

# Family Newsletter

## September Book List

**Hey Wall: A Story of Art and Community**  
by Susan Verde

**The Curious Garden**  
by Peter Brown

**Ordinary Mary's Extraordinary Deed**  
by Emily Pearson

**Last Stop on Market Street**  
by Matt de la Pena

**Thank you, Omu!**  
by Oge Mora

**Be Kind**  
by Pat Zeitlow Miller

**Maddie's Fridge**  
by Lois Brandt

**Pie is for Sharing**  
by Stephanie Parsley Ledyard

**The Very Last Castle**  
by Travis Jonker

HAPPY SEPTEMBER and **WELCOME TO OUR NEW FAMILIES!** Every day at the center we look forward to observing milestones, nurturing joy, and building our community of learners.

To help you make the most of the LineLeader app, which is essential for communication and reporting, here are some answers to a few common questions:

- **Express Drive-Up feature:** Use the Express Drive-Up feature to let us know you're on your way to the center! This is also a convenient way to leave notes or comments that you want to share with your child's teacher.
- **Checking In/Out:** Remember to check your child in upon arrival and out upon departure each day. This ensures they are included for important ratio counts and moment creation. Use the front desk kiosk with your pin number or open your app and scan the QR code.
- **Absences:** If your child is sick or absent for any reason, please remember to mark them as absent in the app. You can note details about their absence if appropriate.
- **Avoid Late-Payment fees:** The auto-pay feature in LineLeader is a great way to avoid late payment fees. Remember to also keep your payment information up-to-date.
- **Accessing Payment Statements:** To view these reports, go to the LineLeader site on your computer (not through the app). Click on your profile in the top right corner, select "Transactions," and then look for the purple button labeled "Payment Statement." You can filter the report by date range if needed, and then choose "Generate Report."

Please stop by the front office if you have additional questions!



For  Grins

(Answer on page 2)

**Children in what grade have the greenest thumbs?**



**DROP OFF TIPS**  
**Supporting Transitions**

Young children need support as they say goodbye to family and start their day at child care. Here are a few tips to make goodbyes easier.

- **Connect with caregivers:** Help your child’s teacher get to know you! Share important family routines, preferences, and traditions.
- **Review the daily schedule:** Use pictures or a posted routine to help children understand their day.
- **Create a goodbye routine:** A hug, wave, or goodbye song helps children know what to expect. Even for infants, it’s important to create these routines.
- **Offer comfort items:** A family photo, special lovey, or familiar object can ease separation.
- **Use home language:** Share key words or phrases with your child’s teacher (like “Mama always comes back”) in your family’s home language.
- **Share favorites:** Let teachers know your child’s favorite toys or activities so they can point out similar things in the classroom.
- **Talk about feelings:** It’s ok to cry and miss a parent. Don’t be hurt if your child is upset with you - strong feelings are normal.
- **Celebrate reunions:** Ask teachers about highlights from your child’s day and celebrate their successes!

With patience, consistency, and teamwork, transitions can become smoother for both you and your child.



Early Learning Academies

For Grins Answer: Kinder-garden

**HOMEMADE BUTTER**  
**Age Group: Preschool & Older**

Making **butter** right at home is so easy! All you need to make butter with your child is a **LIDDED JAR** (a mason jar or baby food jar for smaller hands works great), a few **CLEAN MARBLES, HEAVY CREAM**, and a little **SALT**.

To begin, fill your jar half-way with heavy cream and then drop in the marbles. Add a pinch of salt if you would like your butter salted. Screw the lid on tight and then take turns moving the liquid around! You can shake, roll, or dance around with the jar - just keep the mixture moving. After a few minutes, you will start to hear the lump of butter in your jar! Take the solids (butter) out of the jar, the remaining liquid is buttermilk. Rinse the butter with water to remove the buttermilk then store in the refrigerator for up to a week. This is a great opportunity to talk about the states of matter (solid vs. liquid)!



**REMINDER**

We are CLOSED in observance of Labor Day Monday, September 1