

# Bright News!

## Feature Teacher

## Meet Our New Principal Ms. Nikki



Hello! My name is Nikki Gallahue. I live in Whitman with my husband John and dog Fozzie. I am so excited to be a part of the Star Preschools team! Working with children has always been a passion of mine, as I have babysat and taught gymnastics since I was 14 years old. I graduated from Sacred Heart High School in Kingston in 2009 and continued my education at Curry College in Milton. I studied Early Childhood Education and Integrated Liberal Studies at Curry and worked at the campus childcare center. After graduating in 2013, I attended the University of Massachusetts Boston, and received my Master of Education in Educational Administration, graduating in 2018. I am licensed to teach Pre-K through Grade 6 and have spent time teaching early childhood and Title One in the private and public schools. Although I enjoyed my work in the school systems, I knew I eventually wanted to get back to my roots of childcare. I am Infant & Toddler Certified and have led my own classroom in each of those age groups! I obtained my Director I and II Certification through the state, and have been an assistant director at a childcare center before embarking on my journey at Starboard! My favorite thing about working with children is watching them grow and hit milestones. I value my role in their education and strive to provide a safe and nurturing environment for them. I consider myself lucky to be able to build relationships with all different types of families, and acknowledge that finding a school where you can trust that your children are safe and cared for is so important. I can't wait to meet you!

### Inside this Issue:

Nurse Terry's Tip's	2
PK Graduation	2
Sunscreen	2
Curriculum Corner	3
Dates to Know	4





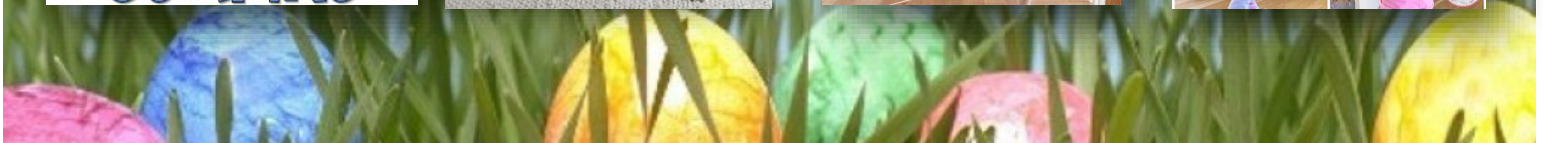
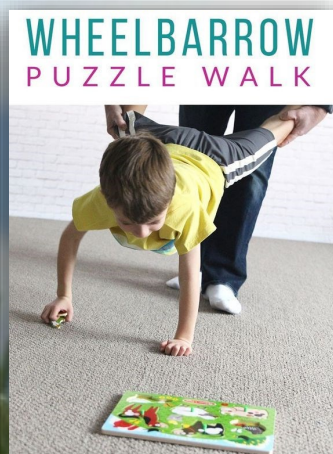
# CURRICULUM CORNER

## Gross Motor Skills

Last month our main focus was Fine Motor; this month we want to focus on Gross Motor Skills! Gross Motor is so important for developing strength, balance and coordination in a child's large muscles. It helps with confidence and promotes daily physical exercise and a healthy lifestyle as well. Below is a list of fun activities you can introduce to your child at home:



- \***Throw, catch or kick a ball with your child.**
- \***Have run races or play chase/tag together.**
- \***Challenge your child to move like various animals (bear walk, crab walk, slither like a snake, t-rex walk, hop like a frog)**
- \***Provide your child with a bike or scooter to practice balance and coordination.**
- \***Make frequent visits to your local park. Encourage your child to climb, challenge them to "skip" on the monkey bars, and teach them how to use their arms and legs to go higher on the swings.**
- \***Play movement songs or yoga videos your child can watch and learn from.**
- \***Enroll your child into individual or team sports such as soccer, t-ball, flag football, dance, gymnastics, swimming or martial arts.**
- \***Create an obstacle course using hoola-hoops to jump in, cones to run around and tunnels to climb through.**

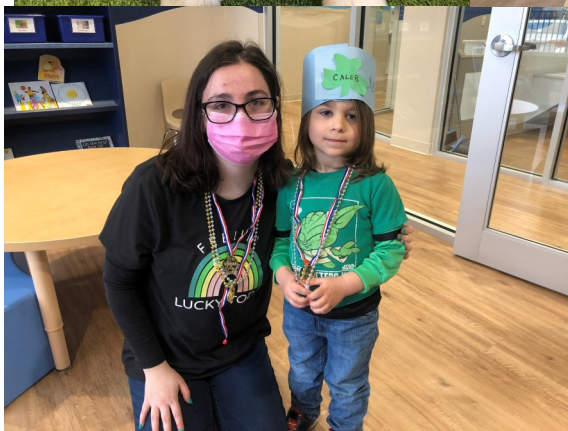


# Starboard Academy

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## Important Dates for April

Friday, April 2nd:

**OPEN** on Good Friday

Thursday, April 8th:

**Spring Fling Party**

Monday-Friday, April 26th & 30th

**Parent/Teacher Conferences**

## Looking Forward to May

Monday, May 3rd—Friday, May 7th:

**Teacher Appreciation Week**

Friday, May 7th:

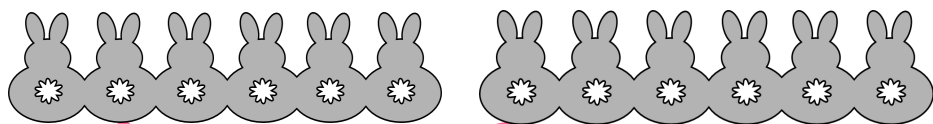
**Mother's Day Tea Party**

Friday, May 28th:

**Pre-K Graduations**

Friday, June 4th:

**We are CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF MEMORIAL DAY**



# March Photos!