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Escuelita del Alma

July/Aug., 2019
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*El encuentro del aprendizaje con la cultura. * Where learning meets culture.*

Teachers' Birthdays

July 31—**Ms. Rosa**, Asst. Dir.

Aug. 6—**Ms. María**, Yellow Rm.

Aug. 7—**Ms. Cecilia**, Pink Rm.

Aug. 9—**Ms. Virma**, Substitute Tchr.

Aug. 16—**Ms. Veronica**, Turquoise Rm.

Sept. 2—**Ms. Erika**, White Rm.

Sept. 4—**Ms. Liliana**, Pink Rm.

Sept. 18—**Ms. Alma**, Housekeeping

Sept. 23—**Ms. Vanesa**, White Rm.

Sept. 28—**Ms. Ana María**, Purple Rm.

2019 Graduation Recital—Friday, August 9, 2019

Preparations are underway for our annual graduation recital. This is a very fun event that Escuelita holds on the playground stage of the main building. We select a theme and each class, including the infants, dance to a short theme-related song on the stage. The directors and teachers make theme related costumes for every child. The children who will graduate from Escuelita in August, to attend Pre-Kinder or Kindergarten elsewhere, will also walk across the stage in cap and gown to receive their graduation diplomas.

This year's graduation recital will occur on Friday, August 9th, starting promptly at 4:00 p.m. A light meal will be served to all the attendees and dancers during the recital. The tickets will cost \$8 for adults and children older than 12 years. The enrolled students are free. Approximately one week prior to the recital, you will receive a memorandum detailing the recital procedures. With the recital occurring on a Friday afternoon, please be mindful that traffic is typically terrible at that time and that parking will be extremely difficult. Please ensure to leave work with plenty of time to battle the traffic and to find legal parking that will allow you to arrive for the start of the recital.

If you already know that your child will not be in attendance for the graduation recital, please notify the office and teachers immediately since the lack of attendance will impact choreographies and costumes needed.

Every year, we greatly appreciate parent volunteers who can assist with minor costume chores like ironing, making hats for students (if needed) or creating stage decorations. Ms. Dina, the director is putting together the costumes for each class. Primarily, we need help with ironing costumes! If you think you will have some time to volunteer for a few of these chores, please send her an email at dinaflores@escuelitadelalma.com so she can put items together to send home with you by the end of the week.

Tickets for the recital will go on sale on Monday, July 29th. You can purchase your tickets with cash, check or credit card. Credit card transactions will require us to add a 1.5% processing fee to the total of your purchase.

Mark your calendars for August 9th!

Escuelita Closed on Monday, August 12th

We will be closed for classes on Monday, August 12th, for a teacher workday so that the teachers can prepare the classrooms for the students who will transition into new rooms. Please ensure that you have made other childcare arrangements for that day since we will be closed for classes.

New School Year Class Assignments

The director has finalized the classroom assignments for the new school year. Almost all classes will transition into new classrooms, with new teachers, as an entire group. In a few instances, the classes will be regrouped into two separate classrooms to maximize the available spaces. The dates of birth of the children were very much taken into consideration as the groupings were being formed.

Ms. Dina had previously requested that you notify her, in writing, by the end of April, of your request for changes in attendance for the new school year (switching from part-time to full time, or vice versa, or adding days). Your attendance requests were taken into consideration as she configured the new classes. She also met with each staff person so that the best assignment and work schedule could be agreed on with each employee. Please understand that since we have such a high enrollment and every slot is filled when the school year starts, we are unable to grant special placements for our students.

Attached to this newsletter, you are receiving the new class assignments for your children. Hard copies of every list are also posted throughout the main building and the infant buildings for your reference. You can begin to introduce your child to the new teachers and the new classroom at pick-up time, when the teachers have freer time. Also, during the next 3 weeks, each class will visit and “play” for short periods of time in their future room and visit with their new teachers, while still being accompanied by their present teachers, so that the children can start getting comfortable and familiar with their new environment.

For those of you who are parents of children younger than 3-3 ½ years, please remember that transitioning into new classrooms can be a little traumatic for some children. It is possible that some children will experience difficulties with the transition and with their new classrooms. This is very normal behavior for some when starting a new school year. We ask for your patience and that you allow a few days for your child to bond with the new caregivers. After the first week or two, comfort and trust will set in.

Feel free to contact the directors with any concerns or questions you might have regarding the start of the new school year and your child’s new classroom.

Tuition Increase Effective September 1, 2019

As has been explained in the previous newsletter issue, Escuelita will implement an **across the board tuition increase of \$35 per child**. The increase will become effective on September 1st.

Attached to this newsletter is a copy of the new tuition rates that will go into effect on September 1, 2019. Please print it and keep it as reference when calculating what the new tuition payment(s) will be. Escuelita will continue to give a 5% discount to families with 2 or more children who are enrolled at the same time. The sibling who pays the lower tuition receives the 5% discount. If your tuition payments are disbursed automatically by your bank through Bill Pay, ensure to schedule the change in tuition for the September payment.