

MOMS Club®

October 2011



of Lakewood Ranch



from our President

Dear Moms,

We finally made it! We are now officially the MOMS Club® of Lakewood Ranch, FL. Thank you all for your help and cooperation in making this transition go as smoothly as possible. We are looking forward to all of the exciting opportunities ahead of us!

We will be holding our monthly meetings on the second Thursday of every month. While it is not required for all members to attend, I strongly encourage you to join us. Children are welcome at all MOMS Club events (except for MNO or CNO, of course) so bring those little ones along! Especially if you are new to the group - it's a great opportunity to get out of the house and spend some time with other Moms. I promise we won't bite.... Well, most of us anyway.

Somehow it is already October. I'm not sure how that happened so quickly, but it is an exciting time of year, nonetheless. We have a lot of wonderful events planned for this month and we hope you



will all come out and enjoy them!

We are looking forward to the great future of this group and are grateful you are a part of it!

Have a Safe & Happy Halloween! Feel free to reach out for any reason, at anytime: Lauren120@mac.com

Lauren M. Kelly



Community Project

School Supplies Drive

Our annual School Supplies Drive for Manatee Children's Services was a success! Thank you for your generosity!

The supplies we donated directly helped families in the Grandparents as Parents "Caring Kin" (GAP) Program. In Manatee County, there are nearly 4,000 children living with a grandparent, rather than a group home or foster home. It is a blessing that they have a family member who is willing to take care of them, however, many of these grandparents are relying on social security and a limited income in order to make ends meet. Our supplies helped them get their loved ones ready for school!

Here's what we collected:

- 240 pencils
- 55 erasers
- 30 mechanical pencils
- 21 scissors
- 12 highlighters
- 43 glue sticks
- 16 bottles of glue
- 26 packs of crayons
- 95 pens
- 20 3-ring binders
- 44 spiral notebooks
- 40 folders
- 10 composition notebooks
- 8 backpacks
- staplers, protractors, compasses, rulers, colored pencils, pencil sharpeners, pencil boxes, filler paper



Anja Schwarzbauer helped her mom sort all of the supplies.

Sprouts Child Development Center of Harvest United Methodist Church

Sprouts Child Development Center of Harvest United Methodist Church is the proud recipient of a Certificate of Excellence from the Early Learning Coalition of Manatee County, an organization whose mission is to provide and coordinate the services of school readiness programs in the county. The certificate is awarded to the top 10% of VPK providers and is based on the readiness assessment given to kindergartners at the beginning of the school year. Sprouts Child Development Center, Primrose School and Kids R Kids are among the local providers who are ranked among the top 10%.

So what is Sprouts doing so well to get your child ready for school? I spoke to Jen Murphy, the Co-Director, to find out what wonderful learning opportunities are bubbling inside the classroom.

Low student to teacher ratio provides the students with ample opportunity to have one-on-one time with their teachers. There are two teachers per classroom. The two-year-old classes have ten students and the three and four-year-old rooms have twelve students each. VPK teachers are all highly qualified, even over-qualified, for their positions – each has at least a 4 year degree in Education.

Sprouts Child Development Center uses center based learning. It is a common practice in schools because it allows students the opportunity to practice tasks and lessons in small groups. The teachers can then move around from center to center to help with learning allowing them more time to really help each student. Teachers set students up in centers based on the needs of the students. The majority of the time students

are arranged with students at varying skill levels working together on a skill. This allows the students struggling with a particular skill to learn from their peers as well as their teachers. Occasionally, a teacher will put a group of students together that are on the same skill level and spend quality time with those students to bring them up to the level of the classroom.

The curriculum is child driven, simply meaning that the children set the pace for the class. If a class is excelling at everything the teacher is throwing at them, the school isn't going to hold them back – they'll move onto the next level faster which can often lead to new curriculum at the end of the year! Likewise, if a classroom is really struggling with something, it allows the teacher time to slow down the curriculum and really work out the kinks before advancing. There isn't any "you must be learning xxx by this week" at Sprouts.

Their well-rounded curriculum includes science, math, Spanish, tumbling and music on a regular basis. By providing an enriching curriculum to the VPK students, Sprouts is introducing their students to common subjects they'll be exposed to in school. Tumbling helps to enhance their motor skills by giving them opportunities to use their bodies to exercise. Music class at Sprouts is more than singing songs and learning rhymes. Students are introduced to basic musical concepts like notes, rests, rhythm, etc. In addition to the standard curriculum, Sprouts also has visitors come by to teach lessons. MOSI, Mote Aquarium, the Fire and Police Department have all come to teach students valuable lessons.

Because Sprouts is very proud of the program they've created, they

maintain a high level of education despite the fact that the VPK funding has gone down. Yes, they don't cut corners to make ends meet. If your student is going here or you plan on having your children attend, by all means, participate in their fundraisers -- it's the only way they are able to make the additional funds to maintain that high quality that keeps them at the top!

Students can start at Sprouts at two years of age. The two and three-year-old classrooms are a little pared down with more of a focus on how to get ready for working in a school setting (i.e., understanding a schedule, following direction) as well as a heavy focus on early literacy and motor skills. These classrooms are either two days a week or three days a week and have a tuition associated with it. Check their website for additional information at www.harvest-umc.org/connect/sprouts.aspx. If you are interested in sending your student here, the waitlist for next year's classes started in August, so I'd suggest you sign up now because, as previously mentioned, the classes are small so spots are limited!



14305 Covenant Way
Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202
(941) 907-7333

Join the Welcome Committee

Our committee has wonderful volunteers who have agreed to help make new members feel welcome and to also act as a mentor for the new member. Our goal is let each new member know that she immediately has a friend whom she can go to with questions or concerns, and also to help her get involved. The committee is in need of a few more volunteers so that we can quickly accommodate our new members. It requires little time and resources, so if you're willing and able, please e-mail Dana Mitchell (cmitche9@tampabay.rr.com) for more information.

Sunshine News

If you or someone you know in the Moms Group delivers a baby please contact Lisa Higgins and she will arrange for three members to deliver meals in a timely manner. lisahiggins02@yahoo.com



Looking for a Playgroup?

We are always happy to start new playgroups or help place you and your child in an existing group. For more information, please contact Rebecca Johnson at rebecca.v.johnson@gmail.com

Eco Moms

We are still selling our adorable reusable tote bags with the LWR Moms Group logo for \$2. You can contact Carrie Schwarzbauer, xenson@yahoo.com. They will also be available at the luau!



Happy Birthday!

Birthdays are nature's way of telling us to eat more cake. Enjoy!

October

- 1st: Rhonda Leiberick
- 1st: Kerynne Mino
- 2nd: Jacqueline Gavin
- 2nd: Hilary Lipman
- 7th: Melissa Rixon
- 15th: Brianne Walters
- 16th: Mindy Piantanida
- 19th: Kelley Van Keuren
- 20th: Michelle Shilling
- 29th: Christine Tuchman

Welcome Our New Members

A warm welcome to our latest members: **Kate Bradford** lives in Summerfield with her husband, Matt, and their son, Matthew (10 months). **Jessica Panico** lives in Greenbrook Walk with her husband, Thomas, and their two children, Rylie (3) and Chloe (7 months). **Nicole Klein** lives in Summerfield with her husband, Aaron, and their three children, Nathaniel (7), Gabriel (5) and Samuel (3).

Grace Anne Monserez

was born 9/7/2011, at 12:27pm. She was 7 lbs., 13 oz. 20 in. long. She is their third child. The following moms will be delivering meals to her: Mollie Moore, Lisa Locke & Lisa Hotaling. Congratulations Amber and Family!!!



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Lakewood Ranch
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Let's Get Our Kids Out in the Community!

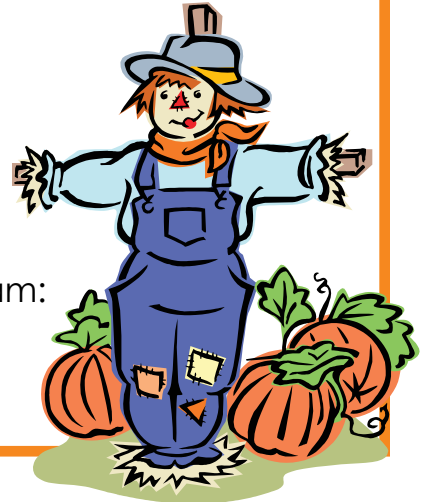
Join our team for the 10th annual Buddy Walk benefiting this wonderful organization.

When: Saturday, October 22
Registration 9am, Walk 11am

Where: Hunsader Farms Pumpkin Festival

Cost: \$10 donation per team member, includes festival admission (usually \$7), t-shirt, refreshments & more!

Register: Go to the Manasota BUDS website or email Carrie Schwarzbauer to learn how to register with our team: xenson@yahoo.com.



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Secretary	Jaime Dowd	488-6520	jamiedowd@verizon.net
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2011- 2012 MOMS Club® of Lakewood Ranch Committe Heads

Role	Name	Phone	Email
Book Club	Sarah Robbins	356-0856	srobbins100@gmail.com
Chat Nights	Renee Martone-Cecil	727-7932	rmcecil@yahoo.com
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Community Service	Carrie Schwarzbauer	870-5500	xenson@yahoo.com
Digital Village/Website Admin.	Cindy Gries	---	cindygries@hotmail.com
Growing Up Sale	Marcy Olah	---	marcymh22@yahoo.com
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Moms/Couples Night Out	Stacie Cunningham	306-5654	stacie99@hotmail.com
	Megan Matras	351-2612	wallacemegan@hotmail.com
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Public Relations	Suzanne Mattes	907-3058	suzmattes@aol.com
School Ambassador Liason	Victoria Cobb	---	---
Sunshine Meals	Lisa Higgins	755-3034	lisahiggins02@yahoo.com
Welcome Coordinator	Dana Mitchell	313-5869	cmitch9@tampabay.rr.com



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& Sarasota*

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Karen L. Varone, DDS, MS
Claudia F. Moricz, DDS, MS

Offices in Lakewood Ranch & Sarasota
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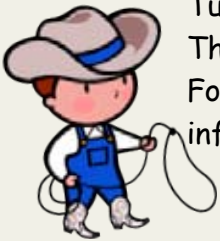
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October 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22 Buddy Walk Hunsader Farm 9am
23	24 PlayAway 3pm Halloween	25	26	27	28	29 Halloween Extravaganza 10am
30	31					

God's Little Ranchers

The Parent's Morning Out Program at Sarasota Baptist Church, Lakewood Ranch Campus, runs Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. For 2011-2012 registration information, please call 552-1304.



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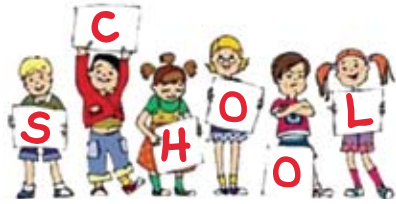
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Infants



Ones



Twos



Threes



Fours/VPK



2011/2012

Hours of Operation/Rates

7:00 am to 6:00 pm
Monday thru Friday

(Small fee applies 7:00-7:30 - 5:30-6:00)

FULL TIME

INFANTS: \$210.00 weekly

ONES: \$180.00 weekly

TWOS: \$175.00 weekly

THREES: \$165.00 weekly

FOURS: (non VPK) \$160.00 weekly

V.P.K. Wrap Around and Part Time
students call for Rates.

PART TIME DROP IN CARE 2-4 Days

Morning/Afternoon

3 hrs of your choice \$20.00 per day

Mid Day

7 hrs of your choice \$30.00 per day

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Enrichment Classes are \$3.00 per day
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PLAYAWAY HALLOWEEN PARTY!

Monday, Oct 24th @ 3:00 pm;

\$3 for 1 child, \$5 per family.

Kids can wear their costumes.



Preschool Picassos

Our little ones had a great time showing off their artistic skills through various fall crafts this month. They also enjoyed a special treat - decorating delicious homemade cupcakes! Each month our Preschool Picassos, ages 2-5, enjoy creating and exploring art while our Moms get a chance to socialize as well! A variety of projects in drawing, painting, gluing, and cutting are featured through different themes. Save the date for our next session on October 18th at 10:30 am. Space is limited, so reserve your spot today! For more information, please contact Aimee Hermann at aimee.friedman@gmail.com



The Annual Halloween Extravaganza

Saturday, October 29th
10 am- 12 noon
Summerfield Park

- Bounce House
- Games
- Costume Parade

Free to all members.
Wearing costumes is encouraged

Volunteers needed. Contact Dana Mitchell
cmitch9@tampabay.rr.com



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 - Cancer and cosmetic
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Lakewood Ranch Medical Center

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MOMS Club®



of Lakewood Ranch

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