



NORTHERN EXPOSURE

The Newsletter of Village Academy North, Inc.

Have you been talking about what your child is going to do for the summer? It's time! We are only 8 weeks away from the start of Summer Camp and Summer VPK and that's going to go by very quickly. We're gearing up for summer curriculum, post-VPK camp, and field trips. We will still be teaching, but our summer style is to make learning even more fun. Let us know your plans as soon as possible!

VILLAGE
ACADEMY NORTH

FOX 30 NEWS

CHILDHOOD
LEUKEMIA

CHILDHOOD
ASTHMA

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Village Academy North, Inc.
5970 US-1 N
St Augustine, FL 32095

(O) 904.824.7997
(F) 904.824.2344

info@village-academynorth
www.village-academynorth.com

ANNUAL DCF INSPECTION

Our annual licensing inspection was 2 weeks ago, and we passed with a perfect score. Congrats to Susan, Rachel, and all the staff!

FOX 30 NEWS

Fox 30 News dropped by last week. They monitor the DCF site, and we just had a perfect inspection. The producer of the Kid Care segment wanted to tour the facility.

If you saw the video on Fox 30, you know we didn't let him in the building. If you are wondering why, it is all about security. We take security very, very seriously, and we aren't going to let someone who doesn't belong here past that security door - especially not to film your children!

We appreciate getting an "on the mark" designation from Fox 30. They won't be getting a tour.

CHILDHOOD LEUKEMIA

From our "that's unusual" file...CNN reported that an analysis of 14 different studies presented at a medical conference in London found that the risk of developing the most common form of childhood leukemia is decreased by 30 per cent if the child attends daycare. Apparently, the increased exposure to childhood diseases actually improves the immune system and increases the body's ability to fight off diseases - even leukemia.

ASTHMA

This could also come from the "that's unusual" file. Nemours has a very useful web site (kidshealth.org) that you should peruse when you can. We recently found an article that says in a study of 95,000 children born from 1995 thru 2000, and followed through 2005, the ones born in the autumn are 30% more

likely to get asthma! The theory is that they are exposed to far more wintertime viral infections, especially respiratory infections.

SUMMER ATTENDANCE

At our main campus, we tend to lose about 4-6 children for the summer. Last year at North, we lost 24 children for the summer, and we basically had no prior notice. We found ourselves with extra staff and a very precarious revenue situation that we don't want to repeat.

If you plan to withdraw your child for the summer, you should pay your annual renewal fee before you leave. We can't guarantee a place in the fall, but will give you priority on the waiting list. If we start to fill up during the summer, we'll call you and give you the chance to return early to save your child's position.

PART-TIME SUMMER CAMP

For the first time we will offer a part-time option. Children may attend full-time for as little as two weeks, or part-time (either 2 or 3 days per week) for 5 to 10 weeks. When you sign up for less than 10 weeks, you must commit to which weeks you will be attending so that we can manage our total attendance each week. We are capacity limited to only 25 school-age campers, so please sign up early to secure your place. Don't miss the fun!

DATES TO REMEMBER	APR 20 VPK Round-Up Ponce Mall	APR 28 Early Kindergarten Registration	MAY 18 VPK Round-Up Ponte Vedra Library	MAY 25 Memorial Day Village Closed
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FOLLOW UP: PEANUT ALLERGIES

I asked our parents to let us know how they felt about us going "peanut free" at Village Academy North. Only one parent wrote in favor. So one of my personal favorite foods will continue to be available!

FALL VPK ROUND-UPS

JPK Parents, remember that you have to get a "Certificate of Eligibility" From the Early Learning Coalition to attend VPK in the fall. To get a Certificate, you attend a "Round-Up". The next one is Monday the 20th at the Ponce de Leon mall, from 4:30 to 6:30. You need copies of your child's birth certificate, and something that proves residency like a power or water bill. We need them in by June in order to get paid by Episcopal on time. For example, if you don't bring your child's certificate until August 20th, just in time for school, we won't be reimbursed by the state until *at least* the beginning of October.

SUMMER VPK

St Johns County Public Schools has again contracted with Village Academy *North* to provide Summer VPK for eligible students. This program is free, but it is only for children who will begin Kindergarten this fall and have not participated in School Year VPK. If you have friends or neighbors that have moved into the area and who have children that missed out on School Year VPK, please tell them about this program. Summer VPK gets them ready for Kindergarten and it lets children be at parity with their peers who attended VPK during the year.

FALL AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

VPK parents, when you start making your arrangements for you new kindergartener, don't forget the Village Academy *North* After School program. We pick the children up in our air-conditioned, seatbelt-equipped vehicles. We provide a snack, homework time, and rotations through a variety of ever-changing, fun activities. And remember, we are open on at least 16 of the days the the elementary school after-school programs are closed - days when you have to still be at work.

ADMIN NOTES

It's bug and sunburn time. Please make sure your child has both insect spray and sunscreen, and that you have signed the appropriate medicine forms. We can't put anything on your child without a signed form... There are a few openings for swim lessons at The Village Academy. Call 797.5909 to sign up... Check with the front desk and see if the reach numbers we have for you are current. Too often, cell phone and work phone numbers change, and we can't reach parents when their child is sick or has been hurt...