### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- IAN 7/5
- **CLAIRE** 7/10
- ALEXANDER 7/19
- LUCAS 7/16

If your child is celebrating a birthday this month, please be sure to bring us an updated health appraisal as well as an updated immunization records.



Summer is in full swing and we are having a great time teaching and learning with our students! Many of our older students will be taking time away from camp activities to volunteer as story time readers, which helps them learn empathy and become more confident in their own reading skills. Young children are always captivated by children who are older than they are, and our preschoolers are benefitting from having so many excellent role models in the building this summer. We can't wait to see what the rest of the summer holds for us at Highlands Ranch!

This month we are celebrating Independence Day with a parade, holding Splash Day for our younger students and taking our campers on some exciting field trips. Please reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely, Gina and Falesha

### **Independence Day Celebrations**

Our annual school-wide parade will take place on July 3<sup>rd</sup> at 3:00 p.m. Each classroom is making decorations to carry during the parade, hats to wear and signs to decorate the parade route. Please send your child to school in red, white and blue. After the parade, each classroom will be having a special snack in their classroom. Parents are welcome to attend the parade and come to the classroom after the parade is over. We will share lots







#### Important Dates

July 3<sup>rd</sup>—Independence Day Parade, 3pm July 4<sup>th</sup>—CLOSED FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY July 7th- National Chocolate Day July 12<sup>th</sup>—Splash Day July 17- World Emoji Day July 20— National Ice Cream Soda Day July 26—Splash Day July 30—National Cheesecake Day July 31—Parent Folders go home

### **Vacation Reminder**

Please let us know in advance if you are planning on using your vacation credit to ensure that your account is not charged incorrectly. Thank you!

### Splash Day Reminders

We have three Splash Days planned for the month of July. As a reminder, students should come to school in their swimsuit (with swim diaper where applicable) and with a towel and a change of dry clothes. Please apply sunscreen to your child before you drop them off. Our currently scheduled splash days are:

- July 11th
- July 18th
- July 25th

### Summer Camp Reminders

Each school-age parent should have received a copy of our summer calendar listing all field trips and approximate departure and arrival times. Changes will be communicated through Links 2 Home.

On field trip days, campers should have a reusable water bottle at camp each day. Closed toed, comfortable shoes are required for all field trips except those involving water.

## **Summer-Themed Activities Your Child Will Love**

We've compiled some of our favorite summer-themed activities that are easy to set up, inexpensive, and will keep your child entertained and learning all season long.

# Infants & Toddlers (Ages 0-2)

Before a vacation, read books about some of the things your child may experience (i.e., going to the beach, swimming in the pool, playing on the playground). Some of our favorites are *Baby Loves Summer* by Karen Katz, *Summer (Bright Baby Touch and Feel)* by Roger Priddy, *Mouse's First Summer* by Lauren Thompson, and *At the Beach* by Salina Yoon.

## **Beginners (Ages 2-3)**

Take a walk outdoors with your child and search for a few small stones. Talk about different items you see, such as a flower, the sun, a butterfly, and clouds. When you get home, provide him with paint and a paintbrush. Encourage him to decorate the stones by painting items he saw during the walk.

## **Intermediates (Ages 3-4)**

Practice counting and fine motor skills using watermelon seeds. Cut a watermelon in half and ask your child to pick out and count 50 seeds. Use this as an opportunity to also discuss color, size and shape.

## Pre-K/Pre-K 2 (Ages 4-5)

Help your child write a note to a relative or friend about a recent vacation. Encourage him to use uppercase and lowercase letters. For more challenging words, you may want to write them first, and have him copy the words on his own paper.

