

# SCPENS March 2016 Newsletter



## Upcoming dates

### Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup>

Parent Meeting 6:45 – 9:00 p.m.  
Maggie T/Thu brings snacks

### Wednesday, March 30<sup>th</sup>

Class Pictures – M/W Families  
at 9:00 a.m.

### Thursday, March 31<sup>st</sup>

Class Pictures – T/TH Families  
at 9:00 a.m.

### April 2<sup>nd</sup>- April 9<sup>th</sup>

SPRING BREAK – NO SCHOOL

### Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup>

Board Meeting 7-9 p.m.

### Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup>

Parent Meeting 6:45 – 9:00 p.m.  
Wendy's Mon/Wed bring snacks

### Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>

3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Sip & Nibble Silent Auction  
2pm – 5pm Bargetto Winery

Access the [SCPENS 2015-16 Calendar](#)

## It Takes a Village - To Make Stone Soup

I've been making a lot of soup lately. The weather's been crazy, and I was living with a snot-goblin, i.e. a preschooler with an awful cold that she doesn't mind sharing. As I was putting the ingredients into the crockpot one day, I started thinking about the old fable of Stone Soup. In that story, a hungry traveler tricks an entire village into creating a soup by getting each to add just a little bit of one ingredient or another. Pretty soon, without anyone contributing more than they could give, there is a marvelous feast for all to enjoy. It reminded me of how we all come together to create our own magic at SCPENS.

We all joined SCPENS to bring our kids to preschool, so classroom days could be considered the stone in our soup. However, our school would be much less palatable without all the other ingredients - the many hours that parents contribute outside the classroom fulfilling their support jobs. Keeping parents informed about scheduling in the classroom and for the school. Washing toys, tables, and even toilets. Maintaining the classrooms and the yard. Supplying water, book orders, and clean towels. Setting up for meetings and parties. Fundraising to keep the lights on and the teachers paid. And board members who arrange speakers, manage membership, money, support jobs, fundraising, and marketing.

So much goes into making SCPENS the school we want our children to have. We're filling our school's pot with love for our own and each-others' children, friendship, commitment, compassion, learning from and teaching our younger and older school-mates every day. So thank you to the people who added the first stone to the pot, and thank you to everyone for keeping on adding to it to help cook up such a giant batch of awesome!

Cory Beardsley  
SCPENS President



## School Pictures

Picture package information available in classrooms NOW. Please arrive on time. All students are encouraged to be available for the class picture even if you are opting not to purchase an individual package. Snack and art activities will be limited to "non-messy." Also, parents might want to anticipate some "stage fright" for their Toddlers since it may be a NEW experience.

- M/W student pictures take place on Wednesday March 30<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.
- T/TH student pictures take place on Thursday, March 31<sup>st</sup> at 9:00 a.m.
- Friday ONLY Families welcome to attend what day works for them

# SCPENS Newsletter: March 2016

## BEST of 2015

A very special thanks to SCPENS parents and community supporters for voting SCPENS the BEST Preschool in Santa Cruz!

A REPEAT achievement like this is not possible without amazing members and lasting & meaningful relationships with Alumni and community leaders! It really does warm our hearts and put a skip in our step to know our community really does care about our unique program! We look forward to serving our community for at least another 41 fabulous years!



THANK YOU!!!!!!!!!!

## March Parent Meeting: *PLAY! Why it is Important* presented by Eric Hoffman

What are the benefits of play for children? What are children learning when they play? Come learn vital tips & insights for parents. There will be some play time for adults too! So please join us for what promises to be a fun and informative night!

**Eric Hoffman** has been working with young children since 1970 as a preschool teacher, parent, and foster parent. He worked for twenty-five years at the Cabrillo College Children's Center as a master teacher and administrator. He is currently an instructor in the Cabrillo Early Childhood Education Department. His work with children was highlighted in the book and video *Starting Small*, from the Southern Poverty Law Center's Teaching Tolerance Project.

Eric has written four children's books and a book for teachers on superhero play. His latest picture book, *A Dark, Dark Cave*, will be published by Viking Penguin Press in May. He also designs playgrounds and toys. You can see his work at [www.erichoffmanbooksandtoys.com](http://www.erichoffmanbooksandtoys.com). Eric has presented numerous workshops and classes for parents and teachers on conflict resolution, diversity, discipline, classroom design, emergent curriculum, social-emotional intelligence, and using dolls and puppets throughout the curriculum. His most popular presentation, on facilitating superhero play, focuses on understanding the questions children are asking through superhero play, so parents and teachers can guide them toward positive answers about fairness, conflict resolution, and power.

**When:** Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup> from 6:45-9:00 p.m.

**Where:** SCPENS Toddler Room

**Snack:** Maggie's Tuesday/Thursday class

The content of this meeting is adult-specific (babies in arms are okay.)

## Happy birthday to you!

### Birthday wishes to our 3-year-olds!

Emre Bell 3/25/2013

Sariah Hallett 4/29/2013

### Birthday wishes to our 4-year-olds!

Addison Taylor 3/05/2012

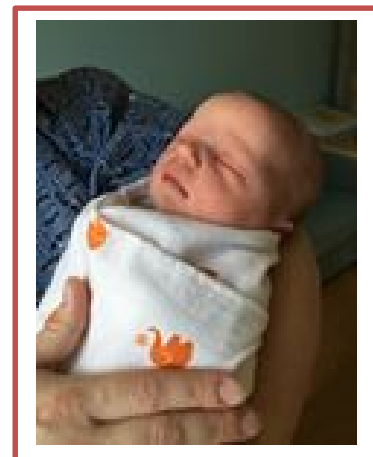
### Congratulations to our 5-year-olds!

Ford Willingham 4/25/2011



## Congrats to the Willingham Family!

Josephine Rose Willingham aka "Sephina" born February 4th to Mommy Oriana and Daddy Jason Willingham and big brothers Ford and Anderson. She weighed a perfect 8lbs 7.5oz and 18inches long!



# SCPENS Newsletter: March 2016

## SCPENS 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Sip & Nibble Silent Auction & Raffle Fundraiser



### TICKETS ON SALE STARTING Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup>

Tickets are available for the LOW price of \$20 per person (Cash, Check or Credit) at Parent Meeting or IN-Class or \$25 at the door.

Tickets will be available to purchase ONLINE or IN PERSON March 24<sup>th</sup> – April 23<sup>rd</sup> & we ask that all parents buy tickets (or at least one ticket) even if you can't attend! Your ticket purchase (if not used) can be donated to another family that wants to attend and bid. We promise a FUN event with live music, appetizers & lots of great items to bid ranging from \$25 - \$600+

All proceeds from this event allow us to keep SCPENS affordable and accessible. Please make sure you can show your support and attend. Event is OPEN to public, so invite family, friends and alumni! This is our LAST BIG fundraiser of the year! Make it count.

### Just a Nibble

Here are some of the GROWING list of auction & raffle items being offered this year!

- 4 1-Day Disneyland Park Hopper Passes
- Overnight stay + Breakfast at The Chaminade Resort
- Personalized Family Photoshoots with digital files
- Santa Cruz Restaurant Giftcards
- Salon & Beauty treatments
- Chardonnay Cruise
- Round of Golf at DeLaveaga
- Dream Inn
- Custom Jewelry by Lynn Guenther
- And MUCH MUCH MORE!

### Support SCPENS when you shop

Shop [Amazon](#) to earn money for SCPENS.



Bookmark our link & pass it on to friends and family: [http://www.amazon.com/?\\_encoding=UTF8&camp=1789&creative=390957&linkCode=ur2&tag=s09fd-20](http://www.amazon.com/?_encoding=UTF8&camp=1789&creative=390957&linkCode=ur2&tag=s09fd-20)



[Artkive](#) allows you to take, tag, share, and store your kids' art and school work AND have it turned into products. Enter **SCPENS1** when you make a purchase and [Artkive](#) will donate 10% back to SCPENS.



Shop [pediped](#) for children's shoes. 10% of your purchase will be donated to SCPENS. Use our code at checkout: **SCHCYWH**

## 2016 – 2017 Enrollment – **HAPPENING NOW!**

Registration for the 2016-2017 school year has begun! Look in your parent pockets for registration forms if you haven't already. Please return all forms and payments due by April 15<sup>th</sup> in order to receive priority status. Any forms and/or fees returned after April 15<sup>th</sup> will not have priority status for class selections. We will be opening registration from the waitlist for NEW families April 25<sup>th</sup>. If you have additional questions, please email our AWESOME Membership coordinator [Shannon McDermott](#).

# SCPENS Newsletter: March 2016

Neufeld Institute  
GORDON NEUFELD PHD



*making sense of kids  
developmental science in practice*

## A Playful Approach to Discipline

*By: Gordon Neufeld*

*In this two-part editorial on discipline, Dr. Gordon Neufeld discusses the root causes of problem behavior and their surprisingly playful solutions.*

Play has been on my mind lately. Perhaps it is the influence of three young grandsons. Perhaps it is because I want to stay young, and playfulness definitely helps with that. Perhaps it is because the subject of play has been exploding into scientific consciousness lately and I had the wonderful luxury of creating *Play & Emotion*, a new course that has given me one of the best times of my theoretical life. Whatever the reasons, I think I have become a believer in play.

One doesn't usually associate the constructs of play and discipline. There is good reason for this. Discipline is usually associated with the work motif, which is all about outcomes. The fundamental theory of work, as applied to discipline, holds that behavior is shaped by its consequences. It follows, then, that the primary challenge in discipline would be to control the outcome of a child's behavior. So when problem behavior occurs, believers in the work motif are thinking, *"What outcomes should I arrange or impose to give the child the message that this behavior does not work?"* Or, when the child is doing something that particularly pleases us: *"What outcomes (e.g. rewards) should we give to send the message that this behavior works?"*

Play, on the other hand, is not about outcomes, but about the activity itself. In this way, play is the opposite of work. To be playful means that we are engaged by the activity, not thinking about the outcomes that could result.

Believers in the work motif assume that children should be treated as little workers so that they will eventually learn to link cause and effect ... and gradually come to modify their own behavior accordingly. When taking this approach, discipline itself becomes hard work, attempting to find just the right kind of outcomes to produce the right kind of behavior.

There are two fundamental problems with approaching discipline in this way:

First, children specifically (and the immature more generally) don't function according to the work motif. It doesn't matter how logical the consequences may be when a child isn't thinking in terms of outcomes. To not fully appreciate this fact can make one feel crazy at times and render discipline an exercise in futility. For sound developmental reasons we are now just beginning to discover, children are designed to function in the play mode, legitimately blind to the outcome of their behavior.

The second problem with viewing discipline in the work motif is that work doesn't actually deliver the kind of behavioral outcomes we are looking for. The basic reason for this is that discipline cannot address the underlying issues that give rise to the problem behavior. We often think of discipline as being corrective, but that could only be true if the problem behavior did not have deeper roots. It turns out that there are five root problems that underlie almost all the behavior that is typically subjected to discipline — and discipline does not provide a solution to even one of them:

[Continue reading](#)