



Kindergarten News

March 2015

Dear Parents,

March was really exciting; we had the eclipse of the sun, our Easter breakfast and a lot of other fun and interesting things going on.

The children were really excited about the Easter breakfast and were busy crafting their Easter baskets. Due to the weather we couldn't go out to the Hypopark for the Easter egg hunt but the Easter bunny made sure every child got his/her basket at the kindergarten. He even came twice (he hid some more eggs over the day)! For the children it really made the day a special day to be able to share it with you. The Easter breakfast was a nice opportunity to talk with all of you and the children were really proud to have you in the kindergarten. Thank you to the Elternbeirat and all of you, for making this morning special for all of us.

In March Max had his birthday, he turned five on the 31.03.2015, we celebrated it on the 1st of April, that way he had a party of his own and didn't have to share that day with the Easter bunny.

What have we been up to?

Project groups:

The children look forward to their project group days and enjoy the activities that we have prepared together. We all come up with new plans every time since the children are so full of ideas.

The shadow and light group made a trip to Augsburg and visited the Augsburger Puppenkiste. We watched the play of Dornröschen. We took the train in the morning and were back in the afternoon. The children all were really good and it was a pleasure to travel with them on this trip.

The one music instrument group is learning different ways to play on their drums and they are getting ready to support the shadow and light group. They are practicing the rhythm with different songs.

The other music instrument group got to repair a guitar and (as mentioned) all of the children love to play on it. We teachers even get to request songs that they will play and sing for us.

At the Deutsche Museum, the children also got to explore some of the project group related things, e.g. a big shadow wall and a lot of instruments that we were able to try out.

Arts and crafts:

As usual the crafting tables are set up every day and the children have been very busy again. The pin board and all our free space is getting decorated more and more by fantastic art work!

- We got the play dough out a couple of times and we formed all different kinds of things. We love to roll it out and squeeze it through the little tube forms.
- For the plant science we decorated our little planters with silly eyes, which made us giggle, since the cress looks like hair now.
- We crafted a big pirate ship, a cute giraffe and a crocodile out of the milk boxes and with pap Mache. Some already got painted and decorated.
- For Easter we made cute little Easter baskets with the empty Tetra boxes that you all brought to the kindergarten (Thank you for providing them!).
- The children have enjoyed the bugelperlen and have shown great concentration and fine motor skills as they work on their pieces.

Maths:

- We count our group every day; we check how many children are there and find out how many plates we need on the table for lunch. We also count together when we go out on a trip (and come back) and the children make sure that we all hear them count with us.
- As you might have guessed, “Mensch ärger dich nicht” is still very popular, and not that they beat us teachers every time, they also sum up the amount of steps that they will need to either throw us out or to get into their safe zone.
- Some children counted the days until they were going on holidays.
- And of course we counted the days until the Easter bunny came to the Easter breakfast.
- Counting is something that we do all the time, there are so many opportunities to count things and it is amazing how good the children are with that.

Science:

- Some more of the older children have completed their Computer Führerschein and they are very interested and very good in handling the computer mouse and the program that we have on the computer for them. And of course they are very proud!
- We made experiments with substances and fluids.

- We planted cress, carrot seeds and peas in little pots and watched which would start to grow first. We also made sure that we watered it enough, we found out that on Monday morning the plants really were thirsty and some had their heads already hanging.
- We heard that the cress was really yummy and it went really well with a cheese sandwich.

Nature and Environment:

Field Trips:

- The preschool children went to see the Olchis, at the Bürgersaal Fürstenried. The children know the story's from the books that they choose from the library. They enjoyed watching the play.
- We went to the Deutsche Museum where we visited the Kinderreich, we got to explore the exhibit and try out a lot of nice things. We had fun with the fire engine and the pole that the fire men use to slide down. The water part was really interesting as well as the shadow and light part. We worked on some of the computers and solved little games, played the music instruments that were there and we got to reconstruct the eclipse of the sun. After the Kinderreich we went to explore the Mine, where we found out interesting things about coal and salt mines.

Outdoor Fun:

- We have been making our regular trips to the Hypopark and have seen signs that spring is coming, the crocus are starting to bloom and we made sure nobody picked them, since we learned that the bees and other insects get their food from the first flowers that start to bloom. We watched bumblebees fly from flower to flower. We are all happy that the weather is warming up and that soon we will not need to put on as much clothing to go out.
- In our garden we watched the eclipse of the sun. We didn't see the sun because it was hiding behind a chimney but we noticed that it got darker and we realized that we didn't hear any birds during that time.
- We also painted the ground in our garden quite colorful and we try to keep the ground free of sand, we all love to help and sweep. We also love to play soccer and we are glad that the sand is not so wet anymore.
- In the sand we build a lot of nice things like a "Zauberwelt" or a "Vulkanstadt".
- We all made a few trips to the Englische Garten. One included a nice walk along the Isar, at the Maximilianeum. We went to a playground in the Englische Garten (after traveling with the subway with all of the children) and we wanted to look at the ducks but the ducks were hiding, but we did get to see some fish. We took the bus back, which also gives us a good training in traveling as a group and in different public transportations.

- Outdoor fun, that we watched from inside: We were surprised to see how strong the wind was and how the trees and the street lamps were shaking. We watched leaves and branches and even a planter box being blown away from the wind. That made us think that the wind sure is powerful.

Movement and Sport:

- KISS: “Möhrenziehen” was a game they seemed to request from Balti quite often this month. The Eagles and Owls really look forward to sport and they have gotten really good in getting changed into their sport clothing and not leaving their other clothes in a mess.
- The Robins did some activities that included “Klang und Farben”.
- We also had the foam blocks on hand for the children. They were able to run around in the Turnzimmer and build things with the blocks.

Circle time / Language and interaction:

- After the weekend we all get to tell what we have done the last few days and we love to share our stories with the others.
- We talked about how important it is to brush your teeth and we know that everybody brushes their teeth good. In order to train the Basiskompetenzen we let the older children brush their teeth on their own once in a while. They are very proud when they get to do that and we check if they all have brushed their teeth.
- We also talked about “Don’t get sick” again. How do we cough? What do we do after we have been to the bathroom? If it is okay to poke our nose and what we should do if we forget and do it? Is it good to stick toys in our mouths? How do we hold scissors? We all know what we should.
- We talked about “What did I like today? What didn’t I like today?”
- We love to play games like “Mensch ärgere dich nicht” and we have the biggest laugh when we bet a teacher again.
- Other games that we play a lot are “Memory”, “Nanu” and “Pustekuchen”.
- We also talked about how “please” and “thank you” or “I’m sorry” are polite manners that make things nicer and easier.

Books:

At the moment we are reading the Winnie the Pooh stories.

Some of the other books that we read and look at are:

- The books from “Conny” that some children bring from home are always nice.
- Das Wutmonster
- Cinderella
- Books about traffic, crossing the street and such are very popular.
- The Was ist Was books are often looked at
- Ali Baba and the forty thieves

- Jack and the bean stock
- Clifford

Music:

The children really love to sing and sometimes when we go out, they start to sing while walking to the park or the U-Bahn. We also have a guitar now, that the children can play on and they really love to entertain us with music.

We sang Songs like:

- “A mouse in a windmill in old Amsterdam”
- “The wheels on the bus go round and round”
- “Tsy bitsy spider”
- “Stups der kleine Osterhase”
- “Stray Cat Strut” (in a Little Daises version)

Music with Martin:

In the beginning the children sing their “Begrüßungslied” together and then they did a game, where they had to remember sounds and then do certain things like jump or sit down, which is a fun way to train the sense of hearing.

Songs, Finger-plays, and Games at Little Daisies:

Here are some of the fun things we sang and played:

- “Eine kleine Schlange” (we learned new parts of that song)
- “Twinkle twinkle little star” (or “my mommy drives a racing car” “Little bat”)
- “Schornsteinfeger ging spazieren”
- “Löwenjagd”
- “Dornröschen”
- “Kleiner Schmetterling”

Preschool:

German preschool:

- We are training our cognitive linguistic skills with the help of “Der Räuber Hotzenplotz” by Otfried Preußler.
- We got to wacht “Pumukel und der Osterhase” on Easter and drew a nice picture after that about Pumukel.
- The continued with our ABC and drew pictures of starting with the initial letters
- We also learned the different sounds of “S”, “ST” and “SCH”.
- Some of the children worked some more on their number rolls.

- We have accomplished tying our own shoe laces now and we love to show our skills in that!

English preschool:

- We used our preschool books and we are very good in solving our tasks.

What else was going on at Little Daisies?

The children had drawn pictures for the firemen and we got a letter back from them. Unfortunately they only let school kids (3rd graders and up) visit them but we talked about that in circle time and we got to listen to the letter. If you and your child would like to visit the fire station on your own, they will have an open door on the 18th of June. You can read the letter on one of our pin boards.

Little reminder:

Since the weather is slowly changing now, we would like to ask you to bring sunhats (good would be the ones that provide some shade in the back of neck as well). We do have sunscreen at the Kindergarten but if you prefer a certain kind for your child, we would ask you to bring it to us, with the name of your child written on it. We hope that we will be able to get rid of the Schneehosen soon and we will need the Matschhosen back in the Kindergarten. Please check if your child has all of the above and also a set of changing clothes. Thank you!

Important dates in April 2015:

On the 16th we will have to Pro Familia Abend at the Kindergarten that some of you have signed up to.

On the 22nd we will all be going on a trip to the Gasteig, we will be attending a Mitmach-Konzert, which sounds like a lot of fun.

We hope you have enjoyed reading about our month.

The Kindergarten Team

