

Happy May, Ellis families! The first week of May is Teacher Appreciation Week. Despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, Ellis teachers work hard to ensure every student has the tools they need to reach their full potential. Thank you for supporting our teachers!

Early Education Curriculum

Infants will continue their individualized curriculum.

Toddlers will study math objectives, focusing on spatial relationships and shapes, comparing and measuring, and patterns.

Preschool will learn about things that grow, focusing on plants and baby animals. The **Red Sox** classroom will learn about life cycles and insects. **Celtics, Patriots and Bruins** classrooms will continue Unit 5 (Shadows and Reflections) and begin Unit 6 (Things That Grow).



Important Reminders

- Please fill out your child's health screening form every morning and make sure your child(ren) have extra face masks, and a warm blanket. We will be going outside every day so please bring your child dressed according for the weather. Please label everything.
- Please make sure your child's extra clothes box has been updated for the Spring!
- Birthday Celebrations: Due to allergies and policy from our Licensor and Health Department, NO outside foods (cakes, etc.) are allowed. Please speak to Ellis about birthday celebrations.

Closures

- Ellis will be **closed May 28th** for professional development and **May 31st** for Memorial Day.

Staff Updates

- Ally has moved from School Age to the Red Sox classroom.
- Alejandra has moved to Grasshoppers classroom while Gine is on vacation.
- Adliz (aka Lupe) is supporting the Grasshoppers and Crickets classrooms.
- Shawntell has transitioned out of Ellis and we wish her the best of luck! We are hiring a Summer Program Coordinator. Please reach out to Claire and Brenda with any questions.
- A new School Age group leader, Hassaun, will start on May 10th.



Family Engagement Activities

Caregiver and teacher conferences will take place May 17–May 27 between 11AM and 3PM. Please schedule time for a Zoom with your child's teachers to discuss their progress. For infants and toddlers, reach out to Tiffany or Aiyauna. For preschool, reach out to your child's teachers directly.

May 3–7 – Teacher Appreciation Week

May 4 – Tie-Dye Tuesday for Grasshoppers classroom

May 5 – White T-Shirt Day for Grasshoppers classroom

May 7 – Queen for a Day All toddler and preschool rooms will be hosting a special “Queen for a Day” Zoom in honor of any special women in their lives. Zoom links will be on the ProCare calendar.

May 7 – Wear Purple Day for Crickets classroom

May 14 – Pajama Day for Infant and Toddler classrooms

May 19 – White T-Shirt Day for Grasshoppers classroom



May Celebrations

5/1 Caleb, 4 years old

5/1 Ms. Gine, 2 years at Ellis

5/1 Ms. Jamalia, 2 years at Ellis

5/6 Claire, 1 year old

5/6 Ms. Julie

5/12 Ms. Sandra, 7 years at Ellis

5/16 Ms. Ivone

5/17 Peyton, 5 years old

5/18 Emmett, 5 years old

5/20 Ms. Yasmin, 2 years at Ellis

5/20 Ms. Jamileth, 8 years at Ellis

5/24 Grayson, 4 years old

5/29 Anthony, 2 years old

5/31 Malia, 5 years old

5/25 Amari, 9 years old

5/25 Ms. Sonya

5/29 Alayah, 10 years old

5/28 Cyrielle, 11 years old

5/30 La'Reina, 8 years old



Playdates

Now that the nice weather is here to stay, we are discontinuing our Saturday Zoom playdates. Instead, join us for an Ellis Family Get-together at the Franklin Park Zoo on **May 15th, 2021** or **May 29th, 2021 at 10:30am**. There are 20 spots available for each day, so RSVP with Monica or Brenda as soon as you can! Make sure you include your child's name, age, and preferred date; children under 2 years old will not count towards the 20 person total.

Caregiver Circle

Celebrate your successes, troubleshoot your challenges, and explore all aspects of the parenting experience in a welcoming and non-judgmental space facilitated by Brenda. The focus for May will be summer resources. Our next meeting will take place on **Thursday, May 13th from 8:15–9:30pm on Zoom**. Please register with Brenda.

A Message from Jumpstart (Preschool Program)

"Thank you all so much for a wonderful year; our Jumpstart team could not have done it without you. Despite the circumstances, our team is glad to enter the classroom virtually. We are sad that this year has come to an end. It was a pleasure to see all the children actively participate in sessions and see how much they have progressed. Big shout out to Ms. Shamika, Ms. Kasslyn, Ms. Kiya and Ms. Maryan for helping us out this whole year. Thank you and have a great summer!"

We are very pleased with our collaboration with the Jumpstart program through Boston University and can't wait to see them again next year!

Congratulations to

Ms. Ivone,

**who was recognized by
PNC Grow Up Great®!**

"Today, we recognize Ivone Dos Santos, a teacher at Ellis, whose lap is never empty and whose heart is always full. Ivone helps children at Ellis develop a love of learning and confidence in their unique identities.

"No one is like you and that is your superpower" she says."

[Click here to read the full post on LinkedIn!](#)



Ivone Dos Santos
Ellis, Boston, MA

**TEACHERS
MAKE A
DIFFERENCE
EVERY
DAY.**



Family Resources

- Fresh Truck weekly mobile markets provide fresh and affordable fruits and vegetables while keeping our staff, volunteers, and shoppers safe during the COVID-19 crisis. Cash, credit, EBT accepted! [Click here for the Mobile Market's schedule and menu.](#)
- [Boston School Finder](#)
- [Focus on K1 Curriculum](#)

Countdown to Kindergarten

- **Preschool Families**—Please let us know if your child will be staying at Ellis in the fall.
- **K1 Families**—Please let us know what school your child will be attending for Kindergarten.
- Tips on getting ready for Kindergarten:
 - Attend your school's "Welcome Session"
 - Find out if any school uniforms are required at your child's school
 - Make arrangements for before- and/or after-school care if needed
- For more information and other family resources on preparing for Kindergarten, you can visit the [Countdown to Kindergarten website](#).



Meaningful May 2021

SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1 Make a list of what matters most to you and why	2 Do something kind for someone you really care about	3 Focus on what you can do rather than what you can't do	4 Take a step towards an important goal, however small	5 Send your friend a photo from a time you enjoyed together	6 Look for people doing good and reasons to be cheerful	7 Let someone know how much they mean to you and why
8 Set yourself a kindness mission to help others today	9 Notice the beauty in nature, even if you're stuck indoors	10 What values are important to you? Find ways to use them today	11 Be grateful for the little things, even in difficult times	12 Listen to a favourite piece of music and remember what it means to you	13 Look around for things that bring you a sense of awe and wonder	14 Find out about the values or traditions of another culture
15 Do something to contribute to your local community	16 Look up at the sky. Remember we are all part of something bigger	17 Show your gratitude to people who are helping to make things better	18 Find a way to make what you do today meaningful	19 Send a hand-written note to someone you care about	20 Reflect on what makes you feel valued and purposeful	21 Share photos of 3 things you find meaningful or memorable
22 Find a way to help a project or charity you care about	23 Share a quote you find inspiring to give others a boost	24 Recall three things you've done that you are proud of	25 Make choices that have a positive impact for others today	26 Ask someone else what matters most to them and why	27 Remember an event in your life that was really meaningful	28 Focus on how your actions make a difference for others
29 Do something special and revisit it in your memory tonight	30 Today do something to care for the natural world	31 Find three reasons to be hopeful about the future				

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together