

Redwood Parents Nursery School



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Mission Statement

It is our concern that this program contributes in a vital way to the optimum growth and development of each child; that each parent find understanding and support for self; increased knowledge and understanding about the way children grow and develop; and opportunity to test and practice some of these ideas.

-Alberta Law



Established in 1952, Redwood Parents Nursery School (RPNS) is a non-profit, parent-education, cooperative preschool in Redwood City. At RPNS, children have an opportunity to learn through play with a broad selection of hands-on experiences and materials. The children participate in large group, small group, and free play activities with an emphasis on free play. We strive to provide a place where children develop their self-esteem as they participate in an environment that encourages and respects their independence and capabilities in physical, social, and emotional development. We believe this is the foundation for personal success and academic achievement in years to come.

Parent Education Classes

Our monthly night classes are an opportunity to learn about parenting styles, early childhood development and build community. All of the RPNS teachers hold California state teaching credentials in Parent Education and it is during the night classes that the parents are given the opportunity to increase their knowledge and share their observations of the children. Night classes are held in person at school.

Following are example of night class topics...

Toddlers

- Ages & Stages of Toddlers
- Observation Techniques
- Parenting - Taking Care of Yourself
- Physical Development – Fine & Gross Motor
- Feeding to Eating
- Connecting with Your Child – Bonding

Mixed Age 3s and 4s

- Ages & Stages of Three-Year Olds
- Temperament & High Sensitivity
- Raising Happy Children/ Happy Families
- Positive Discipline
- Being, Making and Keeping a Friend
- Nutrition & Cookbook Making
- Overscheduled Child

Twos

- Ages & Stages of Two-Year Olds
- Potty Training and Sleep Issues
- The Importance of Play & Play Styles
- Cognitive Development
- Speech & Articulation
- Social-Emotional Development

Pre-K Enrichment

- Kindergarten Readiness
- Social Problem Solving
- Emotional Development
- Sibling Rivalry & Birth Order
- Effective Communication



We offer classes for...

Wednesday OR Friday Toddlers 9:00-11:00 am (age 13 months by Sept. 1) \$205.00/mo

Instructor: Teacher Andi

Parent Participation: Parent remains with child during class, taking different areas of responsibility in turn, such as snack, art, housekeeping or outside yard. Attends a two-hour parent education class each month in the evening. 2 absences are permitted each school year. Attends at least 2 evening community building events per year. Each family is required to participate on a school committee, volunteer 2 hours toward the Halloween Carnival and contribute 2 hours of maintenance per year.

Twos (or mixed ages 2's & 3's if space allows*) Tuesdays & Thursdays 9:00-11:30 am (age 2 by Sept. 1) \$320.00/mo

Instructor: Teacher Andi

Parent Participation: Parent works in the classroom one day per week (possibly two days for twins), taking a different area of responsibility in turn, such as kitchen, art, main room or upper yard. Attends a two-hour parent education class each month in the evening. 2 absences are permitted each school year. Attends at least 3 evening community building events per school year. Each family is required to participate on a school committee, volunteer 2 hours toward the Halloween Carnival and contribute 4 hours of maintenance per year.

Mixed Ages 3's & 4's Monday, Wednesday, and Friday; 8:30-11:30 am (age 3 by Sept. 1) \$545.00/mo

Instructors: Teacher Kathy & Teacher Carina

Parent Participation: Parent works in the classroom one day per week (possibly two days for twins), taking a different area of responsibility in turn, such as kitchen, art, main room or upper yard. Attends a two-hour parent education class each month in the evening. 2 absences are permitted each school year. Attends at least 3 evening community building events per school year. Each family is required to participate on a school committee, volunteer 2 hours toward the Halloween Carnival and contribute 4 hours of maintenance per year.

Pre-K Enrichment* Tuesdays and Thursdays 12:30-3:30 pm (must be 3yrs 9mo by September 1) \$360.00/mo

Centered around a play-based curriculum, this class creates a dynamic learning environment where children can explore and discover through hands-on activities. We aim to nurture creativity, social skills, and early cognitive development in a fun and supportive setting. This class is designed to help children develop the necessary skills to prepare them for kindergarten. Our dedicated teacher will guide these playful adventures, ensuring a rich and engaging pre-K experience for each child.

Instructor: Teacher Carina

Parent participation: Work one day a week in the classroom (possibly less, pending enrollment numbers). Attend a two hour parent education class each month in the evening (2 absences per year). Attend at least 3 community building events per school year. Each family is required participate on a school committee, volunteer 2 hours towards Halloween Carnival and contribute 4 hours of maintenance per year.

Exploration Through Play* (age 4 by Sept 1) Monday and Wednesday, 2-4pm \$200/mo for 1 day per week; \$400/mo for 2 days/week

Class Description: This after-school program for TK/K age children fosters creativity and social development through interactive and age-appropriate activities. Designed to engage young minds, the program provides a supportive environment where kids can explore, learn, and build essential skills through imaginative play.

Instructor: Teacher Carina

Parent Participation: No workday or night class requirements. We do ask parents to participate on a school committee, volunteer 2 hours to the Halloween Carnival and contribute 4 hours of maintenance per year.

*New Class!

Meet our teachers

Andi Dierolf: Toddler and Twos

Andi graduated from the University of Connecticut with a Master's degree in Education. Prior to joining RPNS, Andi worked as a Recreational Therapist at Stanford Children's Hospital. She holds both an Early Childhood Education Certificate and a California State Teaching Credential in Parent Education. Andi was the Director and Toddler Teacher at another co-operative nursery school for five years. She is a proud recipient of the 2018 Teacher Director Award from the California Council of Parent Participation Nursery Schools. To further honor Andi for her commitment and dedication to the families of RPNS, Andi has been awarded the Betty Strombom Award in 2014 and the Janet Cocconi Award in 2021. Andi and her husband, Volker, live in Redwood City and have 2 children, Christina and Matthew, and two miniature dachshunds. Andi enjoys gardening, cooking, walking her dogs, crafting and reading. Andi is looking forward to her 19th amazing year at RPNS, filled with the joy and wonder of learning along with her toddlers, twos, and their families.



Kathy Pastore: Mixed Age 3s and 4s

Kathy graduated from the University of California, Davis, with a Bachelor of Science in Human Development and Biology. Kathy also received her California State Multiple Subject Teaching Credential from UC Davis and holds a California State Adult Education Teaching Credential. Prior to joining RPNS as our Mixed Ages teacher in 2000, Kathy was Director and Kindergarten teacher at a private school in San Mateo. Kathy is actively involved in the Special Olympics and helping those with learning differences. She also continues to participate in educational workshops. Kathy has been honored by the California Council of Parent Participation Nursery Schools by receiving the Teacher Director Award in 2007 and in 2020. To further honor Kathy for her dedication and commitment to the families of RPNS, Kathy has been awarded the Betty Strombom Award in 2006 and in 2010 and The Janet Cocconi Award in 2021. Kathy and her husband, Carl, live in San Carlos and have three adult children, Alyssa, and Jennifer, who recently got married, and Matthew. Kathy has a little granddaughter Ava. In her spare time, Kathy enjoys traveling, sporting events, shopping, reading, and spending time with her family and friends. Kathy's passion has always been working with young children and looks forward to beginning her 24th year at RPNS.



Carina Neumann: Mixed Age 3s and 4s/Pre-K

Carina graduated from San Diego State University with a Bachelor of Science in Child and Family Development. She then completed her Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology from the College of Notre Dame in Belmont. During her college years, she worked with children of all ages. She has experience working with school-age children in an after-school program, as well as, working as an Assistant Director at La Mesa Early Learning Center. Once she enrolled her oldest child in RPNS, she realized that the co-op environment was exactly what she wanted for her children. Six years later, she returned with her daughter. She joined the RPNS staff in 2011. Carina was honored for her dedication and commitment to the school when she received the Betty Strombom Award. This year she will team teach with Teacher Kathy as co leads in the mixed ages 3's & 4's and well as Head Teacher for Pre-K Enrichment and our TK/K Exploration Through Play. She loves being crafty. Carina loves being a part of such a dynamic teaching staff.



Membership Requirements

Co-op parents are dedicated people who work together for a common goal, the goal of providing the best education possible for the children and parents in our community. As a member, fulfilling your obligations is key to the operation and success of RPNS. Following are the participation requirements for each family...

Class Work Day

A member of each family works in the classroom one day per week. The working parent takes a different area of responsibility each week, such as kitchen, art, main room, bikes or upper yard.

Night Education Classes

Attendance at monthly night classes is required. The classes provide an opportunity to learn about parenting styles and early childhood development. Sessions are in the evening and are 2 hours for the Toddlers families and 2.5 hours for the Twos, Threes and Pre-K families. Families are permitted two absences per year.

Community Building Events

There will be 5-7 Community Building Events scheduled for the year. Families in the Toddler class are required to attend at least 2 events and families in the Twos, Threes and Pre-K classes are required to attend at least 3 events. These events will include: Dad's Night/Box City (except for Toddlers), T-Shirt Making Night, SMCPPNS Parent Resource Night, Janet Cocconi Memorial Dinner and Auction, and Bookmaking Night

Maintenance

Every family at RPNS participates in one school maintenance day on a pre-planned Saturday. Toddler families are required to do one 2-hour maintenance session per school year. Twos, Threes and Pre-K families are required to do one 4-hour maintenance session per school year.

Committee Participation

Each family will be placed on a committee based on family preference. The committees are either event-specific or on-going for the year and include Halloween Carnival, Annual Dinner/Auction, Graduation Event, Purchasing, Laundry, Membership and Maintenance. If you prefer to be involved in a leadership position at the school, you might consider participating on the school Board. Board members do not hold additional committee responsibilities.

Fundraising

Your fundraising commitment is 2 hours devoted to the Halloween Carnival. You may either assist setting up/cleaning up the event or work one of the booths during the carnival. Participation in other fundraising events during the school year is encouraged, but not required.

Open Enrollment will be online, RPNS.org on Saturday, February 10, 2024 at 9:30am. A \$75 non-refundable registration fee is due at that time. Prior to enrolling we ask you do the following:

- Attend one of the information sessions at our Open House on Saturday, February 3rd from 9:30am - 12pm. Please bring your children for activities and games and to meet our teachers, board members and families. Info sessions covering the details of programs are at 10am and 11:15am (you do not need to attend both)
- If unable to attend the open house, please request a tour by emailing rpns.membership@gmail.com
- Please review this entire brochure to familiarize yourself with our program
- If you have any questions please email us at rpns.membership@gmail.com