

June 27-July 1



### Dates to Remember

Wednesday, July 6

Water play-please  
bring bathing suit  
and towel

Thursday, July 7

Walking trip to the  
park



## Making Pasta

Last week, we made pesto pizza, this week we made pesto pasta. The children mixed our homemade pesto sauce with pasta and cheese for a delicious snack...they all ate it! When children have a personal connection to their food, they are more likely to try it. At home, children can help by performing simple tasks such as mixing or stirring. They can even crack eggs! When we cook at school, often even our pickiest eaters have a taste...especially if the ingredients came from our own garden.



We saved some pasta for Aunty Nanc as she said pesto is her favorite and she didn't get any pizza! She told the children it was the best pasta she had ever tasted and we all agreed!

## Painting Sunflowers

We were so inspired by the beautiful blooms that we took the easels out to the garden so that the children could participate in some observational painting. Some of the children's depictions demonstrated keen observation including blooms that were only half open and some that had yet to open. When children paint or draw an object from life, they are practicing the scientific skill of observation. They are also engaging literacy skills as they learn how to communicate a message about the world around them in a way that is understandable to others.

## International Mud Day



The creators of **International Mud Day** wanted to find a way to help all of the children of the Earth feel closer to each other... and what a better way to do it than through the Earth itself? International Mud Day began in 2009 at a World Forum event, when Gillian McAuliffe from Australia and Bishnu Bhatta from Nepal got together to talk about ways to encourage feelings of community and appreciation for the world around us. The collaboration that followed has inspired educators, children, and families across the globe, from Holland to Nepal to the United States, to celebrate International Mud Day together each year on June 29. Regardless of age, race and religion, covered in mud, we all look the same.

Mud is such a versatile medium for children to play with. It offers an alternative sensory experience to wet sand and lends itself to creativity through mud pies and mud monsters.

Our playground, although beautiful, does not lend itself to mud play. The children have been enjoying our water play days so we decided to combine this with a little mud pool just outside the gate. Some of the children couldn't wait to splash and slosh about in the mud, others wouldn't go near it!

When everyone was done being chased by the mud monster (Ms. Gemma) we gathered in the dry zone to enjoy our delicious treat of mango popsicles that we had made the day before. We used mangoes from Xayden's family along with some left over poi and coconut milk. Although they were yummy, many of us agreed that the poi popsicles last week were better. We also made mango bread with the left over mangoes and Aunty Nanc came and shared the book, "Too Many Mangos" We took our mango bread to the library where we were able to share it with Uncle Wayne and his band.