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**A huge thank you to the Briarcliff Congregational
Church for being the home of our
School Age Summer Camp!**



A Little Dirt Never Hurt

In our preschool garden, the children learn first-hand about nurturing, patience, discovery, stewardship, and love and respect for nature. They learn about the growing cycle, our local ecosystem, and nutrition.

Moreover, our teachers use the garden as a way to explore math concepts and emergent literacy skills. We are very grateful to the Frog Rock Foundation for funding our gardening program this year.

Save these Dates! Ossining Children's Center Fall Harvest Benefit Luncheon

**Friday, November 3
The Briarcliff Manor
25 Studio Hill Road, Briarcliff**

Festive Stroll of Homes

**November 17 & 18
Presented by Holbrook Cottage
to benefit
Ossining Children's Center
and
Neighbor's Link**

Ossining Children's Center



*"Where Children Learn to
Love Learning"*



Thank you to the Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk! We truly had a hands-on experience. We touched jellyfish and stingrays. We even pretended to drive a fishing boat. We saw pink flamingos and sharks and turtles.



Summer 2017 at OCC!!

Dear friends,

Thanks to your generous support, our 2017 summer program at OCC was full of exciting educational experiences. Your contributions allowed our youngsters to learn about other cultures, visit museums, hike and learn a thing or two about how to cook healthy food. In short, your support gives our youngsters lifelong skills to enrich their minds and their bodies.

Building Bridges through Cultural Learning



Through food, flags, games and songs, our School Age children celebrated all of our different ethnicities and cultural traditions. An appreciation of cultural difference fosters positive social experiences and strengthens children's ability to relate and explore. By celebrating our differences at OCC, we learn to welcome challenges and develop a tolerance and acceptance for diversity.



A Trip to the Bronx Zoo

Our School Age campers visited the largest urban zoo in America and got up close and personal with animals from around the globe. Visiting a zoo helps children understand the importance of taking care of the environment as it has a significant impact on the lives and welfare of animals.

A Summer of Exploration

Children's Museum of Manhattan

This summer, OCC stimulated the curiosity of all our children through technology, science, the arts and environmental experiences.

Our pre-school campers visited the Children's Museum of Manhattan, a great destination for delight, discovery and learning. The children took part in hands-on activities that taught them how New York City gets its water and the role water plays in our local environment.



An interactive water table helps the children trace the path of New York City's water as they play.

A Hike at Teatown's Nature Preserve

Our environmental studies continued at Teatown, as our School Age campers took part in the exploration of the 1000-acre nature preserve. Here, they learned by exploration and creative play, developing a growing respect of the natural world.

Hiking is a great way to nurture a child's love for nature, health and fitness. Exploration of the outdoors can foster children's inquiry and learning, which in turn promotes their development. Nature walks, in particular, provide opportunities to foster cognitive, social, emotional, and physical development.



Creativity, Cooking and Cartoons!

Jacob Burns Film Center

We are so grateful to Jacob Burns Film Center (JBFC) for the wonderful animation workshop they provide for our School Age program. The JBFC is committed to teaching young people how to become fluent users of twenty first century digital media. Our School Age youngsters put their creative juices to use, dreaming up their own unique stories, characters and places and bringing them to life. The experience provided our youngsters with the technological tools to express themselves artistically.



According to Americans for the Arts, young people who participate regularly in the arts (three hours a day on three days each week through one full year) are four times more likely to be recognized for academic achievement than children who do not participate.

From an OCC Parent

"I had to move to Yonkers for my job. My son, who was a late-talker, did great at OCC's pre-school before entering kindergarten. But when we moved, the staff at his new afterschool program didn't understand him, and he was getting into trouble. I had to get him back to the Center, even if it was difficult for me. Here he is loved and understood, and he's doing great again."

Good Choice Kitchen



Thank you, Good Choice Kitchen, for welcoming us to your restaurant. Our younger campers made vegetable juice, blueberry smoothies, tasted broccoli sprouts and learned about juicing.

Cooking is an engaging way to empower children to take pride and confidence in themselves. The act of following a recipe can encourage self-direction and independence. Cooking inspires children's curiosity, and problem solving, offering new opportunities to make predictions and observations. This trip also made our children aware of illness prevention and healthy eating. They also learned about the importance of eating fresh, local foods instead of less healthy processed food.