



# P.A.R.K. NEWS



Programmed After-school Recreation for Kids!

APRIL 2019

## RECREATION SUPERVISOR NEWSLETTER

### Reminders

- Monday, April 15: P.A.R.K. payment due for May/June (last one!)
- Friday, April 19 - Monday, April 22: No school or P.A.R.K.

### 2019 Summer P.A.R.K.

Registration is now open for current P.A.R.K. families. Summer P.A.R.K. registration opens to the public Tuesday, April 16. Find information on your site's parent table or call the Parks and Recreation Office at 614-277-3050.

### 2019-2020 P.A.R.K.

Registration for current families to register for the 2019-2020 after-school and before-school programs opens Monday, April 8. Find registration forms on your parent table. Be sure to sign up as spots can fill quickly!

### 2019 Summer PlayZone

The plan for a ton of summer fun just got better! Jump into athletic shoes, pack a lunch and enjoy this super-fun day camp with your friends. Develop self-esteem, independence and strong social skills through highly active games, outrageous play, special activities, free-choice art and adventurous off-site trips. Participants must have completed kindergarten. No class Thursday, July 4.

Kingston Center  
Monday-Thursday  
Monday, June 17 - Thursday, Aug. 8  
9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.  
\$338 (\$353 NR)

### 11 Ways to Raise a Grateful Child

~ *MusingMomma.com*

1. Tell him/her thank you.
2. Let him/her hear you say thank you to others.
3. Don't give him/her everything she wants.
4. Provide him/her with opportunities to earn the things he/she wants.
5. Keep rewards reasonable.
6. Call him/her out when she's unappreciative
7. Give back to the community.
8. Help your child see the need around him/her.
9. Teach your child about developing countries.
10. Incorporate daily gratitude's into your family's routine.
11. Write thank you notes.

### Parenting Quotes

"When you compliment your children, praise them for inner qualities such as kindness, honesty and perseverance so they will strive to contribute to the world in meaningful ways."

~ *Toni Schutta*

"We need to model healthy behavior to our kids. They will learn more from our actions than any lecture we will give. We can preach empathy and calm all we want, but if we do not model this behavior in front of our kids, they may never learn how to handle these situations. They are more likely to learn when we remain calm instead of yelling or responding with anger."

~ *Emily Schott, PhD*



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## BOLTON CROSSING NEWSLETTER

### Reminders

- Friday, April 19 - Monday, April 22:  
No school or P.A.R.K.
- Please call the Bolton Crossing P.A.R.K. phone if your child will be absent for the day.

### Fun Things to Do in April

- Attend a Columbus Crew or Clippers game.
- Hop to the Columbus Zoo! They are hosting Easter egg hunts on Friday, April 19 and Saturday, April 20, and the Party for the Planet on Saturday, April 27!

### Crafts

April brings many fun, unique crafts for the kids to do. We have an entertaining Easter hunt planned and fun Easter crafts for the kids to enjoy, including of course, the kids' favorite - food crafts! We mostly do food crafts on Fridays as a part of "Food Friday."

### Games

We will introduce some new games for the kids to enjoy. As I have shared before, we try our best to keep the kids engaged in the games. We think it is important for them to get in physical activity each day!

### Recipe of the Month: Rice Krispies Baskets

#### **Ingredients:**

- ¼ teaspoon water
- 2-4 drops green food coloring
- ½ cup flaked coconut
- 3 tablespoons butter or margarine
- 4 cups miniature marshmallows
- 6 cups Rice Krispies cereal
- Favorite small confections
  - Miniature marshmallows
  - Jelly beans
  - Chocolate eggs

#### **Instructions:**

1. In small bowl, stir together water and green food coloring. Add coconut. Stir until coconut is tinted. Spread on baking sheet to dry.
  2. Stove Top: In large saucepan, melt butter over low heat. Add marshmallows and stir until completely melted. Remove from heat.  
Microwave: In microwave-safe bowl, heat butter and marshmallows on high for 3 minutes, stirring after 2 minutes (cooking times may vary). Stir until smooth.
  3. Add cereal; stir until well coated.
  4. Divide warm mixture into (16) 2 ½-inch muffin-pan cups coated with cooking spray. Shape mixture into individual cups. Cool. Remove from pans.
  5. Fill cooled nests with coconut, marshmallows, jelly beans or chocolate eggs. Best if served the same day.
- » Note: For best results, use fresh marshmallows. Store no more than two days at room temperature in airtight container. To freeze unfilled cups, place in single layer on wax paper in airtight container. Freeze for up to 6 weeks. Let stand at room temperature for 15 minutes before filling.



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## BUCKEYE WOODS NEWSLETTER

### April Showers Bring May Flowers

Warmer weather is great for a variety of activities. Think about your next family trip. Make plans to visit the zoo or take a trip to visit the bison at Batelle Darby Metro Park. How about planting flowers or a new tree in your yard?

These are great family times that can be fun and enjoyed by everyone, so spend the day with grandparents, plan a picnic but do not invite the ants.

Think of something that gives back to our community. Help out at a local food pantry. Volunteer at an animal shelter. This can be a great way to find the purrrrfect new pet and give a dog or cat a forever home. If you are thinking about adopting a dog, first consider the activity level of your family and the size of your yard. It is important for your family and a pet that there is enough space and time for the dog to get enough exercise.

### April Fun

Here are just a few activities our P.A.R.K. staff will share with the kiddos.

- Sun catcher
- Bunnies and chicks
- Shrinky Dinks

### Helping Children Learn to Cope

#### **Nine Calm Down Ideas for Kids**

1. Go outside and kick a ball or run around.
2. Punch a pillow.
3. Listen to music or sing a song.
4. Close your eyes and think of a calm place.
5. Draw a picture.
6. Write a letter or story.
7. Read a book.
8. Talk to someone.
9. Ask for a hug.

### Birthdays

To all our April birthday babies, HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Have a shower full of sunshine,

P.A.R.K. Team Leaders: Elaine, Vicky, Amelia, Jacob

### Staff Notes

- At certain times, substitutes fill in for our staff. If you see an unfamiliar face, it is our extended staff who enjoy interacting with our kiddos and having fun getting to know a little bit about them. We really appreciate when they help out!
- We participate in drills so the kids know how to react in case of fire, tornado or need to evacuate. We follow the same plans as Buckeye Woods Elementary School. We want the staff and kids to be prepared in any situation.
- Spring fills the air with the wonderful sights, sounds and aromas of the outdoors. We smell grills fired up for dinner, the wonderful scents of flowers and freshly mowed grass and all the other signs of spring. We hope you enjoy getting outside and just having some fun with the kiddos.
- Don't forget those water bottles and healthy snacks. They are a must for the children to refuel after a day of school and learning.

### Fun Fact

- Did you know that TUESDAY is when most people work through their lunch?



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## HIGHLAND PARK NEWSLETTER

### Reminders

- If your child will be absent, call the P.A.R.K. site cell phone at 614-571-9624.
- Be sure to sign your child out daily.
- Make sure your child brings something to eat and drink for our daily snack time.
- Spring weather can change quickly: make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather as we try to go outside each day.
- Friday, April 19 - Monday, April 22: No school or P.A.R.K.

### Daily Sign Out/Parent Table

Be sure to sign your child out daily. Sign out at the parent table unless we are outside. If we are outside, PLEASE see a leader before leaving with your child.

The craft and game of the day are posted on the white board to stimulate conversation with your children about their day. Other important information is also here; any parent information handouts are with the leaders.

### Jokes of the Month

- Q. When do monkeys fall from the sky?  
A. During APE-ril showers.
- Q. What season is it best to go on a trampoline?  
A. Spring time.
- Q. What do you call a rabbit with flees?  
A. Bugs bunny.

### Where to Find the Easter Bunny

Breakfast with the Easter Bunny: 9 a.m.-noon, Friday, April 19, Dave & Buster's, 3665 Park Mill Run Dr., Hilliard.



### Art Projects

Themes for our art weeks in April are rainy days and Easter. Projects to look forward to are tulip straws, finger-paint rain cloud, Easter bunnies and cardboard creatures.

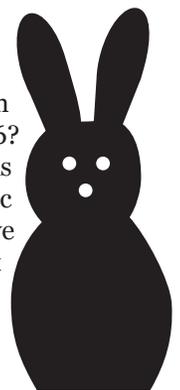
### April Birthdays

- Colton Bailey: April 5
- Stella Price: April 9
- Alex Miller: April 15
- Kora Price: April 15
- Natalyn O'Mara: April 25



### Get Hoppin' on the Grove City Bunny Hunt!

Can you find the 10 bunnies hiding in the Town Center by Friday, April 26? Pick up a Bunny Hunt card at the Parks & Recreation Office, Southwest Public Libraries, Visit Grove City or the Grove City Museum or download one at <http://bit.ly/GCbunnyhunt> (where complete details are available).



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## J.C. SOMMER NEWSLETTER

### Reminders

- Friday, April 19 - Monday, April 22: No school or P.A.R.K.
- Call the J.C. Sommer P.A.R.K. cell phone at 614-571-9620 if your child will be absent from P.A.R.K. or if he/she is participating in an after-school activity that delays his/her arrival to P.A.R.K. coming from school, such as tutoring sessions or choir outings.
- Make sure your child brings something to eat and drink for our daily snack time.
- If your child does not wear gym shoes to school, ensure he/she brings a pair to change into for P.A.R.K.
- We go outside every day: please make sure your student has the right apparel for the weather.

### April Birthdays

- Colin Ferguson
- Alex Taylor
- Joey Waugh
- Isaac Miller

### April Activities

Our featured game for the month is: Wiffleball. We will play every Friday - outside when we can!

Our weekly art themes feature fun Easter and spring topics like peeps, eggs, bunnies and flowers. We also have a special project this month!

### Kids' Corner: Easter and Spring Poems

#### The Easter ~ Andrew McDaniel

Today is Easter and it happens every year.  
You go for hunts and some people have it at their house and at other people's house and the Easter bunny comes and hides your baskets all over the house.  
That is all...

#### Spring ~ Taylor

I wake up.  
It's time to play on a great spring day.  
It's time to go outside and have fun.  
I'll run and run for some fun.  
Fun! Fun! Fun!

#### Easter Morning ~ Canon Clary

When I wake up I watch TV  
When I'm done I go down stairs  
And I find Easter eggs!  
I open them up and see what is inside.  
There is candy, toys, treats and sweets!  
I eat the sweets and play with the toys.  
Then I eat Easter dinner and that's how I spend my Easter!

#### Easter! Sunday!

~ Emmy, Harmeni and Myrical  
Easter is fun for everyone  
If you were a grouch, you'd just sit on your couch.  
Instead have fun, fun, fun!  
On Easter it will be fun, but you will have 10 times the fun!  
You will run and scream like a lighting beam.  
Easter Day! Hip, hip hooray!

#### Spring Fun ~ Lilly Frazz

Spring comes, snow is gone.  
Trees, flowers and plants once grow once again.  
Jumping, running, looking for eggs.  
Under a tree? Under a plant? Soon will be found.  
Some have coins, some have candy eggs.  
Once again rain comes.  
I eat my candy while watching the rain fall.  
I'm glad I had some spring fun!

#### The Easter Football

##### Game ~ Oliver J.

It was dark and stormy!  
But the Easter Bunny was playing football with his friends.



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## MONTEREY NEWSLETTER

### Dates to Remember

- April 1: April Fool's Day
- April 15: P.A.R.K. payment due
- Friday, April 19 - Monday, April 22: No school or P.A.R.K.
- April 22: Earth Day

### Did You Know April...

- Is Autism Awareness Month?
- Is Grilled Cheese Month?
- Is Stress Awareness Month?
- Has two official flowers: daisies and sweet peas?

### Crafts

We have lots of spring and Easter crafts planned for this month. Kristi starts off the month with **Yarn Easter Eggs** that make a great decoration piece for your home. Then Amanda makes some yummy **Edible Flower Pretzels** everyone is sure to enjoy! Allie follows by making **Bunny Hats** - have your phones ready for a photo moment!

### Recipe of the Month: Easter Egg Pretzel Bark

#### **Ingredients:**

- 12 oz. chocolate chips
- 12 oz. white chocolate chips
- 1 cup hard-shelled chocolate eggs
- 1/2 cup of salted pretzels
- Pastel/Easter sprinkles

#### **Directions:**

1. Line a baking sheet with wax paper. Set aside.
2. Place chocolate chips and white chocolate chips in separate microwave-safe bowls.
3. Microwave chocolate chips for 1 minute; stir. Microwave again for 30 seconds. Repeat until chips are melted and chocolate is smooth.
4. Repeat microwave instructions again for the white chocolate chips.
5. Spread chocolate chips onto wax paper forming a rectangle on the cookie sheet.
6. Add dollops of white chocolate over the milk chocolate; swirl to marbleize.
7. Immediately arrange pretzels, chocolate eggs and sprinkles on the chocolate rectangle, pressing lightly so they embed into the chocolate.
8. Refrigerate until chocolate is set, about 45 minutes. Remove and cut bark into pieces.



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## RICHARD AVENUE NEWSLETTER

### Reminders

- If your child will be absent, call the P.A.R.K. site cell phone at 614-571-9623.
- Be sure to sign your child out daily.
- Make sure your child brings something to eat and drink for our daily snack time.
- Friday, April 19 - Monday, April 22: No school or P.A.R.K.

### Recipe of the Month: Bunny Bait (Easter Snack Mix)

#### **Ingredients:**

- 5 cups Rice Chex
- 5 cups plain Cheerios
- 2 cups pretzel sticks
- 1 cup dry roasted, lightly salted peanuts
- 11 ounces Easter-colored M&M's
- 16 ounces white chocolate

#### **Directions:**

1. In a large mixing bowl, mix together cereal, pretzels and nuts.
2. Melt chocolate in microwave, following directions on the package. Pour over cereal mixture and stir together thoroughly.
3. Pour in M&M's and stir to combine. Pour on wax paper and spread out. Once cooled, break into pieces and devour!

### Art Projects

In April, a variety of art projects follow these themes: Down-on-the-farm Week, Animal Week, Bunny Week, Bug Week and April-showers-bring-May-flowers Week. Look for your child's wonderful pieces of artwork daily.

### April Birthdays

- Caleb: April 21
- Brayden: April 28



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