



AUGUST, 1ST 2018

"My wish for you is that you continue. Continue to be who and how you are... Continue to allow humor to lighten the burden of your tender heart."

-Maya Angelou

Dear Families,

July was an amazing month here in the Blossom Room! We completed our Artist Study and couldn't be more excited about the outcome. We learned about amazing artists and art movements like Pablo Picasso and Cubism, Claude Monet and Impressionism, and Vincent Van Gogh and his many famous works of art—our favorite was *Starry Night*. We even had our own Growing Tree artist Salina—from the Bud room—come and visit us to share some of her sketching and watercolor paintings! We deeply enjoyed watching the Blossoms explore all the different types of art and discovering what their own favorite techniques were.

Questions to Ask Your Blossoming Artist:

- Can you find different values of a color in artwork around our home?
- What different types of artwork did Picasso create?
- Which art medium did you enjoy the most?
- How can paintings and other artwork make you feel different emotions? Whose artwork made you feel happy/strange/etc.?

We are closing July with a week of kindergarten readiness. Our conversations will include identifying the many contrasting emotions we may be experiencing, reflecting on how to use the life skills we have gained to be successful in our new schools, reviewing foundational literacy and math skills through songs and games, and looking at a typical kindergarten schedule. We will begin August with a play

week. Then we will dive right into a month long continents study. We will begin by exploring the continents' locations in relation to each other using maps and globes. The following week we will focus in on North America, investigating its diverse animal species and significant historical landmarks. Using the same format, we will then allow the Blossoms to collectively decide on which additional two continents they wish to learn more about.

July 31st will be Hannah's last day at Growing Tree! We will miss her greatly, please make sure to say goodbye and wish her well.



It's hard to believe our year is coming to a close. Thank you for joining us at the Growing Tree BBQ and Blossom Graduation Ceremony. It's so wonderful to be able to all come together for an evening of celebration and fun!

It has been such a pleasure learning and working with all of you this year to support your children's needs and growth. We so appreciate all the time, donations, and encouragement you shared with the Blossom community.

We now return your children to you, the same children you so kindly entrusted to our care last fall. They have all made extraordinary growth despite our best efforts. It has truly been a privilege to watch each of their personalities develop and unfold everyday. In less than a year, through our many accomplishments and mistakes we have become a family.

We have loved, laughed, played, investigated, learned, and grown together this year. We explored the great strength of a rooted tree, built marvelous

structures inspired by the designs of Gaudi and Gehry, studied our own beating hearts, sang with rhythm and spirit, and thoughtfully critiqued the work of globally renowned artists. While we wish we could continue exploring with this unique group of Blossoms indefinitely, we are excited to share them with all of their future teachers who will undoubtedly adore them just as we have.

As your Blossom enters kindergarten and the world beyond Growing Tree, please remember that we will always be interested in your child and their experiences. Their joys and sorrows, whoever they become.

Alas, we are truly grateful to you for sharing your creative, kind, curious, clever, capable, caring children with us each and everyday this year.

With Love,

Emily, Tim, Hannah, Joey, Kindaroo, & Coyote



Aug '18

The Continents Study

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Play	play	1 Play	2 Play	3 Play
6 Continents Study Maps & Globes	7 Continents Study Maps & Globes	8 Continents Study Maps & Globes	9 Continents Study Maps & Globes	10 Continents Study Maps & Globes
13 Continents Study North America	14 Continents Study North America	15 Continents Study North America	16 Continents Study North America	17 Continents Study North America
20 Continents Study Student's Choice	21 Continents Study Student's Choice	22 Continents Study Student's Choice	23 Continents Study Student's Choice	24 Continents Study Student's Choice
27 Continents Study Student's Choice	28 Continents Study Student's Choice	29 Continents Study Student's Choice	30 Continents Study Student's Choice	31 Continents Study Student's Choice

Reminders:

- Aug. 3rd - First Friday
- Aug 29th Last Day of school

