

Dear True Sunshine Community,

I am excited to start off the school year with you all and look forward to building many happy memories together. On August 10<sup>th</sup> the staff and I had a follow-up meeting with our Teaching Coach Laura Cheng to set goals for the year. After much discussion, we decided that we would like to focus on the following three goals.

- 1) Improve classroom interactions between the students and teachers. - This means we would like to help children to learn by asking the right questions, listening closely to their answers, and helping each child to get to his or her next goal in a positive and safe environment.
- 2) Create stronger family partnerships. - We would like to work closely with our parents this year to let you know what the children are learning in our program and to listen to what you are experiencing with them at home. We would also like to have you be a part of our environment through participating in class activities and sharing about your family. In addition, we want to offer workshops and services that help to build our True Sunshine community and help you gain valuable information on topics you are interested in. We are also working on creating a

communication box so that you can leave notes for your child's teachers if there is anything you'd like them to respond to.

- 3) Guiding Principles for Discipline- We would like the children and teachers to work together to develop classroom rules to keep everyone safe at True Sunshine. We will also work on having consistent approaches for both regular staff and substitute staff for guiding children to follow these rules. These approaches can then be shared with families so that you can use the same strategies at home.

I hope you are enjoying the school year so far and look forward to getting to know you better in the months to come.

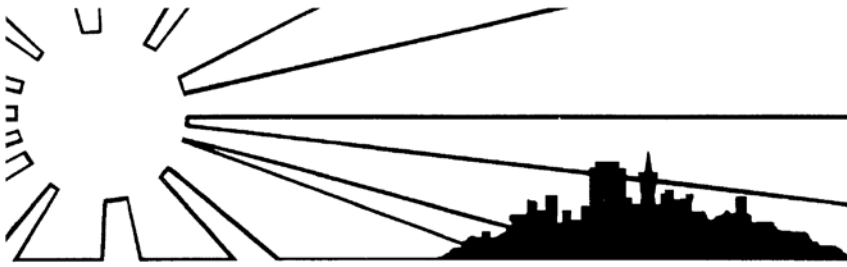
Best,

Marianne Lam  
Director

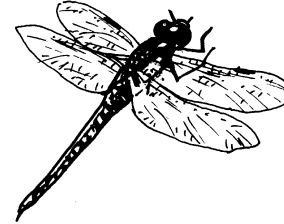


#### Important Dates

09/03 Hao Yang's Birthday



- 09/05 Labor Day Holiday (School Closed)
- 09/14 Ben's Birthday
- 09/16 Aiden's Birthday
- 09/21 New Parent Orientation (5:30-6:30)
- 09/27 Quinny's Birthday
- 09/27 Body Mass Index Screening
- 9/28 Back to School Night (5:30-6:30)
- 09/29 Adren's Birthday



### The Dragonflies

Teacher Julie, Teacher Anna, Teacher May, Teacher Bao Wen

### Special Acknowledgements

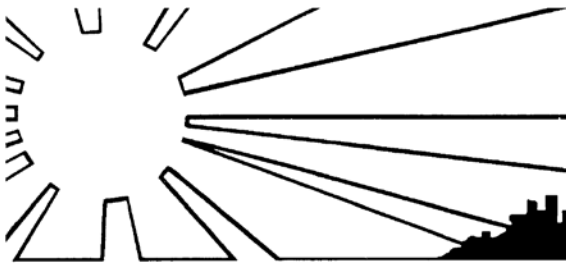
- Thank you to Morgan's mom for bringing in the delicious cookies for the staff
- Teacher Wendy would like to thank all of the parents who showed concern when she hurt her back.

### Special Requests

- Adults please ask for the bathroom key from Peony or any staff member and use the adult bathrooms down the hall. Thank you so much for your cooperation.
- If you haven't brought in a family picture yet, please bring one in so that we can create a family mobile using the family pictures and cds.
- Teacher Anna and Teacher Bao Wen would love donations of recycled food containers to incorporate into our dramatic play area, ones from other cultures would be particularly appreciated.
- We would also love donations of jewelry, accessories, and an old fashioned toaster.
- For our science area we would love a donation of a small appliance that the children can take apart. Please, no microwaves, televisions, or anything with sharp parts.

Since many new friends started at True Sunshine in August, the Dragonflies have been getting to know what the classroom rules are, meeting new children, and getting to know the new teachers in the Dragonflies group. Some of the activities that the Dragonflies participated in were practicing how to take off and put on their shoes and drawing pictures of their favorite classroom areas to explore. Through their drawings the children showed their teachers that they are enjoying free playtime and being able to select their own groups of children and areas to play in.

Many of the Dragonflies shared their pictures of the classroom areas they like to explore with each other. The area that has been most commonly drawn is the Block Area because there are a lot of different play materials that the children can use in creative ways. They are able to use their imaginations to design their own creations. Through creating new buildings they use math skills to identify shapes and to come up with substitutes for shapes that they do not have. For instance, the block area is intentionally stocked with a fewer number of rectangle blocks so that children will figure out that they can use the square blocks to form rectangles. They also need to figure out how to balance materials so they can build tall towers, work with ramps of varying lengths and heights to see how different variations affect speed, and experiment with how to work differently with the different types of blocks we have. In addition, they engage in dramatic play as they come up with fantasies using the dinosaur



props, cars, and homemade classroom figurines. Come check them out as they engage in this area sometime!



### The Butterflies:

Teacher Wendy, Teacher Mei Yi, Teacher Ming, Teacher Irene

### Working with Pegboards

In August, we had the children play with pegboards. The children enjoyed the activities and made different shapes with the colored rubber bands on the pegboards. They also partnered with a friend to create a work of art together.

Through this activity the children learned to work together and to resolve any conflicts that arose as they worked with their partners. Because the rubber bands were different colors, they also learned to differentiate between colors and as they worked with the rubber bands they developed their fine motor muscles. The creation of the different designs also allowed the children to develop their own creative ideas and to express these ideas using their verbal skills.

### Butterflies Special Requests

- The Butterflies have started greeting the children with their Chinese names. If your child has a Chinese name please write it down for one of the Butterfly Teachers. If you would like a Chinese name for your child you may ask Teacher Mei Yi to help select one.
- Please also bring in two family photos.

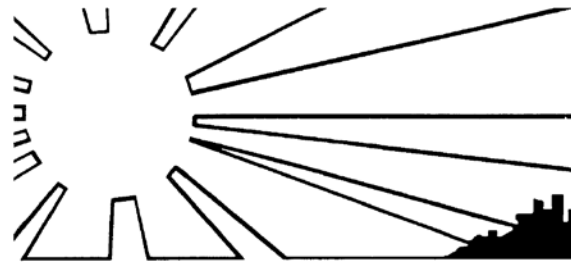
### Fundraising

### Schoola

- To purchase children's and women's clothing do a search for clothing that benefits True Sunshine using the following link: [www.scuola.com/coachdelise](http://www.scuola.com/coachdelise). True Sunshine will receive 40% of the purchase price.

### Amazon

- When making Amazon purchases use the link <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/94-2242733>. True Sunshine will receive 0.5% of all of your purchases. **Thanks!**



**TRUE SUNSHINE**  
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