

Alternatives For Children



www.alternativesforchildren.org

SPRING 2014

WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD RED • GREEN • YELLOW • BLUE

Week of the Young Child is held each year at Alternatives For Children to recognize young children, and thank our teachers, therapists, and program staff and all those who make a difference in young children's lives. Young children and their families depend on high-quality education and care, which help children get a great start and bring lasting benefits. At Alternatives For Children the Week of the Young Child is a time to recognize the importance of early learning and early literacy, and to celebrate the teachers and policies that bring early childhood education to young children.



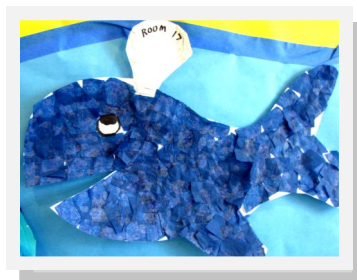
Monday

RED day



Tuesday
GREEN day

Wednesday
YELLOW day



Thursday
BLUE day



Friday
RAINBOW day

ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN CARDIO CIRCUIT INTRODUCED DURING CELEBRATION OF WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD



WOYC Theme - Health & Fitness For Families

Recognizing that obesity, lack of exercise, child fitness concerns, and healthy eating issues are hot topics, Alternatives For Children chose the theme **Health & Fitness For Families** to celebrate the Week of the Young Child. Three healthy initiatives have been introduced to our families in an April activity calendar.

These initiatives are:

1. Alternatives For Children is encouraging all of our families to find 15 minutes to a 1/2 hour every day to **WORK OUT!** Families have been given the same fun-filled Cardio Circuit the children will be doing each day at school.
2. Alternatives For Children is encouraging all our families to replace some of the juice and/or soda they drink with **WATER**. 2-6 year olds should drink 4-5 cups of water a day. For adults, it is recommended that we drink eight 8 - ounce glasses of water a day.
3. Alternatives For Children is encouraging all our families to try some new - never before tried **Fruits & Veggies**.

Join with us in a **Healthier Future for your Family!**

Check out **Choose My Plate.gov**

www.choosemyplate.gov/supertracker-tools/daily-food-plans.html

and our **April Family Activity Calendar**

www.alternatives4children.org/news/pdfs/april%20calendar.pdf

Thank you Kristen Reichling-Khan

Registered Dietitian at Mather Memorial Hospital
and Daycare parent for your parent presentation
Food & Nutrition Tips for Your Family's Health

Alternatives for Children

Mission Statement

To provide the highest quality special and regular education programs and services to children with disabilities and typically developing peers.

Education, medical, pediatric rehabilitation, and support services are integrated to ensure the comprehensive needs of the child and family are met.

14 Research Way
East Setauket, NY 11733
631-331-6400
Preschool Programs
Child Day Care
Early Intervention Services
Universal Pre-K
Administrative Office

1116 Main Road
Aquebogue, NY 11931
631-722-2170
Preschool Programs
Child Day Care
Early Intervention Services
Universal Pre-K

175 Wolf Hill Road
Melville, NY 11747
631-271-0777
Preschool Programs
Child Day Care
Early Intervention Services

168 Hill Street
Southampton, NY 11968
631-283-3272
Preschool Programs
Child Day Care
Early Intervention Services

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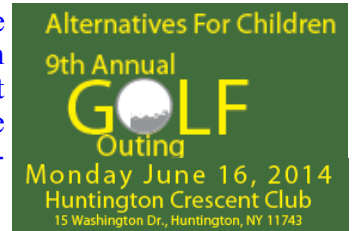
ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

So many exciting things going on in our classrooms and therapy areas in Aquebogue, East Setauket, Melville and Southampton as witnessed by the pictures in our Spring Newsletter. Everyday I am amazed at the knowledge, dedication, perseverance and creativity that our teachers and therapeutic staff exhibit in providing the necessary programs and services that our children require. All of this under increasing regulatory demands and the accompanying paperwork that goes along with those demands.

Join with me in giving a wholehearted "Job Well Done" to our staff.

Of course, none of this could be accomplished without YOUR support. Please keep in mind that the programs and services we provide for the children are publicly funded; and I know I don't need to tell you what that means. 92% of all our fundraising efforts and your donations go directly to programming for the children.

We rely on people like you to *Make A Difference* in the lives of our children. I invite you to - come have some fun at our 9th Annual Golf Outing - donate a Gift Card/Certificate for our Golf Outing Chinese Auction - give an App Store Gift Card to support iPads in the classroom - make a one time donation.. It's all for the children!



Marie E. Ficano, Ed.D.

Thank you for your continuing support!

Learning Happens Here!



Alternatives For Children East Setauket Child Day Care Distinguished Artist Alumni



Bella Ospitale in front of her artwork
hung at the Imagine Gallery
Port Jefferson, September 2013

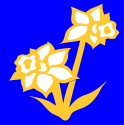


From the sketchbook of six-year old artist
Vivian Wang - October 2013

Bella Ospitale, a fourth-grader at Arrowhead Elementary School in Setauket and Valerie Wang, a six-year old from Setauket have two things in common; their love of art and the fact that they are both alumni of Alternatives For Children's East Setauket Child Day Care Center.



Alternatives For Children - Tending our Garden and Blooming Artists - Musicians - Authors



Family Education Rights and Privacy Act

Alternatives for Children will work together with families to answer any questions and help access information needed

Each year, Alternatives for Children is required to notify parents of their rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act regulations (FERPA) to:

- Inspect and review the student's educational records.
- Seek amendment to the student's educational records that the parent believes to be inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights.
- Consent to disclosure of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records.

Alternatives for Children will comply with a request for access to records within 45 days of a received request and respond to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of records. If a parent believes the education records relating to the student contain information that is inaccurate, misleading or in violation of the student's rights of privacy, he or she may ask Alternatives for Children to amend the record.

**For More Information on FERPA
and your rights as parents visit our website**

www.alternatives4children.org/confidentiality-parents-rights.html
<http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/ferpa/index.html>



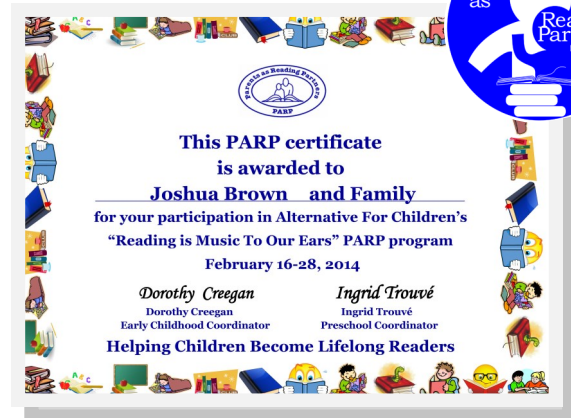
Like Share

LIKE and Follow Us on Facebook!
So many resources! So much information!
www.facebook.com/AlternativesForChildren

Like Share

ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN PARENTS AS READING PARTNERS

Each year Alternatives For Children celebrates literacy through our Parents As Reading Partners program. PARP is a collaborative effort between parents and staff in which we endeavor to build a reading partnership between the home and school. Through PARP, parents are encouraged to read with their children for at least 15 minutes a day.



Studies show that children who read at home are better prepared to succeed in formal education. PARP is aimed at involving parents in the essential task of helping their child become lifelong readers.



This Martin Luther King Day Miss Caroline's class celebrated their diversity and asked
What makes the world fun? Many kinds of people, not just one!



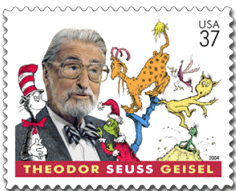
If you have never watched the Alternatives For Children Southampton rendition of Lady Gaga's hit "Born This Way" now's the time! Music Therapist Lee Morris instilled in her students a valuable life lesson; *I'm beautiful in my way, and I was born this way!* For their end of the year song, all the children, those with disabilities and their typically developing peers, sang *Born This Way*, with adapted lyrics, and used American Sign Language to make this song their own.

Watch this and other Alternatives For Children videos at
www.alternatives4children.org/videos-alternatives-for-children.html

ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN SOUTHAMPTON
MARCH 3RD – HAPPY BIRTHDAY DR. SEUSS

“Can you say, Happy Birthday, Dr. Seuss?” asked Jennifer Ronca, bilingual teacher at Alternatives For Children Southampton - “Yes, you can!” And, yes they did! Maybe not on a boat, nor with a goat, but the children in the Transitional Bilingual program celebrated Dr. Seuss’s birthday in style wearing their *Cat in the Hat* hats and eating *Green Eggs and Ham*.

Using the easily recognized and much loved characters from Dr. Seuss books, teachers at Alternatives For Children incorporate FUN learning activities to foster the development of early pre-reading and pre-literacy skills. While the attainment of these skills are important for all children, the importance of early literacy skill development in a child’s dominant language, in this case Spanish, is crucial.



“You’re never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read with a child.”



It’s about developing a love of reading,
and our teachers do it every day

ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN AQUEBOGUE
CELEBRATES ST PATRICK’S DAY

In order to celebrate St. Patrick’s Day in style there are a few essentials you need. What leprechaun would be complete without a beard and hat? The children, using their fine motor scissor skills created magical leprechaun disguises so that they could try and fool the tricky classroom leprechaun.

Once their costumes were in place, it was time to get ready for the gold coin treasure hunt. Not just any treasure hunt, of course; an end-of-the-rainbow hunt for the pot of gold!

The children also enjoyed a visit from a father who came not as a leprechaun but as a Mystery Reader, and shared a magical leprechaun story.



On St Patrick’s day in Aquebogue, the children leave their shoes in the hallway, and a leprechaun sneaks into the school to put gold coins and treats in their shoes.



Christine Lennon and Melanie Fitzgerald of Alternatives For Children Southampton had *Napping Critters* an informative sing-along-song that focuses on cold-blooded hibernators published in Mailbox, The Idea Magazine for Preschool Teachers

Napping Critters Sung to the tune of “Are You Sleeping”
Frog is sleeping (fold hands against cheek)
Frog is sleeping
In the ground, (pat the floor)
In the ground.
Wonder when he’ll come out. (Throw hands out to sides)
Wonder when he’ll come out.

In the spring, (Clap to the beat)
In the spring.
Continue with the following: turtle, snake, toad



Huntington Crescent Club

Monday June 16, 2014

15 Washington Drive • Huntington • NY 11743



- _____ I will bring a foursome to this year's outing
\$1,600 foursome entry fee enclosed,
\$620 tax deductible. Includes luncheon, dinner,
greens fee, cart, caddy, putting contest for four.
- _____ I will play in this year's outing \$400 individual entry
fee enclosed, \$155 tax deductible. Includes luncheon,
dinner, greens fee, cart, caddy, putting contest.
- _____ I will sponsor a hole in this year's event
\$275 enclosed per hole sponsorship,
fully tax deductible
- _____ I will sponsor a Hole in One in this year's event
\$500 per Hole in One sponsorship, fully tax deductible

I will be an event sponsor for this year's Outing

- _____ Platinum Sponsor \$5,000
(\$3,720 tax deductible)
- _____ Gold Sponsor \$2,850
(\$1,950 tax deductible)
- _____ Silver Sponsor \$1,500
(\$1,275 tax deductible)

_____ Dinner only @ \$125 per person = _____

I cannot attend, but please accept my donation of

\$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Sponsorship Opportunities

Platinum Sponsor - \$5,000

Awards Dinner Sponsor

- ◇ Golf Foursome with caddy
- ◇ Prominent Corporate signage at venue
- ◇ Sponsor board
- ◇ Hole sign
- ◇ Four additional guests for dinner
- ◇ Affinity Membership
Donor Wall, Newsletter Mention

Gold Sponsor - \$2,850

Barbeque Dinner Sponsor

- ◇ Golf Foursome with caddy
- ◇ Prominent Corporate signage at venue
- ◇ Sponsor board
- ◇ Hole sign

Silver Sponsor - \$1,500

Registration Sponsor

- ◇ Play for one golfer
- ◇ Prominent Corporate signage at venue
- ◇ Sponsor board

Hole in One Sponsor - \$500

- ◇ Company logo on Hole in One sign

Hole Sponsor - \$275

- ◇ Company logo on Hole sign

Day's Events

- 10:00 am Registration
- 10:30 -12:00 Luncheon
- 10:45 - 11:45 Putting Contest
- 12:00 noon Shotgun start - Callaway Scoring
- 5:00 pm Cocktail Hour/Longest Drive
- 6:00 pm Dinner

.....

Name _____ Company Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Make Checks payable to Alternatives For Children 14 Research Way East Setauket, NY 11733
 Credit Cards accepted - Visa, Master Card, American Express
 REGISTER ONLINE AT <http://www.alternatives4children.org/golf.html>

Card Type _____ Card # _____ Exp Date _____

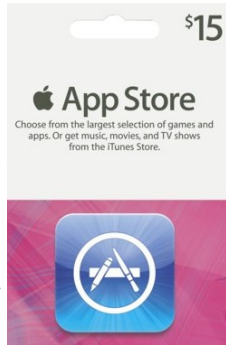
Print Name _____ Signature _____

Golfer #1 _____ Golfer #2 _____

Golfer #3 _____ Golfer #4 _____

iTech - Teaching Through Technology

Classroom teachers at Alternatives For Children now have access to iPads for use with their students. The staff has been trained and educational apps beneficial for all types of learners have been loaded. Now you can help fund the use of the iPads in the classroom - opening wide the doors for our children to be as current and conversant with these important technologies as their typically developing peers.



Gift cards for the Apple App Store would allow our Educational Technology specialists purchasing power for appropriate apps for our children. iPad apps are expanding the learning experience inside the classroom. From interactive lessons to study aids to productivity tools, there's something for everyone

You can mail your App Store Gift Card to:
 Alternatives For Children 14 Research Way
 East Setauket, NY 11733 ATTN: Ingrid Trouvé

ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN AFFINITY MEMBERS

Jim Buzzetta

Merik C. Dolber

Dr. & Mrs. Fred Mendelsohn

Mark Senders

Dan Meystrik

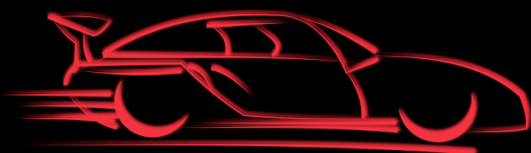
Mike Russell

Teknow Services, LLC

Katherine Crowe

**THANK YOU
AFFINITY
MEMBERS!**

ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN 18th Annual CLASSIC & SPORTS CAR RALLY



**SAVE THE DATE
SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 27TH**

Alternatives For Children is a not-for-profit, 501 (c)(3) organization registered with the NYS Charities Bureau. All donations are tax-deductible in accordance with current IRS charitable giving



We need your help in soliciting items for our Chinese & Silent Auctions which are a BIG part of our Golf Outing!



Gift Cards/Gift Certificates to your favorite Restaurant, Beauty/Nail Salon, Day Spa, Gym



Golf Items/Gift Certificates to a favorite Golf Course



Tickets for Sporting Events

Bottles of Wine are needed to fill out our Gift Baskets
 Contact Susan Ennis at 331-6400 ext 229

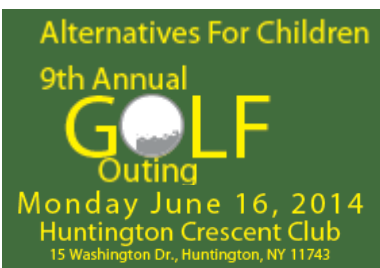


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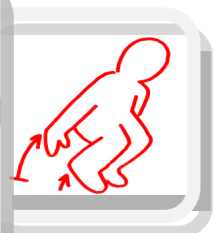
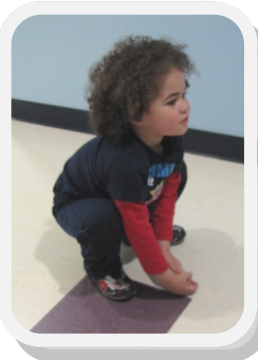
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EAST SETAUKET, NY
PERMIT No. 5



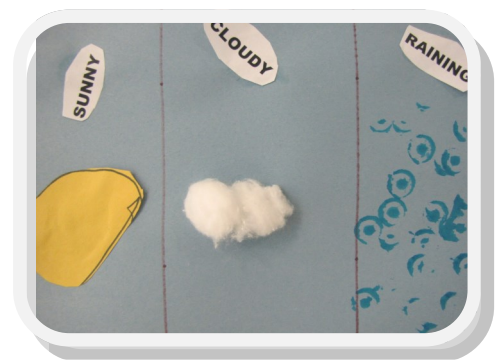
Providing the highest quality special and regular education programs and services to children with disabilities and their typically developing peers.

SEEN AROUND THE HALLS AT ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN



Charlie on the Cardio Circuit
getting ready to Leap Like a Frog

We dressed up as our favorite
Book Characters for
Parents As Reading Partners



Finally - SPRING!



A passel of
peculiarly pleasant
penguins pervaded
our passageways

We had a visit
from a
Dental Hygienist



My son has advanced in so many skills at Alternatives For Children. We are so proud of the progress he has made. We are thrilled with the attention our son receives. He loves going to school. The teachers are amazing!