



School Faculty 2017-2018

Kim Conner—Primary
Support

Julie Gill—Older All Days

Ande Green-Williams—
All Days Support

Lexi Hundley—Younger
All Days

Aldijana Karadza—
Younger All Days

Ally Lauer—Younger
Primary

Tonya Palsulich—Older
All Days

Maite Petersen—Parent-
Toddlers

Miranda Podolsky—
Older Primary

David Rodenstein—
Parent/Toddlers,
2-3-4s and 3-4-5s

Kristina Shallies—
Primary Support

Olivia Smith—2-3-4s
and Support

Rebecca Stalder—
Younger Primary

Pam Vance—Older
Primary

Sarah O'Dell—Executive
Director

Andrea Laird—Assistant
Director

Nicole Shadduck—
Education Director

From the Director:

By Sarah O'Dell

In the last issue of TCS Times I mentioned that my children attended The Children's School from 2 years old to 8 years old. At the time they began here I was in a financial situation where I could afford the tuition and was able to drop them off and pick them up from school every day. By the time my older daughter joined the Primes class, I was in a very different situation and was unable to afford the cost of tuition.

My kids had been through so many changes over the course of the year and it was so difficult to face the prospect of leaving this place that had been the one constant in their lives during such turmoil. The Children's School had been our home for years. They grew up here among supportive adults that our family had made very close relationships with. How could I move them at this point in their lives? I applied for tuition assistance that year and the following two years and was able to keep my kids at TCS, return to school at Boise State and get back on my feet while my kids remained in this amazing place. Every year since I have been able to pay it forward with donations to the auction, volunteering, chairing the auction committee or bidding big time! I truly believe that TCS is the best place for young children in Boise but it is not always an option for many families.

When you support the auction you are opening a door for a family to have the amazing experience that all TCS families have. I hope this year that I will see all of you there!

P-TCS News:

By Kat McClaskey

It's almost here! Really, it is! The night we've all been waiting for...**The 2018 Annual TCS Benefit for Tuition Assistance!**

FRIDAY, MARCH 9TH FROM 6-9PM at the Esther Simplot Performing Arts Center.

We'll join together for a wonderful adults only event where we will eat, drink, play games and bid on great items all while supporting a wonderful cause. Stacy Jensen and her magical team of volunteers have been hard at work putting together the event. But, there is still time to donate items or volunteer to help with the event set-up and clean-up. For more information, contact Stacy Jensen sliditrich@yahoo.com. We look forward to seeing you there!

And...Save the Date for: "**Empowering Nutrition Tips to Help you Heal and Thrive**"
Thursday, March 15th, 6:00- 7:30pm at TCS

Taught by Paulina Ducharme, Oliver's Mom and Functional Nutritionist
and colleagues from the Idaho Functional Health Alliance

Important Details

Please see weekly Updates and the school calendar for a comprehensive list of events and closures.

Enrollment Dates

March 1-2, 5-6, 7-8, Parent-Teacher Conferences. See individual classes for more information

March 5th, **Contracts for the 2018-2019 school year due in office by 4:00 PM with deposit**

March 12th, **Last day to have deposit refunded if enrollment is cancelled.**

Other Dates

March 9th, P-TCS Annual Spring Auction

March 26th-30th, Spring Break, Only All Days and Prearranged Primary Childcare Open. **2-3-4s, 3-4-5s, and Primary Classes Closed**

April 2nd, All classes resume

Classroom News

Younger All Days

This month, we celebrated Valentine's Day with an emphasis on friendship. Children in this class are just learning about the meaning of Valentine's Day. Our class experienced Valentine's Day in a calm and engaging way through meaningful activities. The children read Valentine's Day books with each other and with teachers and worked with pink and red art materials. Some book topics were about friendships, how our family loves us, and being kind to others. In the art area, we set up a Valentine's cards/collages station with foam hearts, pink ribbon, red glitter, googly eyes with hearts and stickers. We also added various Valentine's Day materials to the sensory table for the children to explore. We are always talking about friendships and what it means to be a good friend. This was just the beginning of formal ways to celebrate being a friend.

3-4-5s

Turn taking has become a focus in our group. The children are busy and interested in participating in everything available to them. Some current favorites are solo-singing and typing on the laptop. Their love of music also shows through our regular dance parties. Dancing music ranges from Syrian pop selections to music by Otis Redding. Sometimes, the class dances for the sake of dancing and at other times, it can be to warm up after a long outside time to start our day. Whatever the activity, dancing with classmates to having some quieter time to tap out letters and words at the keyboard, we are busy!

2-3-4s

This group is ready for Spring! A couple of weeks ago, the weather was more Spring-like than Winter-esque. When this happened, the class started working on watering plants and spent more time observing our class worms. Now that winter is here, our attention has shifted back to snow, mittens and working on those self-help skills to stay warm while playing the 'roaring' game of 'T-REX' during outside time.

Parent-Toddlers

In your parenting adventures have you heard of the different levels of play? You may have heard the terms parallel, associative, and cooperative play tossed out there in discussions, parenting books or from us! In the toddler class we most often see what looks like children playing *together* but is actually children playing *side by side*. Associative and parallel play are the two modes of play most common with toddlers. You may see 3 or 4 children in the block area together but chances are that their interaction is fairly minimal. They may have a dispute over some materials but mostly they are just playing near each other. Toddlerhood is a very egocentric world!

Have you noticed the beginnings of cooperative play with your children? Have you seen one child get excited when a classmate enters the room? How about their mutual silly zooming around? Have you noticed children asking where an absent classmate is? Have you seen two children choosing a book together? These signs of development may seem insignificant but they are HUGE in the toddler world!

Auction Facts

By Sarah O'Dell

*In the last five years the auction has raised \$129,000 for tuition assistance

*Approximately 10% of families each year receive tuition assistance

*If the need for tuition assistance is greater than the money raised, TCS funds the remaining cost from our operating budget.

*The success of the auction depends on many volunteers working countless hours, generous donations from the Boise community, and YOUR attendance!

There is still time to RSVP! Visit tcs.afrogs.org to buy your tickets!