## The Kindergarten Decision

This is the time of year when Pre-K parents are faced with the decision of where to send your children for Kindergarten. In an effort to help you make an informed decision, we would like to provide you with some information about the Fair Acres Kindergarten program.

## **About Our Program**

Our Kindergarten Program runs from 8:30-3:00 p.m., with extended care available until 5:30 p.m. We have a limited class size of 12-15 students. Our curriculum incorporates monthly themes such as Seasons, Family Traditions, and meets the MA curriculum framework used in all Massachusetts public schools. Our full day program allows the kindergarten to stay true to the Fair Acres philosophy regarding the importance of outdoor play and gross motor development to benefit the whole child and provides the teacher with the time needed to be sensitive to the individual needs of the students in specific learning areas.

The literacy program is based on early writing using activities such as journal writing and writer's workshop as well as phonemic awareness activities. Skills such as inventive spelling, high frequency and sight words, phonemic awareness, word families, nonsense writing, and rhyme recognition are practiced in our balanced approach that combines phonics and whole language development. Fair Acres uses the "Reading Street" program which is used within many of the surrounding public schools along with Lively Letters. We work on fluency with decodable readers which allows for immersion with sentence structure, high frequency and sight words. By the end of kindergarten, each student will have been introduced to 36 decodable readers which will then be continued in first grade. Also, Spanish class is held once a week for our Kindergarten children.

The math curriculum is teacher created based on the MA curriculum frameworks. The program utilizes several teaching methods such as "Math Their Way" and "Everyday Math". Skills such as number recognition, basic addition and subtraction, pattern development, counting by 2's, 5's and 10's as well as an introduction to time and money are practiced. Fair Acres also utilizes the Scott Foresman Math program used in many public schools. Developing number sense such as collecting, counting and measuring are part of our daily schedule. Exploring data, counting ourselves and others, exploring geometry by making shapes and building blocks are all contributing to our full math curriculum.

Art, Science, Music and Movement are all based on the weekly/monthly themes and integrated into the curriculum. Gross motor activities include structured and unstructured outdoor play and introduce children to the fundamentals in a number of team sports.

## **Our Invitation to You**

Linda invites you to visit the Kindergarten Program and welcomes any questions that you may have. We hope you will consider us when making your Kindergarten decision. We are confident that if you choose to enroll your child in our program, they will graduate from Fair Acres with confidence, happiness and well prepared for first grade.

Class space is limited: Register early to ensure your space!