



Kensington Preschool

4773 Marlborough Drive, San Diego, CA 92116-2513 (619) 280-1610

March 2021

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PRE-REGISTRATION

Pre-registration for our returning families and their siblings went very well last Monday, we had a good turnout. Any registrations that were not turned in on that day have a deadline of **March 1st** before I open up to our waitlist families and then to the public.

BUTTERFLIES:

Each year in the early spring I order tiny little caterpillars no bigger than a speck. I order from a place in South Carolina called, "Earth's Birthday." This year is no exception. Upon their March arrival, our teachers begin instructing the children on the process and transformation of metamorphosis. Our numerous selections of books and instructive charts are made available to the children to enhance their learning. We observe these hungry little caterpillars eat and grow. Eventually they begin the next phase, spinning into a chrysalis. The anticipation grows with the children as they watch for several days waiting for the chrysalis to break open and show their inner beauty. We marvel at this strange phenomenon for a week or two admiring these creatures and remembering they were a mere black speck (pupa) when we first saw them. Soon after they emerge and we have enjoyed their beauty and wonder, we release them back to nature and freedom. We say a final goodbye as our butterflies that were once a black speck flutter away. This always reminds me what a delightful hands-on learning experience it was for our preschoolers. For this reason, each spring I place my order for these special little fascinating creatures that God created.

Dear Parents,

To continue the subject of change and delightful experiences, I want you to know after almost 20 years at Kensington Community Preschool, I will be retiring. Friday March 26, 2021 will be my final day as Director at KPS. As the time draws near I can't help but feel a bit melancholy. I will truly miss my wonderful and loyal teachers of whom I love. Ms. Mari, Ms. Soila, Ms. Francine and Ms. Brenda; they're like family to me. I will miss all the wonderful KPS families I have currently enrolled and the 100's of families over the many years along with the supportive KPPA. I will truly miss all the precious children I have come to know and love that have passed through the doors of this special school. Their little voices, innocence and precious faces will forever and ever be in my memory. Many have graduated from college and have embarked on their own career or started families and are now enrolling "their" children at KPS. What a joy and blessing from God to have had these special years working in the KCC & KPS church and school community. I have made so many long-remembered friends through the years.

I would like to thank the following people that I have had the good fortune to have worked alongside of. Pastor Darryl, thank you for your never-ending guidance, gracious and loyal support. Thank you to my Preschool Board members the MKP, lovingly called ("The Elves") Barbara Allen, Carol Hill and Donna Potter. I so appreciate the years you have devoted your time and talents to this school! Thank you to our former office manager, now retired, Donna Hanson for her loving support and friendship through the years. To Mike Burnett for his tireless and excellent work in keeping KPS in good condition and just being there when needed. Thanks to Elizabeth Burnette for all her help and support on the financial side of the school as well as the unending moral support and genuine friendship. Thanks to Lisa Scott Jones for typing and making our monthly newsletter look fancy for the past 3 months! Finally, thanks to my daughter Ashley for all of her tech support throughout the many years.

I have had a fruitful tenure at KPS and a long enjoyable career in Early Childhood Education. Now I feel excited for my next phase in life. I look forward to spending more time with my husband and our family, especially my three beautiful grandchildren that constantly ask me to come and work at their school. 😊

I will forever be grateful and thankful for the opportunity to have been Director of the very best... **Kensington Community Preschool!** I wish all of you a wonderful Easter and Spring Break. When you return to KPS in April, you will be in very capable hands with the new KPS Director, Ms. Adriana Dicarlo.

It is my heartfelt prayer and best wishes for the continued success of this special little Preschool.

Fond farewell with warmest regards,

Connie Cleland, Director KPS