Brisht Mewsons April 2021 STAR Family of the Month: The Voges

Congratulations, Voges Family! Caring for Alex has felt like nothing less than winning the lotto! We have been beyond lucky to be a part of his early childhood education. It's been so special to watch Alex learn, grow and develop over the past three and a half years. He's made some amazing friends, stolen the hearts of every teacher and continues to make strides each and every day.

Emily, we have watched you love Alex from day one and cannot even begin to thank you for allowing us to be a part of your lives. It's been so fun getting to know your family! We appreciate all the love you give to Bright Star and look forward to watching him grow another year in Pre-K!



Leticia!

ABOUT US...

Activities we love: Fishing, Bike Rides, Visiting the Beach Meals we love: SlapBox Pizza

Bright Star memory we love: Getting love from "Chacho", all of the awesome teachers & being greeted like family! Extra Curriculars we love: Alex is starting soccer & flag

football in April

Vacation Spots we love: Anywhere by the ocean with family

Feature Teacher: Ms. Leticia

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In the past four months, Ms. Leticia has exceeded our expectations as an outstanding caregiver and Bright Star Team member. She always comes to work with a smile on her face, she shows all the patience in the world to her kiddos and Ms. Leticia and Ms. Crystal are the a Dream Team in Early Preschool!

Ms. Leticia, you have been so amazing, and we cannot thank you enough for all that you do! You have such a special gift in your ability to work with two year olds each day, and they adore you to no end! Thank you so much for all you do and continue to do every single day! Congratulations on receiving Teacher of the Month, Ms.



Nurse Terry's Tips: Wellness Exams Are So Important

Spring is here and it's time for new beginnings! Let's start off by making sure every child is up to date with their Annual Wellness Exams. It is so important for your child's health to have a Wellness Exam every year. This is not just for immunizations, but to also catch any early on-set health problems that may occur. Also, please note: if your child is four, they must be screened for vision and hearing problems. It is required by State Licensing that we have a copy of your child's Wellness Exam and shot records on file and updated yearly, audits can be done at any time as well. Your child's file is considered incomplete until this information is received. I will be sending out reminders via email very soon, and if you have any questions in the mean time about when your child's Wellness Exam is due, please do not hesitate to email or call me: nurse@brightstaracademyschools.com or 512-257-7827.

With those beautiful flowers come pesky creatures: bees, wasps, yellow jackets, hornets, and fire ants. Here are some tips to keep your child safe from insect stings:

- Check for nests in play areas, for instance, old tree stumps, around rotting wood, in holes in the ground, auto tires, and around trash cans.
- Don't allow children who are allergic to insects play outside alone when stinging insects are active. Even a dead insect can sting if a child steps on it or picks it up.
 - ☼ Wear shoes. Avoid sandals or going barefoot.
- When eating outdoors, avoid foods such as tuna, peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, and water-melon. Sweetened drinks, frozen sweet treats, and ice cream also attract insects.
- If an insect is near, DO NOT SWAT at it or RUN. These actions can trigger an attack. Walk away slowly. If you DISTURB A NEST and the insects swarm around you, curl up as tightly as you can, face down and cover your head with your arms which reduces exposed skin.

Pre-K Graduation Info!

It is hard to believe the end of the school year is only two months away! Cap and gown order forms have been sent home; it is very important that we receive the order forms back by Friday, April 9th so there is plenty of time to get them ordered and logoed. More details about the ceremony will be coming in May! In addition, we will be sending home a "Program Withdrawal/ Change in Schedule" notice. We are hopeful that many of our Pre-K students will be staying to attend our School-Age program in the fall, but realize that a few may be going to an elementary that we do not transport from. Please feel free to stop by the office if you have any questions.





Summertime = Sunscreen Time!

Getting Hot, Hot, Hot!

Bright Star will start to apply Sunscreen beginning Monday, May 3rd. Sunscreen is provided by Bright Star for Toddler through School Age children. A consent form will be attached to the foyer doors, in order to give your child's teacher permission to apply sunscreen. Sunscreen will ONLY be applied in the afternoons, so please be sure to apply sunscreen in the morning prior to attending school.

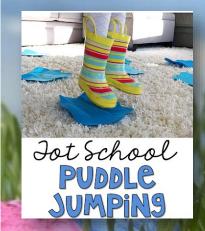
CURRICULUM CORNER Gross Motor Skills

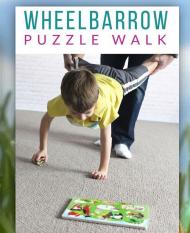
Last month our main focus was Fine Motor; this month we want to focus on Gross Motor Skills! Gross Motor is so important for developing strength, balance and coordination in a child's large muscles. It helps with confidence and promotes daily physical exercise and a healthy lifestyle as well. Below is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

Frog Street Portal: Frog Street FINALLY has their parent portal up and running again! Please feel free to access this site for fun ways you can integrate the curriculum at home with your little ones!

Username: parent **Password:** parent











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Important Dates for April

Friday, April 2nd:

Bright Star will be OPEN on Good Friday Friday, April 9th:

Pre-K Cap & Gown Forms and Payment are DUE
Monday-Friday, April 19th-23rd & Mon. & Tues., April 26th & 27th

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 Gradations

Monday, May 31st:

BRIGHT STAR IS CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF MEMORIAL DAY





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