



FCCC NEWSLETTER

Play to Learn, Learn to Love

JANUARY 2015

Thank You Letter From Staff

Dear Families,

We, the Teachers at Friends Child Care Center, would like to thank you, the Families, for your holiday gift. Your thoughtfulness not only touches us more and more each year, but is a sincere show of your confidence in the job we do steering your child toward the future. We cheer their accomplishments every day right along with you. Thank you so much for your generous recognition of our efforts and best wishes for the New Year.

Barbara Missy Robin Gail Kyra Shannon Vickie Toni
Markita Susan Bjay Michelle Laura Kiyana Erica
Linda Nathalie Teresa Lea Jeanette April Andrea
Zakiyah and Cordella



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Care Bear News

The Care Bears would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year!!! We are very excited to bring in the New Year. First, we would like to say farewell to Laurel (Leo & Ann), Adelaide (Taylor & Anessa) and Quinn (Christine & Dan), who will be



leaving us in the New Year and going to their new classrooms. We will truly miss you all. Best of wish-

es. We will also like to welcome our sibling families Sullivan (Katie, Alex & Evelyn) and Collin (Emily, Barry & Abigail). Welcome back! We cannot wait to have you join us again and watch your little ones grow and develop.

As you all may know, the Care Bears are growing pretty fast. We are making it our main priority to meet each child individually in their own developmental needs. We also will be providing opportunities for the children to

work together in group settings as they continue to get older. In our group, all of the children are mobile. Whether they are walking, cruising, crawling, scooting or rolling, they are on the move. We are looking forward to growing together.

Again, have a happy, healthy and safe New Year.

Happy Birthday: Emma on January 3rd!!

Wish list: Batteries of all sizes

Bear Cub News

Happy New Year !

The Bear Cubs theme for January is 'Dashing Through The Snow' and 'Getting To Know Our New Friends.' We will be working on making our classroom look like winter time. Our activities consist of creating winter trees, snowflakes, snowballs, snowman, snow footprints, create coats, hats, boots, mittens, pretend snow etc. The Bear Cubs will discover that ice is cold, water turns into ice and ice turns into water. During circle time, we will be reading books about winter time, talking about what kind of clothes we need for winter time: coats, hats, mittens,

boots & scarves, and we also will be talking about the importance of keeping on our hats, coats and mittens when we're outside. In the honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., we will continue to practice on being nice to our friends, sharing, taking turns and using gentle hands when touching our friends. The teachers will spend a lot of time nurturing the new Bear Cubs, helping them feel comfortable, safe and happy. The older Bear Cubs will also show them how much fun it is in the Bear Cubs class.

Welcome Adelaide Foxwell and Quinn Tyrell from the Care Bear class. They both will be joining

the Bear Cubs on January 5, 2015.

We would like to thank all of the parents for their generous holiday gift. It was greatly appreciated.

Reminders: Please make sure you sign your child in and out everyday and wash your child's hands on arrival.

Please label your child's belongings with their name (cups, bottles, food containers, coats, hats, blankets, sheets, etc.)

Cuddle Cub News

Happy New Year! As we wave goodbye to 2014, we look ahead to a fantastic new year in the Cuddle Cubs classroom. First, we would like to take a moment to thank all of the parents for their generosity, kindness and spirit, not solely during the holiday season but throughout the entire year. The Cuddle Cub teachers wholeheartedly appreciate your thoughtfulness, gifts, time and good nature.

January is going to be a busy month for the Cuddle Cubs, although we hope that it isn't too frigid to spend some quality time outside, we will be embarking on many themed arts and craft projects. Did you know that January is national hobby month, hot tea month, national oatmeal month and national soup month? In honor of these unique celebrations, we will be coming up with some very crafty projects to celebrate,

so make some room on that ol' refrigerator door for fun new works of Cuddle Cub art.



Weather permitting we will also take our monthly walks to the Library, Love Park, Trader Joe's and Reading Terminal. These walks are great for exposing your little one's to sights, sounds, smells and different environments.

Birthday wishes go out to:

Lexi - January 3

Saylor - January 13

Emily - January 31

It's going to be a great month and an even better year. Best wishes to all for a happy, healthy and prosperous 2015!



Puddle Jumper News

The Puddle Jumpers' theme for January is "Winter". We will look at how people and some animals (squirrels, birds, pets and some farm animals get food and stay warm in the winter. We will explore the concepts of migration and hibernation.

Activities for the month will include Art, Language, Science, Math and Cooking.

Art activities will include painting snow scene, making tracks, ripping and cutting paper to create a snow storm, cutting out snowflakes, making binoculars and make paper mache rocks.

Language activities will include using the flannel board to dress people for the cold weather and telling "cold" stories, talking about the weather, discussing ways people and animals stay warm when it's cold, describe the weather: Is it cold, sunny, windy, snowy, rainy or cloudy?

Science activities will include burying and sorting nuts (cut outs of different nuts), exploring the

Arctic (walking about the courtyard on a snowy day to get a feel for what it might be like in the Arctic). If there's enough snow, we will make real snowballs and snow people. We will also observe a melting snowball and look for tracks (animal or people) in the snow. In addition, we will take nature walks to gather food, sticks, firewood and rocks and go animal watching.

Math activities will include sorting and grouping objects by size and shape, measuring snow fall, counting the number of snowballs children make, counting fish...

Cooking activities will include making warm cocoa, pancakes and chicken noodle soup, pigs in a blanket, grilled cheese sandwiches, baking homemade biscuits and cookies and pretending to toast marshmallows and roast hotdogs on a campfire.

On Thursday January 30, 2015, we will have a camp day. Please have your child bring in camping supplies (sleeping bag, flashlight and a pretend flask (non-spill sip cup or water bottle). Also, please dress your

child in stretchy clothes, as we will go on a hike up a "mountain", go bird watching and gather "fire wood" and food. You will get a reminder the week before to get all of the supplies your child needs for this special day.

When it's not too cold or wet, we will also take short walks and play outdoors. Please be sure your child is appropriately dressed. They should have winter coats, boots, mittens or gloves, hats and scarves.

We would like to thank all of our FCCC parents for their thoughtful gifts and kind words of appreciation. Your kindness means more than words can say. We appreciate your help and support as we help your children grow and develop from curious toddlers into independent preschoolers. We look forward to continued growth and a fantastic 2015.

Happy Birthday Harry on 1/1!

Triangle News

Happy New Year, Everyone! We hope your Holiday Season was a joyful one!

The Triangles' theme for the month of January is "Getting A Fresh Start!" We'll continue to focus on "The Letter of the Week" while enhancing skills in letter recognition.

We'll also use a variety of materials to decorate and turn our room into a "Winter Wonderland." We'll create Snowmen designs, Snowflakes and even "edible" Snowmen using marshmallows and gumdrops. We'll sharpen our imaginary skills by pretending shaving cream is snow and combine cornstarch with water to make "goop!" Through the magic of

Science, we'll watch the "goop" change from wet to dry.

We would like to thank all of the parents for the generous holiday gifts and kind words of appreciation. We look forward to continued growth and a productive 2015!

Quad News

Happy New Year everyone! We hope all of you had a wonderful holiday season. The Quads are ready to bring in 2015. The theme for this month is 'Getting A Fresh Start.' We will focus on winter projects such as making paper snowflakes and exploring with shaving cream. The Quads will have the opportunity to touch and paint with ice. Also, we will make snow and snow people.

We are looking forward to practicing one to one correspondence by matching numbers to the amount of buttons on a snowman. In addition, we will take part in icicle drip painting and making a snowman in a jar. All of us will create a marble snow globe snowman. We can't wait to make three ingredient snow dough, using cornstarch, vegetable oil, and glitter! We will utilize our creativity by using a soda bottle to stamp snowflakes on paper and decorate

ice skates.

As usual, we will focus on the letter of the week and continue with show and tell.

Goals for this month include:

- Letter Recognition (K-N)
- Practice writing (K-N)
- Sorting and counting winter items
- Practice cutting on the line
- Measuring a variety of ingredients
- Discussing what we like to do in the snow
- Creating a chart of our favorite winter activities
- Practice writing words related to winter
- Practice writing words beginning with K-N

Reminders: Please have your child bring in objects that focus on the letter of the week for Show and Tell.

(Jan. 7th and 8th- Letter K, Jan. 14th and 15th- Letter L,

Jan. 21st and 22nd- Letter M, Jan. 28th and 29th- Letter N)

-FCCC will be closed on January 19th in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

-Please make sure your child has weather appropriate clothing in his/her cubby that are labeled.

If you can, please donate plastic soda bottles for upcoming craft projects. Thank you!



What did I learn in school today?

The Quads have been doing a great job in Hip-Hop class! We have been working on our gross motor skills, by coordinating our bodies to move to the beat of the music.



Upcoming Events

- ◇ **Bake Sale:**
January 12-16
- ◇ **MLK Day**—FCCC is Closed on Monday, January 19
- ◇ **Updated Emergency Contact Forms**—*DUE February 1*
- ◇ **PNO:** Pajama Jam on February 13
- ◇ **President's Day**—FCCC is Closed on Monday, February 16
- ◇ **Preschool Theater Trip:** Skippyjon Jones on Monday, February 23
- ◇ **Center-wide Spaghetti Social:** on Thursday, February 26.

Announcements & Reminders



Every Wednesday is **pizza day**.

°Check children's mail slots every day.

°Friends Child Care Center is on **Facebook**. Check us out for upcoming Fundraising Events.

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Friends-Child-Care-Center/197767671575>

°**Resource Library: CHECK IT OUT**

Parents and teachers are welcome to borrow books from our resource library in the B space alcove. Please complete the borrower's

form and drop it in the right side slot. Please return borrowed materials in a timely fashion, so that others have an opportunity to borrow as well. Visit www.librarything.com, Username: fccc, Password: 1501cherry for a list of books in our library.

°Remember to show **ID cards** upon entering the Friends Center Lobby or stop and sign in if you don't have your card. This is an important security measure for the safety of our children. Additional ID Cards are available in the FCCC Office.

°Additional **Parking Placards** are available in the FCCC Office, 2nd Floor of the C space.

Just a reminder: There is no parking on Cherry Street. Please do not use it for drop-off and pick up.



School Closings:

- Thursday, January 1, for **New Year's Day**
- Monday, January 19, for **MLK Day**
- Monday, February 16, for **President's Day**

Director's News

Dear Families,

Raechel is on vacation but would like to wish you all a Happy New Year!

Upcoming this month, we have exciting new goings on in the classrooms. Please check with your teachers to keep abreast of all that is new.

FCCC is closed for two holidays in January: 1/1 for New Year's Day and 1/19 for MLK Day.

On Wednesday, January 14, Mlanjeni (African Storyteller and Musician) will be visiting our Center to entertain and educate our little ones. It is always an exciting and happy event when Mlanjeni visits us.

We will be celebrating the great spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Also, another wonderful bake sale is coming up in January for the week of 1/12 through 1/16. The Friends Center tenants love our bake sales and our November bake sale broke records. We appreciate your support and involvement in making each one such a wonderful success. Keep up the good work. Sign-up sheets are located in your child's classroom.

The weather is getting much colder these days, please be sure to check your child's changes of clothes to reflect the weather and growing bodies.

Oftentimes, January and February proves challenging when dealing with post-holiday blues. The best medicine to shake those blues away is to focus on helping someone else in need.

So, if you feel angry, depressed or sad, take a moment and try to change your focus to 'how can I make someone else's day be better?' A little compassion or joy can go a long way. Happiness is contagious, let's start an epidemic!

Happy New Year to one and all!

Eileen



"Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that."

— [Martin Luther King Jr., *A Testament of Hope: The Essential Writings and Speeches*](#)

Allergy Information & Health Policy

Classroom Allergy Alerts:

NUT FREE CLASSROOMS:

CARE BEARS, CUDDLE CUBS AND PUDDLE JUMPERS.

SEAFOOD FREE CLASSROOMS: CUDDLE CUBS

»Please be sure to check the expiration dates on your child's epipens (and all other medications). All medications should move with a child into their new classroom when they transition.

»Please be sure to wash both you and your child's hands immediately upon arrival into your child's

classroom.

Illness Policy:

It is in the best interest of the children and staff that everyone participates in reducing the spread of illness and maintaining a healthy environment. FCCC bases its health and wellness policies in accordance with DPW Regulations and the American Academy of Pediatrics Caring for Our Children Performing Standards. Please call to inform us whenever your child will be absent due to illness. Your child may not be brought in for child care unless she/he is able to participate fully in all activities including outdoor play.

You will need a back-up plan you can use when your child is sick.

Please be alert for pre-illness symptoms such as lethargy, glassy eyes, diarrhea, fever, etc., and keep your child home if she/he seems to be coming down with something.

When a child has been diagnosed with an infectious (contagious) illness, FCCC issues an Infectious Disease alert via email to the affected classroom. If multiple cases occur throughout the Center, a center-wide notification will go out via email. The identity of the child will not be given and personal information will be kept confidential.

FCCC Website Information



Be sure to visit our website at www.friendschildcare.org to download forms, check out calendar events, and visit the classroom portal to see what is happening in your child's classroom. Parent Password is 'letmein.'

Thank you for helping to make FCCC the best it can be.

Meet Our Staff

Care Bears Teachers:

Markita, Toni, Erica, Kyra,
Nathalie, Robin

Bear Cub Teachers:

Michelle, Linda

Cuddle Cub Teachers:

Shannon, Barbara, Lea, Vickie,
Laura

Puddle Jumper Teachers:

Cordella, Jeanette,



Zakayah, April

Preschool Teachers:

Teresa, Susan, Missy, Bjay, Kiyana,
Laura

Floater:

Andrea Thomas

Subs:

Gail Centola

Administration:

Raechel, Susan, Eileen

Fundraising at FCCC

Throughout the year, parents will be asked to support fundraising through volunteerism and participation. There are many ways in which you can be supportive.

Provide baked goods for bake sales.

Actively seek donations and company sponsorship for annual auction event.

Volunteer to be a fundraising

cheerleader for your child's classroom.

Seek to meet minimum family participation levels for small fundraisers held throughout the year.

Fundraising Events:

PNO; Bake Sales; Annual Fund Appeal, etc.

If you have any suggestions on



Fundraising ideas, please don't hesitate to let us know. Also, if you are interested in volunteering on the Fundraising Committee, please notify the office. We would love your help!

T-shirts are now available in the FCCC Office for \$12.00/each.

Parents Night Out (PNO)

FCCC holds a semi-monthly PNO (Parents Night Out) for Parents to have a night for romance, fun or just a little time to get things done.

We provide the baby sitting service in a familiar and comfortable environment with staff that the children know, and you get to have worry-free fun with your significant other

or a fun time with friends.

Each bi-month has a theme and special activities planned for the children, along with a nutritional dinner.

This is a fundraiser for FCCC. All proceeds go to support our Child Care Center and its programs.

Upcoming PNOs:

February 13—'Pajama Jam'

April 17—'Sports Expo'

June 19—'Dress Up Surprise'



Bake Sales

FCCC runs semi-annual bake sale fundraisers throughout the year to help offset programming costs. We look to our families to volunteer to help with these events.

Upcoming 2013-2014 Bakes Sale Schedule: weeks of

January 12-16

March 16-20

May 11-15

Families are asked to sign up to bake goods to be sold in the Friends Center Lobby to building tenants and visitors.

Bakes sales run from 8:00am-3:00pm daily. Please provide a list of ingredients in order to maintain safe options for all those with food allergies.

Parents are also needed to help table-

sit during these bake sales.

We appreciate your support.





Friends CHILD CARE CENTER

Play to learn, learn to love



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FRIENDS CHILD CARE CENTER

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Director	(215) 241-7108	fcccdirector@friendschildcare.org
Finance	(215) 241-7011	fcccfinance@friendschildcare.org
Care Bears	(215) 241-7013	carebears@friendschildcare.org
Bear Cubs	(215) 241-7012	bearcubs@friendschildcare.org
Cuddle Cubs	(215) 241-7027	cuddlecubs@friendschildcare.org
Puddle Jumpers	(215) 241-7007	puddlejumper@friendschildcare.org
Triangles	(215) 241-7012	triangles@friendschildcare.org
Quads	(215) 241-7012	quads@friendschildcare.org