

Themes and Activities, Summer 2025

All activities are age-appropriate. Play School and Little Friends do not travel off campus, but will participate in campus "field trips" to the science lab, gym, gardens, etc., and enjoy all of our special visitors. Any activities that include food will feature ingredients that are appropriate for all of the campers in the group, including those with allergies, or who are vegan and gluten-free.

1 - June 9th - Straight from the Schoolyard to the Forest and the Sea!

This is an off-campus week for interested Rising First and Second graders, with Teacher Michelle taking campers through summer days at Ches-Len Preserve, a gorgeous outdoor area that we travel to for Forest School Fridays throughout the school year. These are rain or shine days, with parents dropping off and picking up at Ches-Len.

For students who prefer to stay on campus, and for Play School and Little Friends, the focus will be on and around and under the sea! We'll explore stories, art and science projects appropriate for each age group!

2 - June 16th (four days, no Thursday class) - Art and the Artists

Each day, students will learn about and create art in the style of a particular artist, including many connected to our region, including the Wyeths, Horace Pippin, Mary Cassatt and many others! Older campers will take walking trips to visit West Chester sites associated with some of the artists.

3 - June 23rd - Science on Campus: From the Great Lawn to the Lab!

Students will participate in lots of age-appropriate experiments and observations on our beautiful campus, including on our great, big lawn, with the sundial and our beautiful variety of trees, and also in our science lab, designed specifically for young scientists!

4 - June 30th - (three days, no Thursday or Friday) - Parks and Recreation

There are so many fun "pocket parks" in the borough, and we're going to visit a few this week, including the splash features at John O. Green Memorial park! Play School and Little Friends campers will spend lots of time on the swings, in the sandbox and on the climbers! We'll also tie-dye, make popsicles and enjoy other summertime fun!

5 - July 8th - BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND: HALLOWEEN IN JULY!!

Campers will make masks, learn a trick or two from a visiting magician, focus on bats in science, enjoy (!) a not-that-spooky tour of the meetinghouse basement, have a tricky scavenger hunt, and make some crafty (not candy) treats! At the end of the week, we'll wear our costumes and trick-or-treat at Treat Stations across campus!

6 - July 14th - Forest and Games from Around the World

Another opportunity for an off-campus week for interested Rising First and Rising Second graders, with Teacher Michelle taking campers through summer days at Ches-Len Preserve, a gorgeous outdoor area that we travel to for Forest School Fridays throughout the school year.

These are rain or shine days, with parents dropping off and picking up at Ches-Len.

Campers who prefer to stay on campus, and Play School and Little Friends, will enjoy a Games from Around the World week, learning and playing all kinds of games, traditional, international and new (we'll even create a few!).

7 - July 21st - Farm Week

We are excited about welcoming the farm animals back to campus, learning about bees and tasting local honey, creating portraits of our resident chickens, square dancing, painting pots and planting in them, and making ice cream!

8 - July 28th - Art & the Artists: Mixed Media!

Campers will create individual and collaborative art pieces using materials from nature, re- and up-cycled items, yarn and textiles, as well as traditional materials including paint, clay, pastel and papier mache!!

9 - August 4th - Forest and Gardening Fun

A final opportunity for an off-campus adventure for interested Rising First and Rising Second graders, with Teacher Michelle taking campers through summer days at Ches-Len Preserve, a gorgeous outdoor area that we travel to for Forest School Fridays throughout the school year. These are rain or shine days, with parents or caregivers dropping off and picking up at Ches-Len.

For campers who prefer to stay on campus, and for Play School and Little Friends campers, we will spend time playing in, planting and harvesting our gardens and beds, painting, weaving, sculpting and creating all kinds of garden art,

10 - August 11th - The Annual WCFS Olympics

Our closing week theme is also a WCFS tradition! Campers will have mixed-age teams representing countries around the world, international games and snacks, opening and closing ceremonies, a walking trip (age appropriate) to the Henderson tracks, and creating team tees and medals