarian this year and figuring out how to get books delivered during a pandemic!

Thank you also to Shannon Massaro for her help these last 2 years with the evaluations. She seemed to have brought us into the 21st century by doing the online surveys! So grateful! Think of all the paper you saved us! Thank you, Shannon, for being our personnel chair for 2 years. We will hope to see you back with that sweet little girl of yours!

We also say goodbye, thank you and best wishes to these families as they move on to new schools: Abbot, Maguire, McCorry, Paz, Buker, Goya, Harrell, Kyle, Martinez, Murashige, Rosenberg, Ward, Benson, Bermudez, McCollum, Wai, Bustamante, Chen, Kim, Reta, Stricker, Torres, and Wise.

We say a temporary goodbye to these families who will hopefully return with siblings soon or in the next few years: Campbell, Carmona, McCann, Petropulos, Simpson, Dietmeier, Kelly, Tzeng, and Wolfe.

Please forgive me if I forgot you, or put you in the wrong category! Sometimes I'm not sure if there is a sibling! Or perhaps someone hasn't signed up yet, but are planning on returning.

All of the elementary schools are lucky to get our FCNS families because they know the benefits of volunteerism and aren't afraid to get involved. We wish you all the best of luck!

The rest of you - we hope to see in August and hope the virus is contained!

Just thought I'd mention that occasionally a family thinks they are done with FCNS and then, oops, another child joins the family and we see them again! Surprise! Will that be your family???

We always welcome drop-in visits from alumni, and we take your donations at rummage sale time! If you are getting rid of plasma cars, cozy coupes, wagons, scooters, old kitchen pans, dress-up clothes, wood pieces - please think of us! We are so grateful for our donations - and you can see they are well used! We will be putting you on our Alumni email list and you will get an occasional note from us!

If returning to be a summer school helper appeals to your child - they need to be 10 years old to help. Contact us in April or early May to get on the list to help. Hopefully next summer it will be business as usual.

If You Will Be Returning this Fall:

Currently, our plan is for school to start on Monday, August 17, and Orientation (first mandatory meeting) will be on August 13. The first board meeting of the school year will be July 15. You will be notified about a teacher conference at the end of July. Any of this could change, so keep your eyes out for our emails this summer.

And please, once more - if your plans change and you will not be attending FCNS next year, LET US KNOW ASAP

Normally I would say, have a great summer. Today, I will say stay safe, stay well, and do your best to enjoy life as it is! We have much to be grateful for if we look! Those fabulous kids for one!

Miss Sally



Hello FCNS Families!

We have made it through another year, and this is definitely a unique ending to the school year. I am sad as we end in the midst of this pandemic. If your time at FCNS has come to an end, thank you for joining our community. You will always be a part of our family here! If you are a returning family in the fall, hopefully things will be in place, and we can see each other at FCNS.



Thank you to the board members who have finished your commitments with us. Your wisdom, insight, flexibility, and organization have strengthened our school, made our internal systems run more efficiently, and supported the cooperative spirit of our school. Thank you Grace Rungsarangnont, Yilin Tzeng, and Shannon Massaro! Thank you also to the group reps, standing committees, and each person who has held a position in our school this past year.

Thank you Kristal Melendez for serving as President, Secretary, OCCPPNS Representative, and Parliamentarian (and maybe more that I am unaware of!). You have invested a lot into our community, and we are grateful!

Thank you Ninh-Kieu! You are a gift to our community! Thank you for your leadership and wisdom in the position of Treasurer. Thank you for all the ways, both seen and unseen, that you have poured energy into the FCNS community.

Stanley, thank you for putting together the JJJ every month!

Lastly, if you have enjoyed the materials provided by the teachers (packets, YouTube videos, zoom calls, etc.) the past 9 weeks, would you consider making a financial donation to the school? It is a simple way to thank our teachers and support our school. If you feel inclined to give a donation, it would be greatly appreciated!

We made it to summer! It will likely look different from previous summers, but cheers to a summer full of adventures and memories!

Kindly,
Becky
Judah's Mom, Group 4



The Kingdom of FCNS and the Evil Wizard COVID-19

Our story begins in August of 2019 in the royal kingdom of FCNS as the loyal subjects prepare for a new magical academic year of learning and growing through hands-on experience and play. The kingdom is divided into three counties, each led by a magical queen. Queen Sally, Queen Kelly, and Queen Micky are beloved by all in the kingdom. They lead with love and compassion, and they share their wisdom with all of the loyal subjects.

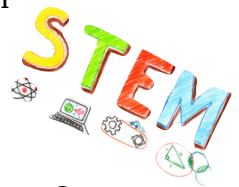


The year began as all others that had preceded, with subjects young and old excited to learn new things and enjoy traditions long-observed within the kingdom. The kingdom welcomed many new subjects, eager to make new friends. The three Queens embarked on teaching their subjects about the wonders of the ocean, how to be good and loyal friends, the magic of colors, and how to defeat the evil germs that lurk in the dark corners of the kingdom. Little did any of the Queens or subjects know just how prescient and important this knowledge would become in the months to follow...

The area of the kingdom occupied by Queen Sally and Queen Kelly were delighted by a smooth new blue road for their subjects and all who visited to enjoy. Subjects rode their carriages along the new road with great joy! They forged mighty trenches in the land to divert water to areas in need. The area of the kingdom occupied by Queen Micky enjoyed learning about the mysterious creatures that inhabit the land, keeping several specimens as pets to care for and learn from.



Subjects from all three counties were invited to learn Spanish language from Queen Micky, improving their abilities to converse with surrounding kingdoms. Queen Sally invited subjects to learn science, technology, engineering and math skills in her county. These skills are very important and help the



kingdom prosper as young subjects grow and apply them to careers which benefit their communities.

In September, the three Queens invited the older subjects to roundtable meetings that allowed the subjects to better teach the children in the kingdom and lead them to greatness. On September 26th, the entire kingdom gathered to celebrate the new academic year and enjoy one another's company. Popsicles were enjoyed by many!

In October, the kingdom came together to raise money by donating items they no longer needed. The annual FCNS Rummage Sale was a huge success, raising \$5,512 for the kingdom! The loyal subjects were invited to take family photos as well, another fantastic fundraiser. The Queens took turns leading their subjects on a quest to Irvine Park Railroad Pumpkin Patch. There, subjects enjoyed a scenic train ride through the countryside, a glimpse into a haunted castle and a romp through a labyrinth made of hay. Each subject chose a beautiful pumpkin to take home to their families. The Queens taught their subjects about the importance of safety, and how to call out for help (911). The month of October ended with each county enjoying a traditional costume ball and parade with many yummy treats to be had.



In November, the youth in the kingdom had their annual portraits taken. The Queens led their subjects on yet another quest to learn from a dentist about the importance of oral hygiene. At

the end of November, the kingdom enjoyed one of their most beloved traditions, that of their Fall Feast! The loyal subjects gather and share fruits of their harvest culminating in a very yummy Stone Soup. The subjects give thanks for all they are blessed with.

In December, the youth of the kingdom were invited to have their vision checked by scholars from the nearby College of Optometry. The kingdom welcomed a guest scholar, Jody Stratton, an expert in language development and communication to share her knowledge, and just as importantly, the subjects baked and shared family cookies and treats with one another. The kingdom celebrated the diverse holiday traditions of their subjects before the traditional winter break to spend time with their families.



The subjects returned to learning in January 2020, excited for the new decade! There were many fun traditions celebrated in the first months of the new year. The kingdom was happy to learn they had been honored yet again with accreditation by the NAEYC, recognizing it as one of the elite in early education! The kingdom enjoyed a day of snow play and learned about cold weather. Fathers in the kingdom were honored by sharing a special breakfast and craft with their children. Many families shared their beloved pets with the kingdom, giving youth an opportunity to learn about the care of many different animals, and to get some snuggles in!

In February, the subjects enjoyed yet another annual quest to the nearby post office to learn how written messages are delivered throughout the kingdom and beyond. They exchanged goodies and gifts of affection for Valentine's Day. The area of the kingdom occupied by Queen Micky was delighted by a new play structure for the youth to practice balance, climbing, and all sorts of other fun. The subjects looked forward to the coming traditions in spring such as a quest to Tanaka Farms to harvest strawberries, and the annual Family Fun Day for subjects to gather, enjoy fun activities, and win prizes.



But the kingdom was unaware that a dangerous foe was already lingering just outside the kingdom, plaguing kingdoms around the world. The Evil Wizard COVID-19 had begun casting dark magic all over the globe. The dark magic was especially drawn to large gatherings where it could curse a great number of subjects at once.



In order to protect their subjects, on March 12th, the Queens made the decision to cancel all gatherings for the foreseeable future, including the Tanaka Farms quest and Family Fun Day. This made all in the kingdom very sad, but all were committed to protecting one another. The subjects used the knowledge they had gained about protecting themselves from germs to keep the dark magic at bay. The subjects washed their hands with increased frequency, stayed safely near their immediate families, and used technology to keep in touch and continue learning. The Queens shared videos with their subjects on YouTube, and assembled fun activity bags to be enjoyed at home.

The kingdom continues to support one another through this uncertain time through their shared co-op spirit. The subjects look forward to the day they may declare total defeat over the dark magic of COVID-19, and they may gather together to celebrate! The kingdom of FCNS will continue to thrive, albeit the new normal may change usual policies and procedures. Nevertheless, the subjects and their fearless Queens will forge on and all will have a happy ending!

The End
To Be Continued!...

TO BE CONTINUED...

Miss Micky, Groups 1 & 3



Well I feel like I felt two years ago when I was sick. I have this lost time, for the second time in my life here at FCNS. I have missed you guys so much. I have enjoyed putting packets together and making videos (thanks to Miss Sally and Miss Kelly), but it was not the same as being in class, for sure. So much growth happens in spring, and it's fun to watch the growth.

But thank you for working with us in this new way of learning. Having your support has meant A LOT.

Thank you to Patricia and Karen for being great reps this year, for all the posting of info to your groups, and for the drive-by visit that REALLY made me feel special. Thank you.

I cannot express how grateful I am to have been allowed in to your children's preschool lives and experiences at FCNS. We are saying good-bye to some friends and some who will be returning in the fall (we hope). If you are moving on, best wishes and prayers; please keep in touch.



Thank you to Miss Sally for all her work in keeping up with all the business part of this Covid-19 information. And thanks to our Amazing board; so Grateful for all you have done and continue to do for our staff and school. GRACIAS.

I look forward to seeing group I on Tuesday, the 26th at 10:00 and group III on Thursday, the 28th @10:00 - to say goodbye, to sing "Happy Birthday" to those who have had birthdays and to those who will have summer birthdays, and to return cubbie items and jackets. I hope to see you all. Well that is all for now. STAY SAFE, HEALTHY, AND AT HOME FOR NOW.

With love always Miss Micky

Miss Kelly, Group 2



Dear group 2 family,

I write this on the evening of what would have been our last day of preschool. What a year! Thank you!!! Each year I look back at my class and think of all the growth that has happened. I have watched the kids use their big voice and stand up for themselves. I have watched them be able to sit and pay attention on the carpet longer. I have watched them write their names from scribbling to forming letters. I have watched them ask for a toy rather than grab it. I have witnessed them grow new friendships.

I have watched as they could barely pump their legs on the swings to seeing them fully functional at swinging. I have watched their art become more of an expression, done with intention than just simple play. I have witnessed them learning new letters and numbers. They have grown taller and more capable. They are growing up!

What a gift it has been to spend time with your children. They all teach me so much! I always reflect on all the little things that I have gained as a teacher. There is always one child who helps my patience grow bigger and my heart grow fonder.

Thank you for choosing me to be your child's preschool teacher. It truly is an honor. I will hold a piece of them always. They are my school family, forever.

I plan to continue with our YouTube channel and perhaps a summer packet.

I'm looking forward to our drive-thru pick up on Wednesday, May 27th from 11:30-12.

There are still a few packets that have not been picked up in the breezeway from the round 2 packets. I will make sure you get those on Wednesday.

Wishing you all a summer of seasonal sweetness!

All my love,

Miss Kelly



Miss Sally, Group 4

I loved the flowers for Teacher Appreciation and the parade was fabulous. The children and parents truly make me feel very loved and appreciated. I will miss our little community!

I'm not going to list all the things we missed the last weeks of the school year. I'd rather remind us all of the fun we had! Remember brad buddies? Every year at least one child thinks that they HAVE to be that child's friend. Sometimes it works out well, others, well, they move on! Does your child have fond memories of their brad buddie? I'll bet they know their name now!



Remember the Pumpkin Patch, Halloween songs and parade, the fall feast and drums, the book exchange at Christmas, the gingerbread boys that ran away, Snow day, daddy's breakfast, pajama day, walking to the post office, pet days, and the Lunar New Year tree with lucky money?

We can't forget the small moments as well. The times when you were stressing about being the snack parent, and it turned out fine! Perhaps you cooked a special snack with the kids. Remember the times when the art table was so crowded you felt a little out of control - and then the times you were able to do some art yourself and have quiet conversations with kids. Pulling wagons on the playground, playing tag and hide-and-go-seek. Dodgeball, rivers, squirt bottles, paint with water, and pushing the swings and encouraging kids to pump.

All precious, and not so precious memories that hopefully bring you joy in the years to come when you think of FCNS. I hope the yearbook you will receive this week will help remind you of these things!

I wish all of you going on to kindergarten or TK the very best of everything. I am happy to have Joey coming back! You have been a wonderful group of parents to work with as well. Thanks for choosing FCNS and me for your child's teacher this year!

Much Love, Miss Sally

