



# Put a little PEP in your Life!

## August 2026 Newsletter

### A Letter from the Director...

Dear Park's Edge Preschool Families,

August is always a bittersweet time of year as we say goodbye to children going to school in the fall and welcome new families to the program. We look forward to celebrating the last month of summer with water days, outdoor snacks, lots of chalk art decorating the bike path, soaking up the sun, and enjoying everyone's favorite, Granny's Treats on Thursdays.

A huge thank you to Ms. Nicole and Ms. Melinda for planning another fun-filled summer for children ages 4 and up. Some of the highlights included Ryan the Reptile Guy, a 30-foot launching bubble machine, the Milwaukee Public Museum, and the Bear's Den.

"Thank you" to Emanuel Church for another successful Vacation Bible School, held July 27–30. The theme, "Rome, Paul, and the Underground Church," transported the children to Rome. The children sampled piña (flatbread pizza), Ancient Roman grilled cheese, and chicken skewers. They worked together to make mosaic tiles, competed against each other in Roman Olympics, and had catapult competitions. Thank you to Karin McElrone and Emanuel Church's Board of Christian Education, as well as Ms. Alexis and Ms. Hannah, PEP's teachers, for making this a memorable week for all.

I have added a FAQ sheet for the children going to 4K in the Whitnall School District. If you have any questions, please feel free to come and talk with me at any time.

Friendly reminder: Any messages on ProCare that come in after 6 p.m. will be answered the following day.

Mark your calendars! Tuesday, August 4, is Hales Corners Night Out, sponsored by the Hales Corners Lions Club. It is a wonderful free community event with lots of fun activities for the whole family. Police and fire trucks, bounce houses, and a talent stage are some of the fun activities planned. There will be food available for purchase, too. The best part is PEP will be there! Stop by and say hello!

In keeping with tradition, we have our annual cookout for our school-age program on Friday, August 14, to celebrate another successful summer at PEP. Parents are more than welcome to join in the fun.

Reminder: We are closed on Friday, August 21, for our Professional Development Day. We will be getting our classrooms ready for fall in the morning, and then we will have an afternoon of training on the Christian component, Bloodborne Pathogens, Portage Assessment Tool, classroom observations, and the teaching cycle. While we are busy learning, Adelman will be here cleaning all the carpets.

Tuesday, September 1, is back-to-school day for the Whitnall School District. Please drive carefully when entering and departing Emanuel Church/PEP's parking lot while following school bus safety guidelines. Please make sure that your child arrives by 8 a.m. in the morning to make sure that your child is ready for the school day.

PEP's Annual Open House is scheduled for Thursday, September 3, from 5–6:30 p.m. Families are welcome to tour the center, meet the teachers, and see your child's classroom. We will have an activity in your child's classroom that we will be able to display throughout the building. Pizza will be provided in the classroom. The entire family is welcome to join.

Park's Edge Preschool will be closed on Monday, September 7, for Labor Day. Regular charges are applied. Enjoy the last weekend of summer!

If your family is continuing for the school year at PEP, the annual registration fee will be charged to your account on Tuesday, September 1.

We look forward to another wonderful school year.

Sincerely,  
Kristin Burr  
Director

## Happy Birthday!

|            |            |
|------------|------------|
| Jack S.    | 08/02/2025 |
| Evelyn F.  | 08/06/2022 |
| Madelyn M. | 08/06/2022 |
| Cooper D.  | 08/07/2023 |
| Emily A.   | 08/08/2021 |
| Levi C.    | 08/12/2024 |
| Liam B.    | 08/12/2025 |
| Mason W.   | 08/15/2020 |
| Daniel P.  | 08/17/2025 |
| Luca R.    | 08/18/2023 |
| Elijah C.  | 08/22/2022 |
| Logan K.   | 08/24/2020 |
| Marlee P.  | 08/25/2022 |
| Madelyn G. | 08/29/2022 |
| Mason D.   | 08/31/2021 |



## Important Dates:

### Tuesday, August 4th–

Hales Corners Night Out - 5:30-8:00pm  
Located at Hales Corners Park.  
All are welcome to attend.

### Friday, August 21st–

Center Closed for Professional Development Day  
Regular tuition charges applied.

### Tuesday, September 1st–

First Day of School Whitnall School District

### Thursday, September 3rd–

Park's Edge Preschool Open House - 5:00-6:30pm

### Monday, September 7th–

Center Closed for Labor Day Holiday  
Regular tuition rates apply.

## Love Bugs

### What does a cow do for fun?

It goes to the mooovies!

This has been such a HOT but fun summer so far! Last month, we read the books *Cara Plans a Colorful Picnic Party*, which teaches about the colors of the rainbow, and *You Make My Heart Saur*, a really cute book that talks about how big our hearts are and compares them to dinosaurs. We also made ice cream cones with our footprints and created firework footprint art.

This month, we will read the books *I Love My Mommy Because* and *See, Touch, Feel: Love*.

Wynona is rolling over and is starting to sit up with support. She also loves to bounce in the Exersaucer.

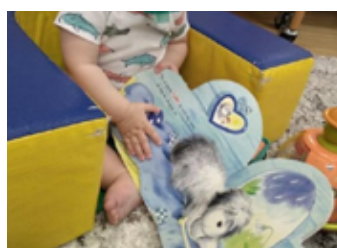
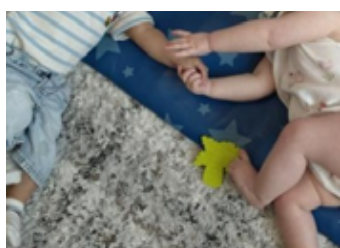
Brooks is sitting up with support to strengthen his core and back muscles. He loves teether toys and is also rolling all around the classroom.

Makai is starting to roll over and get where he wants to go. He is also using his voice more to get our attention.

Delainey is rolling from side to side and enjoys cold teethers. She likes to sit up and is practicing her balance.

We look forward to another month of learning, growing, and making wonderful memories together. Thank you for sharing your little ones with us!

Ms. Terri, Ms. Sydney and Ms. Gabi



## Beautiful Butterflies

Time sure flies when we're having fun! As quickly as the days go by, the children's milestones continue to grow and amaze us. We are so proud of all the progress they are making each day!

We have three special birthdays to celebrate this month: Jack, Liam, and Daniel! They will all be our Babies of the Month for August.

Jack is learning to pull himself up to stand. He enjoys singing "Row, Row, Row Your Boat" and spending time looking at books.

Liam is communicating more each day. He signs "more" and "please," loves clapping along to music, and enjoys spending time outside.

Daniel is also pulling himself up to stand, walking along furniture, and having fun during art activities.

July Recap:

July was filled with lots of fun, exploration, and sensory experiences! The children enjoyed playing with water buckets, creating colorful sand art with glue, painting with pool noodles, and making footprint art. They also loved stacking blocks up to three high, taking nature walks, catching bubbles, dancing with scarves, and climbing the soft climber and small slide in our classroom.

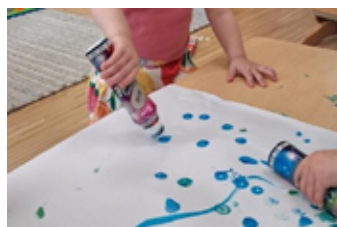
The children have been working hard on their growing skills, too! They are practicing recognizing and saying the colors blue and yellow, exploring new movements, and building confidence through play and discovery.

Looking Ahead to August:

We are excited for another fun month of learning and growing! We will continue strengthening fine motor skills by practicing using utensils, holding paintbrushes and markers, and exploring different coloring tools. We will also continue introducing more sign language to help the children communicate words and needs such as "more," "please," "thank you," and "all done."

We are looking forward to creating new sensory bottles for the children to explore and enjoy. We can't wait to see all the fun and learning August will bring!

Ms. Julie, Ms. Holli, and Ms. Paige





## Darling Dragonflies

In July, we had a wonderful time celebrating Independence Day, and the little ones enjoyed the parade we had at the church. There were quite a few hot days when we had to stay busy inside, but we made the most of them! Our little ones created lots of artwork and practiced their fine motor skills.

August is almost here, and we will be learning about camping, dinosaurs, and sweet treats. Summer is coming to an end, so we will be enjoying our time outside while the weather is nice. We will continue working on sharing, following simple directions, and being kind to one another.

We are a busy group and love to stay active! Listening to music and dancing have been some of our favorite activities. Some of the children ask for “Old MacDonald Had a Farm” or “Pete the Cat: I Love My White Shoes.” They are making great progress with their communication skills, and we will continue to encourage them to express themselves. Reading books, singing songs, and talking with them are all wonderful ways to support their language development.

We look forward to spending more time with your wonderful little ones!

Ms. Gina, Ms. Jennifer and Ms. Morgan



## Busy Bees

Summer has flown by! We had a wonderful month exploring the beach, pirates, Rome, and jungle animals. Despite some wacky weather keeping us inside, the children stayed busy exploring our classroom prop boxes and playing with sand. We also learned about buildings and had a blast bouncing in the gladiator arena. For science, we tried a Mentos experiment—it didn’t erupt as high as we predicted, but it was still a fun learning experience! The kids also tried Jell-O; most were unsure of the texture, but everyone tried at least one bite.

Our garden has been thriving despite the heat. We harvested onions and made a dip that the children absolutely loved, pairing it with peppers and cucumbers. We also enjoyed a few water days with in-house field trips and sprinkler play, and we hope to fit in a few more before summer ends.

Looking ahead to the last month of summer, we are excited to learn about camping and dinosaurs, which will include a volcano experiment. We will also explore the theme of “Sweet Summer” and do one of my favorite activities: making whipped cream with the children! Finally, we look forward to our last field trip featuring a bounce house and bubbles.

We hope everyone makes the most of the last month of summer!

Ms. Emily, Ms. Jacque and Ms. Brooke



## Sunshine Room

### Where do sharks go to summer camp?

Fin-Land!

As summer continues to fly by, we are still focusing on our daily routines. It takes about 66 days to develop a new habit, and the children have been doing a wonderful job! They have been loving group time, where they sing the days of the week and our “What’s the Weather?” song. Each day, they become more confident singing and doing the hand motions.

Throughout the month, we enjoyed some exciting activities! We had the opportunity to bounce in a gladiator bounce house, and the children had so much fun jumping with their friends. Toward the end of the month, we also got to play on the slip ‘n slide. The kids loved filling up buckets of water and dumping them on their friends—it was the perfect way to cool off during the hot weather!

Our classroom also voted on names for our future hermit crabs. The winning names were Bubbles and Snapper! The children can hardly contain their excitement about welcoming classroom pets. We plan to adopt them toward the end of the summer, so stay tuned for more updates and pictures!

Just a friendly reminder to please check your child’s cubby and make sure they have appropriate backup clothes, as well as a swimsuit, so they’re ready for our water days. We are also running low on extra clothing, so please return any borrowed items as soon as possible. If you have any outgrown children’s clothing that you would like to donate, we would greatly appreciate it.

With the warm weather continuing, please make sure your child brings a water bottle each day, as we will be spending more time outside.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to us through the app, during drop-off or pick-up, or by calling us between 1:00–3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Thank you!

The Sunshine Crew

Ms. Nay-Nay & Ms. Alexis



## Fantastic Frogs

Hello, August!

July flew by like a superhero! We survived the smoke and the heat. Our July highlights, when we were able to go outside, included fun summer activities in the back field, the gladiator arena, the bounce house, the slip ‘n slide, and the bubble machine. We also welcomed back Granny’s Treats on Thursday afternoons to help us cool off.

Some of our indoor highlights were just as much fun! We started the month with a bang by having a Fourth of July parade and creating patriotic headbands during our “America the Beautiful” week. We learned about our country’s 250th birthday and how many stars and stripes are on the American flag while making graham cracker flags with blueberries, cream cheese, and Twizzlers. What a sweet treat! Another fun activity was making gold medals out of Fruit Roll-Ups and Oreo cookies during Play Ball week. We also learned about the children’s favorite sports by creating a sports graph in our classroom. Everyone chose basketball, and no one picked hockey! Pirate Week was filled with fun, including an ocean-themed dessert topped with whipped cream and gummy sharks. We learned about ocean life and even had a pet shark in our classroom! The children had so much fun feeding him, and it was a great hands-on learning activity.

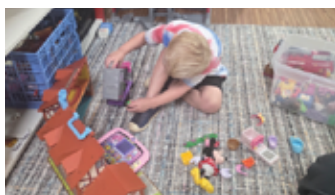
Our Development of Learning (DOL) activity for the month was making lemonade. The children helped squeeze lemons, measure the sugar, and stir everything together. We heard lots of reactions, including, “Oh, it’s sour!” and “Yummy!”

During the month of August, we look forward to learning about camping, the Land Before Time, Sweet Summer, and mixed emotions.

Please continue to check the Procure app for messages and pictures.

Thank you,

The Froggie Teachers: Ms. Sandra, Ms. Sarah and Ms. Shanda





## Shining Stars

Just like “Au-gust” of wind, July flew right by! We can’t believe summer is coming to an end, but we are excited to see what August holds. July was packed full of fun, so let’s see what we did!

First, we started July off with the one and only “4th of July” week. We enjoyed having our parade, as well as our walk to McDonald’s! Next, we had “Team Sports” week, where we learned about teamwork! After that, we had a blast during “Pirates” week. We made some awesome eye patches, telescopes, and pirate hand hooks! We then enjoyed “Rome Wasn’t Built in a Day” week, where we combined some Roman history with construction. To wrap it all up, we had “In the Jungle” week, where we had our favorite trip so far: the Milwaukee County Zoo! What’s your favorite animal to see?

Coming up in August, we will have “A Camping We Will Go” for our first week, and we can’t wait to make our yummy s’mores trail mix! After that, we will “dive” right into “Under the Sea” week, where we will learn all about ocean life and underwater animals. Then, we will “stomp” our way into “Dinosaurs Go Marching” week. What’s your favorite dino? To wrap up August, we will look back on “What a Sweet Summer” we had with our Sweets and Treats week. We can’t wait to make some yummy ice cream!

Summer isn’t quite over yet! Please remember to still bring water bottles and appropriate extra clothes in case of accidents or messy play. Fall is just around the corner, and we are excited to focus on 4K prep (self-help skills, name writing, beginner math, etc.). We are working on creating a new “family” board, so please bring in or send a family photo to [kristin@parksedgepreschool.com](mailto:kristin@parksedgepreschool.com).

Thank you, and happy August!

Ms. Mariah and Ms. Hannah



## Purple Moons

Wow, July — thank you for all the fun adventures and treats! We kicked off the month with trips to Chuck E. Cheese and Kids in Motion and wrapped it up with visits to the Bear’s Den and the Milwaukee Zoo, with plenty of stops in between. From baby lemurs, bunnies, kittens, and a baby wallaby to the incredible reptiles the children were able to hold, it was almost impossible to choose a favorite.

Even though the summer heat caused us to miss a few field trips, we made up for it with extra fun — water days, including the slip ‘n slide, special activities, and plenty of smiles. Our art projects were just as exciting: we designed beach balls, made colorful sand art, decorated sunglasses, drew our favorite jungle animals, and created sports balls using paper plates.

We also enjoyed so many cooking activities throughout the month, including banana bread, edible sand scenes, puppy chow, monkey bread, and fresh popcorn. July was packed with excitement from start to finish, and now we’re ready for all the new adventures August has in store!

Ms. Maria and Ms. Eryn



## Slithering Snakes

It's hard to believe that August is already here! Summer has flown by, and what an incredible season it has been. We have had an amazing summer filled with fun, learning, laughter, and so many new friendships. From exciting activities and creative projects to outdoor adventures and group games, it has been wonderful watching the children explore, discover, and grow each day. We are so proud of everything they have accomplished this summer.

While we are a little sad to see the summer season come to an end, we are also excited to begin a brand-new school year and all of the opportunities it will bring.

This month, we will enjoy an exciting trip to the Milwaukee Public Museum. We can't wait to explore the exhibits and discover new things. We will also be hosting our end-of-summer cookout to celebrate another fantastic summer. This will be a fun-filled day with great food, games, and time together as we wrap up the summer.

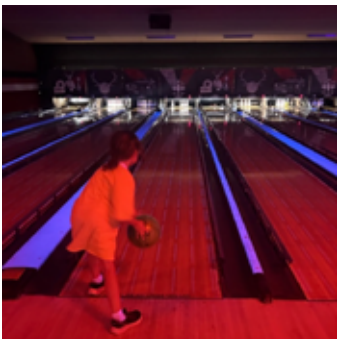
Something to note: August 21st, PEP will be closed for a staff development day.

As the warm weather continues, please remember to send your child with a labeled water bottle each day. Staying hydrated is especially important during the summer months, and having a water bottle readily available helps keep everyone feeling their best while participating in our daily activities.

As we finish out the summer, we want to thank all the families for showing up for your children each day. We love watching them learn, grow, and make new friends. We hope everyone enjoys the final days of summer.

Have a wonderful August!

Ms. Nicole, Ms. Susan, Mr. Cody, and Ms. Savannah



## Themes with Christian Sub Themes

### 08/03-08/07 A Camping We Will Go

"You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands." -Isaiah 55:12

Psalm 90:2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

### 08/10-08/21 Land Before Time and Dinosaurs

Genesis 1:25 And God made the beast of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

### 08/24-08/28 What a Sweet Summer

John 6:11 - "Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks, and gave them to the people."  
Jesus feeds the 5,000 stories.

### 08/30-09/04 Mixed Emotions

"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Isaiah 41:10 Bible Story: Hannah's Prayer and Samuel's Birth (1 Samuel 1:1-20)

## A Pastor's Prayer

Heavenly Father, as we enter August, I pray for fresh starts and new opportunities. Help me embrace the changes ahead with courage and trust in Your plan. Wash away past disappointments and renew my hope. May Your guidance lead me through challenges, and may Your wisdom help me make the most of every opportunity. Grant me strength to step boldly into the future You have prepared for me (Isaiah 43:19)



## NAC Nook

For this month's NAC Nook we will touch on providing articles and resources for families.

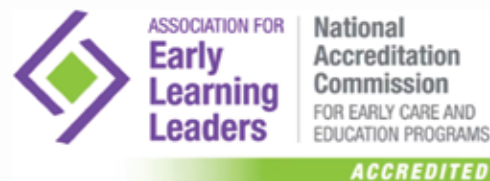
C7: The program provides information to help me better understand my child's development and learning in various ways such as meetings, workshops, articles, etc.

To help parents learn about their child's learning and development we host 2 conferences per year. During the conferences we give the families their child's portfolio binder to take home and read. The binder includes assessments which show the developmental milestones their child is reaching.

There is also a parent resource center located at the front of the building by the office. There are various articles on safe sleep, why play matters, vaccination information, and more. We update the articles every 2-3 months and share this information in a ProCare message.

The newsletter is an excellent way to learn which standards of development each classroom is working on. The teachers for each classroom write an article about the activities happening in their classroom. For infants they share the new skills the children have learned (crawling, sitting up, etc.). This is sent through email so make sure to check out the newsletter each month.

Thank you and let us know if you have any questions about our NAC standards.





## Happy Anniversary!

Happy Anniversary to our beloved Ms. Melinda!

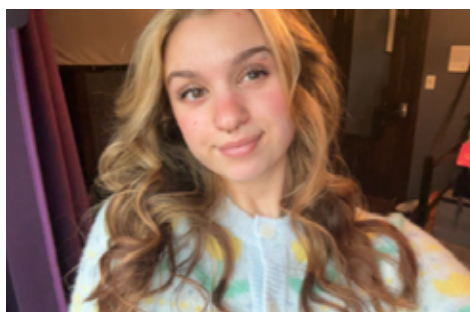
Ms. Melinda has been an integral part of our PEP Family for the past 21 years. She started as a float teacher in our upstairs classrooms and has graced every classroom with her presence throughout her career. For the past three years Ms. Melinda has been the Staff Development Coordinator and works with classroom teams to make sure that they are getting the guidance and feedback with lesson planning and implementation of curriculum. You can find her in the classroom doing observations throughout the year as well. When she is not busy with that, she is also the Health and Safety Coordinator. She is lovingly referred to as 'Fix it Felix.' She always has her tools ready to go at a moments notice to come and help.



The children absolutely light up when they see Ms. Melinda and they always run over to get one of her famous hugs. Her coworkers love to make her laugh and love hiding and scaring her whenever they get the chance. Ms. Melinda is known for her epic storytelling. Even other classrooms will stop to listen because they can't wait to hear what happens next.

Outside of work Melinda is a team sports lover. She is an avid bowler and volleyball player, as well as the Bunko queen of the Midwest. She has two children who are her absolute world. When she is not busy at her own sporting events, Ms. Melinda can be found in the bleachers cheering on her son Henry's football team. She loves spending as much time as she can with her 19 year old daughter Claire. Her motherhood quote is "it's a dirty job but somebody has to do it". She also finds it "super rewarding".

Thank you, Ms. Melinda, for all your hard work. We are so thankful to have you as part of Park's Edge family.



Happy 5 anniversary to everyone's favorite, Ms. Alexis!

Ms. Alexis is a PEP alumnus and grew up in our program. She started her PEP career in high school as a sanitation associate after the pandemic. Alexis then moved into a Program Aid position in our downstairs classrooms. Last year she achieved her preschool credential and is lead teacher qualified.

Alexis is not only the best classroom and toy organizer we have ever had here at PEP but is also incredibly loved by the children. Ms. Alexis loves to get to know each child's individual personality and makes a point to connect with each child throughout the day. When she clocks out for break each day, she always has an adorable to share about a child in her class.

Outside of work Alexis loves spending time with friends, is a makeup and fashion lover, and is the ultimate Hello Kitty fan. She loves all animals, especially her hamster. We are so thankful that Alexis has grown and will continue to grow as part of our PEP Family.

Happy first anniversary to the amazing Ms. Eryn.

Ms. Eryn started her career at PEP in our downstairs classrooms as a float teacher. After floating around for a while she happily found her home in the Purple Moons classroom.

Ms. Eryn attends Grace Bible College and is working towards a degree in Ministry Leadership. Every day Eryn walks through the door with a massive smile on her face. She is so warm and loving and the children absolutely love being around her. Ms. Eryn brings a calmness to the classroom that is felt by everyone. The kids absolutely love telling her stories and hearing her stories about life.

Outside of work Eryn loves spending time with her very large family. She has six siblings and they are all extremely close. She loves to travel and is very active in her church community.

We want to thank Ms. Eryn for her service and dedication to Park's Edge Preschool.

