



# BOCA GRANDE PRESCHOOL

News about Early Education for Island Kids

## DID YOU KNOW ...

Boca Grande Preschool (formerly Boca Grande Child Care Center) was founded by Our Lady of Mercy Parish, which generously provides the school building on Park Avenue. It is an agency of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Venice, Inc. and has always been non-denominational.

- BG Preschool is open 52 weeks a year
- Our children are as young as 12 months and stay until they start Kindergarten.
- BGP is open to children for families who live or work on the Island.
- You will find BGP parents everywhere you go! James Griffith Salon, The Gasparilla Inn, BG Health Clinic, South Beach, The Island School, Lighthouse Methodist Church and more.
- Our teachers have combined experience of almost 100 years.



## NEW CURRICULUM AT THE PRESCHOOL

COVID kept us busy cleaning and sanitizing...but the teachers and “*Experience Curriculum*” kept our Preschoolers learning and on the path to Kindergarten readiness! The *Experience Curriculum* applies child development theories and brain research to a unique model of teacher support, child experience and family engagement. Themed lessons target development in the following areas: social & emotional, language & literacy, math & reasoning, science, social studies, creative arts, and second language.





# SAVE THE DATE



## PLAYGROUND PROJECT UPDATE ...

We will be breaking ground on the new playground, storage room expansion and play yard security wall project in the next months. Thanks to generous donors from the Beach Ball!!!

## STAFF UPDATE ...

We appreciate the dedication of the staff and their devotion to the children and early education. Kimi Harms, the director, celebrated 20 years at the preschool this past season. Her current staff members have all been with the Preschool for 18 yrs, 10 yrs, and 4 yrs, along with one recent hire. We are still working to hire 2 additional employees. The pandemic has affected the ability to find needed staff at the Preschool.



## READ ALOUD 15 MINUTES LENDING LIBRARY UP AND RUNNING!

The BGP Board of Directors and Candace Kendle, co-founder and president of *Read Aloud 15 Minutes*, hosted a reading fair to kick off the new Lending Library!



Children were treated to stories read by Royal Palm Players and our own Angela Steffan and received a special book bag; while parents received valuable information about the correlation to reading aloud and brain development.



## SANTA VISITS BG PRESCHOOL (COVID SAFE)



Special thanks to Melissa Joiner Steyer



## BUSY LEARNING, GROWING, AND HAVING FUN!!!

