



February News

Greetings from the Director's Corner,

For the past seven years, this month has become a very reflective month for me. I have found myself evaluating where I am in life, assessing what is important, implementing changes I would like to see and thinking about what the future holds. For the most part I work at focusing on the positive but there are days when the circumstances of life get discouraging. I am sure I am not alone in wondering when we will be able to see those smiling faces behind the masks again, when can we gather as a family and whole school without health and safety concerns and when will the learning environment return to "normal".

This year has certainly not been a "conventional" year of learning at Acorn School. There is lots of discussion amongst the staff about meeting our curriculum goals and making sure our students are ready for what is in store for them next year. From the beginning, we knew things would be different this year. There are so many positives in the areas of social emotional and gross motor development, problem solving, risk taking, increasing attention spans, exposure to outdoor sensory input which helps with self-regulation and building stamina but I would be remiss in not acknowledging there have been fewer opportunities for fine motor opportunities. These have not gone unnoticed and the staff is brainstorming ways to offer additional experiences as we find ourselves inside a little more with the colder temperatures and look at our units of study in the spring. THANK YOU for choosing to partner with us this year. I deeply appreciate your support, patience and understanding as our top priority has been to keep everyone safe and healthy in an in-person model.

On a lighter note, I was reading a mask wearing protocol for young children recently. The article highlighted some unexpected benefits of mask wearing – less nose picking, less eating of snow and warmer faces in the colder weather. I hope these comments bring a smile to your face as they did for me.

Enjoy the upcoming vacation –

Sue Bendroth
Acorn Director

Classrooms Without Walls

"Time, space, and outdoor play are essential to children's health. In fact, they need this more than

ever before."
-Angela Hanscom, TimberNook



The 4/5 year old preschoolers got creative with painting out in our "100 Acorn Woods" TimberNook space. Inspired by the children's book "The Dot", they became their own artists with using nature to paint a canvas and trees.



The 4/5 year old classes learned about the Arctic and raised money for **Polar Bears International**. So caring!



Kindergarten Mighty Oaks are learning about winter weather and made sun catchers. These cold temperatures allowed the sun catchers to finally freeze. They are a beautiful addition to our outdoor learning spaces!



Playing the **TimberNook** way: 3/4 year old Chipmunks entered "The Zone" - the construction zone that is. They built new roads and developed a homesite for dolls. It was really fun!



Chipmunks engaging in sensory play: making their own snow with shaving cream, and playing with cars in their snowy village!



Mighty Oaks learning about animals during the Migrate, Hibernate & Adapt Unit.

Join Acorn School for Moving Hearts March "Feed Families, Spread Kindness"

***Know a family that needs a meal?
We would love for our Acorn Community to join the movement of Lasagna Love and share a meal with people in our community during these unprecedented times.***

What is Lasagna Love?

"Lasagna Love was started at the beginning of the pandemic, when the founder of Good to Mama was looking for a way to help moms in her community. She and her toddler started making and delivering meals to families in the neighborhood who were struggling, whether that struggle was financial, emotional, or simply a feeling of overwhelm. Our mission is not only to help address the incredible rise in food insecurity among families, but also to provide a simple act of love and kindness during a time full of uncertainty and stress."

How to Participate:

Its easy, register online and you will be matched with a local family in need of a meal. You coordinate drop curbside, contact free delivery that works for your schedule and the families.

[Learn More Here](#)

Acorn Community Goal:
50 Lasagnas by March 31st

Frequently Asked Question:

Can I Make More Than One Lasagna?

YES! You can make multiple at a time and share with several families in the area.

Tag Us on Social Media [#AcornLasagnaLove](#) and/or send pictures to

Visit Lasagna Love Website To Request/Donate a Meal



Acorn At-Home Valentine's Day Event

We hope everyone had tons of fun participating in the at-home Acorn Valentine's Day event!

Special Thanks to **Cake Vegan Bakery**, **Chocolatier**, and **Flag Hill Winery** for donating a portion of the proceeds to Acorn School and making such a great event!

The Winner of The Wine Night Trivia is:
Meaghan Grande

Congrats Meaghan and enjoy your goodies!



Staff Highlight: Kim Schults

Hi I'm Kim! I have been a teacher at Acorn School for 6 years. I so lucky to share my days with the

amazing kids from the Chipmunk, Chickadee, and Tadpole classes! This year has been full of new adventures and ways of teaching. With our outdoor spaces we have had the opportunity to explore new things and be creative with all that nature has to offer. My favorite time at Acorn is venturing out on the nature trail looking for fascinating animal tracks. Watching the children's faces as they discover something new each time is truly magical!

6 Fun Facts About Kim S:

- **What would your super power be?** To fly! I love birds and would love to know what their view of the world is.
- **Favorite Vacation:** With friends to snorkel and relax in Bonaire!
- **What is your favorite ice cream flavor?** Ben and Jerry's Seven Later Bar
- **What is your favorite season?** SUMMER! I love the beach! Especially walking with my dogs.
- **Sweet, Salty or Savory?** I'm a lover of all things sweet!
- **Do you have a hidden talent?** Hmmm.... It's not hidden if I tell you!



Dear Acorn Parents, Come Join The Acorn Board!



Would you like to connect with the Acorn community and help run the school you love so much?

Learn how a nonprofit preschool is run and help make positive change lasting for years to come! We are a group of Acorn past and present parents who come together monthly during the school year (currently on Zoom) to support Acorn School.

Our door is open for new members to join and we're hoping you'll consider it!

If interested in learning more about the Acorn board, send an email to Sarah Koff:

sarahwkoff@gmail.com.

Only a Few Spots Left for Fall 2021!

Most Classes Are Full



Open Enrollment for Fall 2021

Tours are underway...

To schedule a tour or for more information please
contact us:

info@acornschoolnh.com

(603) 778-8285

Open Registration begins January 2021 for
Preschool and Kindergarten

Amazon Smile Update

Have you reactivated your charity on AmazonSmile?

According to AmazonSmile, every 6 months you must reactivate your chosen charity for a portion to be donated (no cost to Amazon user).

By shopping at smile.amazon.com a percentage of what you purchase is donated to Acorn School from Amazon!

How to check if your charity is still activated?

1. Open Amazon on your smartphone or computer
2. Under Programs and Features, click on AmazonSmile; You can also type AmazonSmile in the search box
3. Check to see if your AmazonSmile is "ON" (see example picture)

Your AmazonSmile Settings



Acorn School Inc
Stratham, NH
[Change charity](#)

My Phone

Generating donations

ON ▼



Next renewal: **Aug 2**

Renewals happen twice a year

Click Here to Sign Up for
AmazonSmile

Special Thank You to Our 2020 Donations from the End of The Year Initiative

*Thanks to YOU we are getting closer to our yearly goal to support
Acorn's Operational Fund!*

We are 75% at our Yearly Goal! We are SO close!

Every dollar helps!

Alexandra Jordan
Alfredo Guilfuchi
Alicia & David Buono
Amy & Glenn Woodard
Amy & Michael Sununu
Anne & Peter Ellis
Annette & Arthur McAleer
Ariana & Noah Bourassa
Bettina & Richard Guiler
Brittany & Andrew Verderame
Cari & Jason Bourn
Carlene & Jon Tyman
Christina & Gene Connolly
Christina Breen
Colleen & Michael Desrochers
Deana & Jay Jordan
Ellen & Joseph Bernard
Elsie & Scott Curry
Gaye & Peter Vorkink
Jamie Sawler
Jennifer & Gregg Cote
Jennifer & Sean Wilson
Jessica & John Carbonneau
Kari Daigle
Kate & Patrick Simons
Kerri Dolce
Kerry & Cyrus Silvester
Lindsey & Matt Sisson

Lori Noonan
Lynn & George Malgeri
Martin Poulin
Mary Wills
Maryann & Brad Hazeltine
Maryann & Edward Larrabee
Michelle & John Graziano
Michelle & Michael Donati
Missy Long & Dave Burgess
Molly & Matt Daniels
Nicole Mazur & Jeff Pitcher
Patricia & Mike Pangan
Rebecca & Ryan Ridgley
Robyn & Thomas Powley
Sara Callaghan & Brian Hart
Serena Gervreau
Sheila & Kevin Barnes
Stephanie & Scott Lee
Susan & Thomas Fitzgerald
Theresa & Brian Heffernan
Tonia & George Hutt
Victoria Kilroy
Wendy Fallon
Whitney & Matt Antaya

Important Dates

February 22nd-26th

Winter Vacation

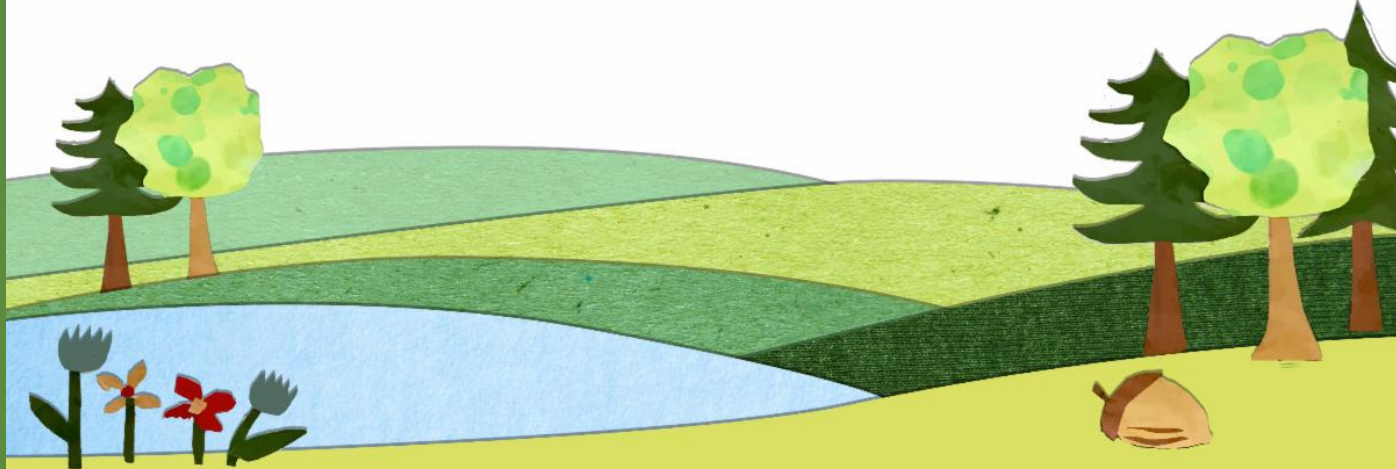
March 1st

School Resumes

Saturday May 8th

Acorn School's Plant Sale @ Barker's Farm

Exciting details coming soon!



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Contact Acorn Director, Sue
Bendroth with any questions

