

The MISSION of the Acorn School for Early Childhood Development is to provide high quality, accessible, early care and education programs and to advocate for higher standards in the field of early childhood education.

Letter from the Executive Director

Summertime is a busy time at The Acorn School. Field trips, schedule changes, and family vacations are all a part of the busy buzz around the school. Graduation and move-up are just around the corner. Our annual **Graduation ceremony will be Sunday, August 10th at 4:00 at North Boulder Park.** We will have a ceremony with all classes participating, and a special presentation of the graduating pre-school class. A potluck and cake will follow. You won't want to miss it! *The 3rd annual Acorn Raffle will also be a part of graduation. There will be some great prizes so buy tickets early and often for your chance to win!*

We will have a **Summer Cleaning day Saturday, July 19th from 9-1** here at the School. We can use help with all sorts of projects including scrubbing toys on the playground, painting classrooms, and maintenance around the building. Acorn will provide lunch and you are welcome to come and go. Summer cleaning day is another way families can get involved in the day-to-day activities of their child's classroom. We need your help!

Move-up day will be Monday, August 18th. This is when all of our teachers and classes "shift" to the next classroom. As a part of our Primary Caregiving Philosophy and continuity of care, **Acorn will be closed on Friday, August 15th** allowing our teachers to pack-up, clean-up, move-up, and be ready to welcome children to their new room Monday, August 18th. We look forward to the new school-year as we will also welcome new families to our school.

Finally, I hope that you will take the opportunity to ask your child's teacher about how you can get involved in their classroom. Whether as a volunteer helping with projects, room parent that disseminates information to other parents, or maybe you want to get involved in our Parents In Partnerships (PIP) program. We need a PIP chair in the fall and I'd love to talk to you about all of the opportunities there are to get involved in Acorn. It is a worthwhile investment in being involved in your child's growth and development.

Have a great summer!
Matt Eldred, Executive Director



Important Upcoming Dates

- July 3 - Picnic at the Park, 11:30-1:00
- July 4 - School Closed
Independence Day
- July 10 - PIP Meeting
- July 19 - Spring Clean-Up
- August 10 - Graduation/Annual Acorn Raffle, North Boulder Park, 4-6
- August 15 - School Closed
Teacher Planning/Day of Caring
- August 18 - Move-up Day
- August 21-25 - JBF Sale
- September 1 - School Closed
Labor Day
- September 4 - Back-to- School

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Camp Oonie Koonie Cha

This summer, the Mixed Age classroom was lucky enough to attend Camp Oonie Koonie Cha, a music camp put on by Amy Haywood, The Acorn School's music teacher. Held at the Boulder Valley Church of Christ, the camp was centered around a theme of "the islands." We sang songs about stinkin' pirates and sweet guava jelly, made instruments from coconuts and bamboo, and learned how sound waves turn into what our ears hear. The camp culminated in a performance by the children, who sang all the songs they had learned, played their homemade instruments, and acted out the story of Boris Vanderborsch, a swashbucklin' pirate, to rave reviews. While we returned to school after naptime each day, tired and hungry, the songs and ideas taught at the camp were heard throughout the halls of The Acorn School for weeks after, showing once again, the power of music.



Creative Curriculum in Preschool I

Hello from the Beetlebug Classroom! Our summer is off to a fun, adventurous start as we have kept our bodies busy through an array of activities. We love putting on our swimsuits to engage in water-play, whether it is in our sensory table with all of our water toys, splashing around in the hose, or transforming the outdoor slide into a water slide.



Probably our most important summer activities, though, are our field trips! Now that we are ready, we enjoy frequent excursions to the park, trips to visit the goats and donkeys up the road, and our most recent trip to Glacier Ice Cream. We had so much fun walking there and picking out our very own flavor of ice cream to feast on. Yum, yum! We look forward to continuing our field trips – next we will ride the bus down to Pearl Street to eat pizza and play in the water fountains. We can't wait!



Zwaggle.com is a national network of parents who gather online to share their unwanted things with other families.

How it works: When you give your gently used things to other families on Zwaggle, you receive points, called **Zoints** that you can use to obtain "new" things on the network. It's the way families everywhere are **saving money, resources, and the environment**, while providing their children with the things they want and need.

*From **July 10-31**, The Acorn School benefits by receiving **cash from Zwaggle** each time an Acorn family completes a trade. However, you must be a member of the Acorn Group to do this. You will receive an invite soon which will automatically make you a member of the Acorn Group OR you can join the Acorn Group separately after registering.

Joining the group also serves two more functions: 1) Parents can sort for items just within the Acorn Group, and 2) Items can be made exclusive to the Acorn School parents for a limited time before they are automatically made available to the greater Zwaggle community.

You can also **help Acorn anytime** by choosing to donate the Zoints you earn to Acorn, just choose Acorn as the Charity you would like to donate to.

If you have any questions, please contact Jody Reale at jodyreale@gmail.com or 303-258-1925.

Annual Spring BBQ & Potluck

Thank you to the Zeid's for opening their home to us for Acorn's Annual Spring BBQ and Potluck. The kids enjoyed playing on the trampoline and in the hose, and the parents had a blast working on a fun game made up by Karen to get to know other parents. And, of course, we all enjoyed tons of delicious food.



Message from our Child Health Liaison

After much confusion, I would like to give you our OFFICIAL updated medication policy. In order for our staff to give your child medicine at school we must have a signed form from the doctor with the start date, end date, dosage and frequency of dosage. This includes over the counter medicines like Tylenol; however, the over the counter medicine bottles do not need to have a pharmacy label with it. If you have any further questions about our policy please speak with me or the office. We apologize for any confusion and incorrect information we have previously told you.

Additionally, since summer is in full swing I thought some information on sunscreen might be helpful. When picking a sunscreen, look for water resistant or waterproof, hypoallergenic, broad UV-A and UV-B ray protection, and SPF 15 or higher while avoiding PABA, para-aminobenzoic acid. At Acorn we use Rocky Mountain Sunscreen for Kids which is peanut oil free and not "keep out of reach". For more information visit, rmsunscreen.com. When applying sunscreen, apply 30 minutes prior to sun exposure so it can absorb into the skin. Reapply every two hours or even more frequently when playing in water. Wearing hats and swimsuit covers also help prevent sun burns.

-Jennifer Carpenter, Child Health Liaison

