




NAEYC Mission Statement:

NAEYC promotes high-quality early learning for all children, birth through age 8, by connecting practice, policy, and research. We advance a diverse, dynamic early childhood profession and support all who care for, educate, and work on behalf of young children.

This month...

- **April 3rd—Kindergarten field trip to Nature Discovery Center 8:15 to 2:30 p.m.**
- **April 6—Spirit Day! Wear your Walden T-shirt.** 
- **April 16th-20th—Week of the Young Child Activities**
- **April 17th - Kindergarten field trip to the First Colony Library 1:15—2:30p.m.**
- **April 19th - Class group pictures**
- **April 20—Walden celebrates Earth day**
- **April 23—April 27—Stanford Achievement Testing for Kindergarten**
- **May 1st through the 4th - Kindergarten Parent/Teacher Conferences**

The Walden School



16103-A Lexington Blvd.
Sugar Land, TX 77479
www.thewaldenschool.com
6:30 a.m.—6:30 p.m., Monday—Friday



Let's Celebrate



April 16th—20th

Pick up your "Message in a Backpack" for fun ways to celebrate early learning, young children, teachers, and families. Check out the special activities below that will take place in the classrooms and in Big Central to do with your child(ren):

Music Monday: Sing, dance, celebrate and learn! Students will enjoy a day of music play and dance in their classrooms.

Tasty Tuesday: Healthy eating and fitness at home and school! Each classroom will have a special, healthy snack they'll help prepare, serve and enjoy.

Work Together Wednesday: Work together, build together, and learn together! A STEM activity/project will be the focus in the classrooms

Artsy Thursday: Think, problem solve and create! There will be an art activity for families to create with their children in Big Central today!

Family Friday: Sharing family stories! Bring in a family photo to share with your class. All parents are invited to attend Music class with their child in the morning.



Smile! Group Class Pictures Thursday, April 19th

Class group pictures for all ages will be taken on Thursday, April 19th beginning at 9:00 a.m. Please have your child here no later than 9:00 a.m. to be included in the picture. Pictures will be displayed on the bulletin board between May 7-11th where you can view them. Information on how to order a copy for your child will be available at that time.



Congratulations to all of The Walden School Go Texan Day students for participating in the Walden Chuck Wagon Parade!

Successful Easter Egg Hunt

Thank you to all families who made candy donations for our annual Easter egg hunt!

The children had a wonderful time hunting for eggs as well as visiting with the Easter Bunny.



Walden will no longer apply bug spray or sunblock at school. Please apply bug spray and sunblock at home before coming to school, if needed. This is a change in our policy effective April 1, 2018.

Happy Spring! Trees are budding out, flowers are beginning to bloom, and the weather is turning warmer. Winter must finally be over! Spring is the perfect time to teach children about the cycles of nature that occur each year. The observance of Passover occurs this month, and Earth Day on April 22nd. Seeds from the fall come up as new plants in the Spring, caterpillars turn into butterflies, trees get new leaves—all fascinating events for young children. Warmer spring weather also makes trips outside at night a pleasant event. Since we will be talking about the changes in Spring, make sure to take them outside to observe the changes. Changes in nature are always interesting and mysterious to children. Through play and songs, we can help children learn about not only the world around them, but also the universe above them. Group Pictures are April 19th! **The colors for April are yellow, purple, and lavender. The shape for April is oval, or egg shape.**

Nursery Topics and Activities

Guidelines from NAEYC require all formula, jar foods, and cereal to be brought to school in it's original sealed containers. We cannot serve prepared bottles from home. Please remember to check the fridge daily for bottles as they cannot be kept here overnight. Several extra outfits are needed for children daily. Our nursery children tend to be on the messy side at times! Thanks to our wonderful parents who have been remembering to remove their shoes when entering the "crawl zone." This month the Nursery children will be busy painting on egg-shaped cut-outs, participating in yogurt and Jello play, and finger-painting. We continue talking and engaging children in vocalizations, reading, and tactile play. Group Pictures are April 19th.

Infant Topics and Activities

In the infant class we will enjoy April with events like parachute play, bubbles, balls, rolling cars, stacking blocks, jumping, and crawling. We will be reading stories and doing art activities using crayons, markers, chalk, and painting with brushes, rollers, and branches, and playing in the water table with various spring items. Shapes utilized in art activities will be clouds, umbrellas, and rain-drops. We'll experiment with Jello, sour cream, marshmallows, shaving cream, stickers, gluing, and learn our friends names, shapes, and color recognition. Learning the names of our body parts will keep us very busy. Group pictures are April 19th.



Toddler & Young Three's Topics and Activities

1. Earth Day, neighborhood, and family events.
2. Flowers and plants need sun and water. Insects are living things.
3. People take care of the earth by planting trees and other plants.
4. Baby animals look much like their parents, but smaller. Birds lay eggs in nests. Birds have feathers and most can fly.
5. Springtime has many rain showers to water new plants. People use umbrellas to stay dry.
6. Young 3's special topics will be "Animals Everywhere." We will discuss what we like about animals, discuss animals we are familiar with, and animals of the wild on land and in the sea. We will work on the letters A, Z, and F.
7. Work on pre-academic skills such as reciting simple rhymes, singing simple songs, and putting together simple puzzles. Work on physical skills such as throwing, jumping, making large motor movements to different music rhythms and stacking blocks. Group pictures are April 19th.

Pre-school Topics

1. Celebrate Spring, community, neighborhood, and family events.
2. Learn about baby animals. Explore the life cycle of the butterfly as well as the important role insects play in nature.
3. Learn the parts of the flower as we plant a class flower for Earth Day.
4. Celebrate the Week of the Young Child, & seasonal holidays so look for special activities!
5. Work on pre-academic skills such as writing and identifying letters. Pre-school will work with X, Y, and Z and the sounds they represent.
6. Learn more about number concepts from 1-20, and ordering by size, shape, and colors. Group pictures are April 19th

Pre-Kindergarten Topics

Pre-Kindergarten will:

1. Celebrate Earth Day.
2. Identify the parts of a plant and learn what is needed for plants and flowers to grow.
3. Learn about the important role insects play in nature.
4. Work on pre-academic skills such as writing and identifying the letters K, U, and Z. We will continue to practice writing in journals.
5. Learn more about number concepts from 1-30, and ordering by size.
6. Group pictures are April 19th.



Kindergarten Topics

Private Kindergarten will be taking the Stanford Achievement Test beginning Monday, April 23rd –27th. We have designated the entire week for this process. It is important to be sure the children are well rested each night before the test, and have had a good breakfast so that they are able to do their best during each test day. Also please be on time to school! Parent teacher conferences will be held May 1st–4th. A sign up sheet will be posted for parents to select a time. An end of the term field trip is planned to The Nature Discovery Center on Tuesday, April 3rd from 8:30 a.m. to 2:15 p.m., field trip fee is \$10. Every student will need a sack lunch with a drink and to wear their Walden t-shirt and sneakers. Our last library field trip is Tuesday, April 17th. Class group pictures are Thursday, April 19th.