

Friends Child Care Center

April 2012



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Dear Parents,

'How do things grow?' will probably be the topic of many discussions here at school in the upcoming weeks. An early spring has certainly sprung and Mother Nature is rousing the trees, flowers and birds. This is an excellent time of year to plan for family nature walks around neighborhoods and in community parks. We would love for you to share photos or collected items with us here at school. Classrooms are working to build science and nature artifacts for display and exploration in all age groups. Twigs, branches, indoor starter plants, rocks and whatever else interests your child would be welcomed additions! The caterpillars arrived at our school this week and the egg hatching project is coming in May.

The Week of the Young Child is scheduled to run April 23rd – April 27th. NAEYC first established this week-long event more than 40 years ago to bring recognition and awareness across the states about the benefits of giving your child quality early childhood experiences. (Birth to age 8) The theme this year is "Early Years are Learning Years." Throughout the WOTYC, FCCC will celebrate children, parents, teachers and good old fashioned FUN! Below, is a listing of scheduled events.

- Monday is Family Appreciation
- Tuesday is Teacher Appreciation
- Wednesday is Silly Hat Day
- Thursday is "All About Me Parade" celebrating children.
- Friday is Pajama Day

In addition, each classroom will make sunny day pictures and drawings to send to Senator Babette's office thanking her for her ongoing support of early childhood education and expressing our hopes for sunnier days to come as decisions are made about funding in next year's budget.



The Pennsylvania One Book Every Young Child initiative began on March 27, 2011. This challenge is an early literacy initiative which was formulated to encourage adults to share and talk about books and stories with children. The selected story is titled 'Stop Snoring, Bernard!' written by Zachariah OHora. It is an amusing story about a loveable sea otter who is asked to find another place to nap because his snoring disturbs the other zoo animals. As Bernard looks for another place, he meets many other animals. Every classroom has a copy of the book with suggested literacy activities and a few copies have been added to the FCCC's resource library located in the entryway of the B-space. Enjoy!

I am pleased to announce that we have secured the Martin Luther King room in the main building for summer camp 2012! Because of the larger space, we are able to open camp to siblings, alumni and the community, so if you know of a family looking for summer enrichment programming for children 5-7 years of age, please refer us. There will be weekly planned off-site trips, recreational swim, art, hip hop and pre-kindergarten readiness experiences in reading, math and social studies.

I wish you all a wonderful Spring!

Rachel O'Neal Coats
FCCC Director





First, we would like to welcome some new families to the Care Bear room, Abigail Furber (Sarah and Brett), Cecilia Harries/Cici (Caroline and William), and Margot Poet (Dana and Jonathan).

With spring upon us, the Care Bears are planning to take advantage of the warmer weather. As the warm weather approaches, we will be taking walks to surrounding playgrounds and parks, as well as spending a lot of time outside in the play yard and courtyard.

Our babies are rapidly growing in size and development. We have some babies who are crawling with ease and some who are just starting out. There are little ones who are walking with push toys and others who are starting to take their first steps by themselves. We also have babies who are busily walking alone, who no longer need assistance from us. 😞 Some of our older ones have even started to say words like: no, up, down, bye, hi. All of our little ones know how to tell us what they want with or without words. Our younger babies are becoming pros at rolling over, and they are now trying to master sitting alone. They are also trying to hold their own bottles and enjoy tummy time frequently throughout the day.

Some of you may have noticed a change in your little ones schedule. We are trying to ease our older babies into a schedule that mimics the Bear Cubs. We are hoping this will make transitions go smoother when the time comes.



As you all may know, our annual auction is rapidly approaching. We have been busy babies preparing our contributions. We have made footprints to add to the center wide quilt, and we will also be making a Classroom Craft decorated by yours truly.

We would like to wish a Happy Birthday to Karoline 4/17 and Leyli 4/12

Care Bears

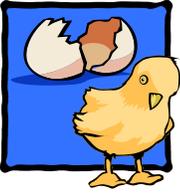
Bear Cubs



April brings to mind images of rain, umbrellas, flowers and other spring happenings. The weather is improving and everybody is thrilled to be getting more outside playtime. Our theme for April is Spring Happenings. We will be focusing on what happens on rainy days; clouds, wet, puddles, gloomy, dark etc. And also what we need for rainy days; umbrella, rain coat, boots, hat, etc. Aside from rainy days, we will also focus on bright, sunny, beautiful spring days; sun, flowers and birds in the trees. We also plan on doing activities based around Easter and Passover such as making baskets, dying eggs, egg hunt, music, etc.

Reminder: Parents please label your child's belongings with their name (cups, food containers, sheets, blankets, jackets, hat, etc.) It helps us to keep track of your child's things.

Happy Passover and Happy Easter!



April is looking to be a great month! The kids are thrilled to be getting outside play time. Our theme for April is Spring Fling. We will touch on the changes that occur in the Spring: weather; trees; flowers; etc. as well as Easter and Passover. We will also continue working on Colors. The Cuddle Cubs will do lots of fun projects, such as: planting, kites, painting, collecting raindrops, dying eggs and more.

Birthday wishes go out to Abe, who celebrates his 2nd Birthday on April 9th.

Thank you to all of the parents who have so generously been donating snacks, batteries and even a cordless phone.

We would like to wish everyone a Happy Passover & Happy Easter!



The Puddle Jumpers' theme for the month of April is Toileting/Spring. During this month, the Puddle Jumpers will listen to stories about going to the potty and plants. The Puddle Jumpers will learn about the importance of their kidneys and intestines, and how to take good care of them. They'll also decorate underwear with fabric paint and become more comfortable using the potty. Aside from this, the Puddle Jumpers will look at different parts of a plant (roots, stem, petals, leaves and seed pod), name their function and learn how to take care of a plant. We will focus on how to take care of Mother Nature during the week of Earth Day and will plant some seeds. We will also touch on the upcoming holidays (Passover and Easter).

Activities for the month will include:

Art

Paint a giant potty, making paper underwear, painting "tales from the potty" and decorating underwear. Decorate eggs and make butterflies from toilet paper rolls, making flower bouquets with coffee filters and dye.

Science

Using garden tools to till soil, planting seeds, weeding, watering plants and examine parts of a plant.

Language Arts

What do the kidneys do? What vegetable do your kidneys look like? What goes into your intestines? Name some good foods. Name some junk foods. What is the job of leaves, stem and roots? What do plants need to grow? What is Passover?

Math

Counting toilets, count your steps to the bathroom, searching for numbers, counting Easter eggs.

Cooking

Bake a pumpkin cheesecake, make fresh squeezed lemonade, rice and beans, fruit salad, and edible dirt.

Wish List:

AA batteries for our Classroom Camera and some seeds for planting. Thank you.

Happy Birthday Wishes to: Johannes on 4/5; Lilia on 4/10; Leah on 4/11; and Mira on 4/27.



The Triangles and Quads are ready as we Spring into the month of April. The theme for this month is "Things that Grow" and "Colors." This month's learning experience is in full bloom, as we learn about the growth of flowers, fruits and vegetables. We will study all aspects of growth from a baby seed to full grown beauty. We will also plan a trip to "Reading Terminal" to see the different colors in a variety of flowers, fruits and vegetables. We will continue to focus on the letter of the week, as we are coming to the end of the alphabet. So jump right in as we venture into another month of fun and learning.

Noah Popp celebrates his big day on April 7th

Annita Askin celebrates her big day on April 3rd

Logan Kobb celebrates his big day on April 14th

Happy Birthday Preschoolers! My, how you have grown!



Friends Childcare Center

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Phone:

Office	(215) 241-7011 7108
Care Bears	(215) 241-7013
Bear Cubs	(215) 241-7012
Cuddle Cubs	(215) 241-7027
Puddle Jumpers	(215) 241-7007
Triangles	(215) 241-7012
Quads	(215) 241-7012

E-mail:

fccdirector@friendschildcare.org
fccoffice@friendschildcare.org
fccfinance@friendschildcare.org



www.friendschildcare.org

Our Happy Family:

Markita, Kyra, Erica, Nathalie, Toni
Michelle, Linda
Shannon, Barbara, Laura, Lea, Vickie
Cordella, Grace, Bobbie, Meghan
Teresa, Susan, Missy, Bjay, Shadae, Jamal
Raechel, Susan, Eileen
Subs: Robin Bell, Gail Centola, Carla Gamble, Lameika Headen



Reminders & Announcements

Reminders & Announcements

- ❖ Every Wednesday is pizza day.
- ❖ Check children's mail slots every day.
- ❖ FCCC Website is www.friendschildcare.org, Username: **fcccparent**, Password: **letmein**
Please visit our website to download forms, check upcoming calendar events and look at archived & current newsletters.
- ❖ Friends Child Care Center is now on Facebook. Check us out for upcoming Fundraising Events.
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Friends-Child-Care-Center/197767671575>
- ❖ Resource Library: CHECK IT OUT at www.librarything.com, Username: **fccc**, Password: **1501Cherry**
- ❖ The Following Classrooms are Nut-Free Zones: **PUDDLE JUMPERS, TRIANGLES & QUADS.**
- ❖ The **PUDDLE JUMPER** Room is a Shell Fish/Fish Free Zone.
- ❖ Reenrollment Forms: Forms & Deposit are **PAST DUE**.
- ❖ Semi-Annual Bake Sale: 4/16-4/19/12.
- ❖ Instructional Swim: For PJs, TRs, & QUs, return forms & payment by 4/13/12. Classes begin 4/30/12.
- ❖ Parent/Teacher Conferences: Week of 4/16/12.
- ❖ PNO: April 20th. 'Things are Springing up all over.'
- ❖ Auction Tickets: Early bird prices end on April 20th.
- ❖ Week of the Young Child: April 23-27, with special events including, 'Silly Hat Day' on 4/25, 'All About Me' Parade on 4/26 and 'Pajama Day' on 4/27.
- ❖ Teacher Appreciation Day: Celebrate your child's teacher on Tuesday, April 24th.
- ❖ Coffee with the Director: Wednesday, April 25, 7:30-9:30am.
- ❖ FCCC 4TH ANNUAL AUCTION & SOCIAL: Friday, May 4th, 2012 at Ladder 15, 5:30-8:30pm.
- ❖ Remember to show ID cards upon entrance to the building or stop and sign in if you don't have your card. This is an important security measure for the safety of our children.



FCCC Fundraiser News



FCCC Fundraiser

T Shirts are on Sale
\$10.00 T shirts

Stop by the office to purchase your FCCC T Shirts.
Thank you for your support.

A Simple Fundraising Idea to Help FCCC:

Did you know that if you use www.goodsearch.com as your search engine instead of yahoo or google that you can help earn money for Friends Child Care Center? That's right! Goodsearch.com (and goodshop.com for shopping) will pay FCCC for each time you search (or shop). Be sure to select Friends Child Care Center (Philadelphia, PA) as your designated cause.

If we all start using goodsearch - FCCC can actually make significant money. **Change your default search engine TODAY.** (Goodsearch is powered by yahoo search, so the search results are accurate.) if you shop online - try www.goodshop.com - many popular stores have links on goodshop and if you shop from here FCCC will receive a percentage of the amount you spend. (Gap, Best Buy, Target, Omaha Steaks and lots of companies partner with Goodshop.com).



Parent's Night Out: 'Things are Springing up all over...'

The next PNO is **Friday, April 20, 2012**. Please sign up by **Wednesday, April 18, 2012**. PNO is a great way for the parents & children of FCCC to do something fun! The PNO will start at 5:30 and end at 8.30 PM. The cost will be:

\$30 for one child, \$45 for 2 children and \$60 for 3 children

Upcoming PNOs:

6/15 'Movie Night'

THANKS IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR SUPPORT TO FRIENDS CHILD CARE CENTER!

