

# THE MONTHLY BLOSSOM

GROWING TREE CHILDREN'S CENTER

September 1, 2022

Dear Blossom Families,

Welcome to a new school year Blossom families! We are so excited to begin this journey with you. Over the next four weeks we have three simple goals:

- 1) Get to know your children and their likes and dislikes.
- 2) Build relationships and become comfortable in our new environment.
- 3) Have fun together!

During our first month we will teach your children the expectations and procedures of the Blossom classroom and introduce the skills they will utilize throughout the year. We will do this through games, stories, and activities. We will also introduce the Blossoms to our classroom puppets, Kinderoo and Joey. This beloved duo help us practice and demonstrate five life skills we focus on; they include, being helpful, careful, patient, respectful, and responsible.

What to expect each day in the first four weeks:

- An art technique/process/material will be explored.
- Your child will begin to learn yoga poses and mindful breathing practices.
- Lots of outdoor play and 'free play.'
- High-quality, engaging and content rich books

After this first month of becoming acquainted with each other and our new classroom, we will enter our first study. Each month we will begin a new study. Past Blossom studies we have enjoyed include topics such as trees, the human body, fairytales, buildings, and artists among others. We look forward to finding out where your children's interests take us this year!

Your child will always be learning something new. Some days it will come home in their hands, some days it will come home in their mind, and some days it will come home in their hearts.

Let us introduce ourselves!

Rachel - I am excited to start a new school year with a new bunch of friends! I have been working in the Blossom room with Ms. Emily for the last year. Prior to working at the Growing Tree, I taught preschool at a different Bend area school. Before that I taught grade school for the Salem Keizer school district. I like to enjoy nature with my husband and son as much as possible!

Emily - I am thrilled to be entering my sixth year teaching at Growing Tree. This year I will be transitioning out of the classroom and into the role of Program Director. We will not make the transition until we are confident we have found an individual suited to meet your children's needs. Before teaching at Growing Tree, I taught kindergarten in the Portland area. Since moving to Bend I have enjoyed skiing, mountain biking, and exploring with my husband Jack and dog Ruby!

Tips for Day 1 in the Blossom Room:

- Arrive before breakfast (8:30 am) for a smooth transition and give your child the opportunity to experience all we have planned.
- Per our Growing Tree policy—no outside toys or food will be allowed—this is for the comfort, health and safety of all our children.
- For nap time we ask that all families send children with one BLANKET. **Please keep all stuffies/lovies at home this year, thank you!**

We are so grateful to you for sharing your creative, kind, curious, clever, capable, caring children with us this year!

We wish you well,  
Rachel, Emily, Kinderoo & Joey