

# The Buzz

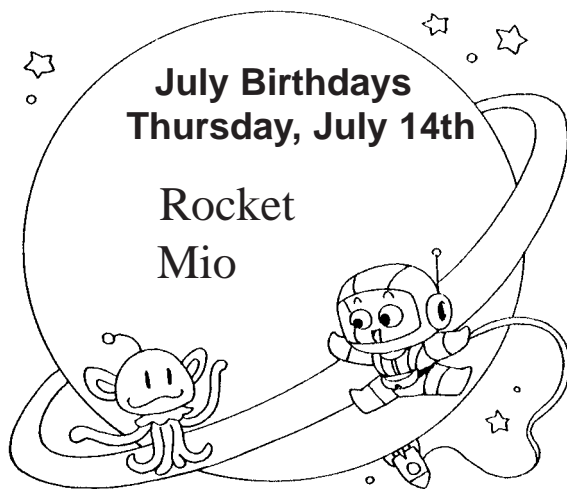
Bush Site Monthly Newsletter

July 2016

## Kids Focus

**Curriculum:** The 3 older groups have been combined to form the Kindergarten “Rainbow Group” with Ryoko K. sensei and Ryoko W. sensei. They will be studying “Methods of Discovery” in-depth. The other groups will be welcoming new friends, and studying various topics such as blocks, seeds, art, etc. Please check out the bulletin boards to see what your child has been learning at group time. Tiffany sensei has the transitional Pre-K Rainbow Kabocha group until mid August.

**Summer Festival:** We will be having a joint Natsu Matsuri (Summer Festival) with the Sutter site preschoolers on Thursday, August 4th. The children will be busy making items to sell during the week and then they will take turns selling and buying all the various items they have made. They are welcome to wear a yukata or happi coat from home, if desired.



## Coming Events

**Nihonmachi Streetfair:** The Nihonmachi Streetfair Committee is sponsoring their annual community based festival which will have food booths, information tables, children’s activity area, arts & craft booths, and live music on Saturday, August 6th and Sunday, August 7th. NLF will be having an information table both days. Please write your name on the sign up sheet which will be posted at the parents’ table at a later date, if you are able to help at the table on either days. The festival will be located on Post St., Webster St., and the Buchanan Mall in Japantown. We hope you can come out and enjoy the festivities.

**Blankets go home:** Blankets will be sent home to be washed on Friday, July 29th. Please let your child’s teacher know if your child will not nap that day so that his/her blankets can be sent home beforehand.

## Birth Announcements

Congratulations to Maggie and her parents, Killian & Brian on the birth of her brother. Mom and baby are doing well.

## Comings and Goings

We are happy to extend a warm welcome during this month to: Evan & his parents, Lanessa and Curtis; Ely & her parents, Ellen & Lyo; Renji & his parents, Mayumi & Eric; Emily & her parents, Tuya and Amgalanbaatar; and Camila & her parents, Vania & Edgar. Ely’s dad, Lyo and Emily’s brother, Gabriel, are NLF graduates. We look forward to getting better acquainted with our new friends.

We will be saying or said a sad farewell to Remi, Rocket, Harry, and Michiko who will be leaving this month. We wish them well!

## Acknowledgements

Our sincere thanks to the following families: Kate & family for the many cases of strawberries; Remi & family for the chinese bread, dim sum, magnifying bug jars, manju for the staff, and watermelon for the birthday celebration; Jay & Leah and family for the chocolates for the staff and drinking cups; Arsema & family for the grapes for the birthday celebration; Sabrina & family for the “Brainy Shapes” book in honor of her birthday; Sakura K. & family for the band-aids; Tomohiro & family for the plums for the staff and the extra clothes and art supplies; Haruto & family for the grapes and strawberries for the birthday celebration and Japanese snacks; Kai G. & family for the cupcakes for the birthday celebration; Maya & family for the rice crackers in honor of her birthday; Hannah & family for the cases of mango; Andy & Erika and family for the treats from Japan for the staff; Sakura J. & family for the rice crackers from Tokyo Disney; Shailen & family for the lemon cake for the staff; Kai B. & family for the rolls of paper towels; Apple & family for the manju for the staff; Ohio & family for the book; Nomuun & family for the boxes of cereal; Natoma & family for the German sweets for the staff; Harry & family for the fruits for his last day; Angel & family for the boxes of crackers and case of paper towels; Maggie & family for the hiragana activity book; Dominic & family for the curry stuffed bread for the staff; Leina & family for the drinking cups; Rosie & family for the boxes of crackers; Aila & family for the cookies from Japan; Mio & family for the goodie bags for the July birthday celebration; Rocket & family for the donuts to celebrate July birthdays; and Ayumi & family for the bamboo for Tanabata.

*As always, we truly appreciate your generosity!*

## Tanabata --

### The Festival of the Star Weaver

This festival is a combination of a Chinese legend and an ancient Japanese custom according to which the two stars Altair (The Cowherd) and Vega (The Weaver Maiden), normally on opposite sides of the Milky Way, come together once a year on July 7. This festival is said to have begun under the Emperor Shomu in 734. Wishes and requests are written on pieces of colored paper which are then tied to bamboo.

According to the old lunar calendar, July was already autumn when the Milky Way was in the night sky and was especially beautiful. As the festival is now held according to the Gregorian calendar, it is often impossible to see the Milky Way at all.