

# Friends Child Care Center

October 2011



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Dear Parents,

Friends Child Care Center is truly a beautifully unique and special place for children to learn and grow. Just today, I was visiting in one of the toddler classrooms and observed the following:

Child A approached one of the teachers with a tearful face and informed her that Child B would not let him have a turn with the toy horse. The teacher stooped to the child's level and advised Child A to go back and tell Child B that he wanted a turn. Child A responded by looking over to Child B across the room and holding up 2 fingers and saying "2 minutes." The teacher explained to Child B that in 2 minutes, Child A would like a turn to play with the horse. The teacher then went to set the timer on a clock that has a red space indicator to show children when a set time has elapsed by slowly minimizing the red area to reflect the agreed upon time. Child A, who did the reporting, was satisfied although not all together happy about having to wait, went to the book corner to look at a book, and Child B resumed her play, and she also appeared to be a little apprehensive about the prospects of giving up the horse. The teacher gave a 1 minute warning to both children and when the time had completely elapsed, facilitated the switch. The switch was made and both children resumed play; Child A happily with the horse and Child B who was compliant when handing off the horse, tossed several stuffed animals out of a crate to the floor (presumably in silent protest!) and went to the housekeeping area.

What an extraordinary example of positive outcomes to positive conflict resolution, compromise and even peaceful protest! The teacher only supported and helped to facilitate resolution. The children worked it out for themselves. How different would the world be if everyone had this early education experience that is so typical in our school?

By now, you have seen the subtle changes made to learning environments throughout our school and there are more to come! The teachers have done a phenomenal job assessing their spaces and making suggested changes that align with the Environmental Rating Scale and Pennsylvania's Early Learning Standards which are assessment tools for quality early education environments. These tools will guide our knowledgeable staff in continually addressing the needs of classroom space and furnishings, personal care routines, listening and talking, activities, interaction, program structure and communication with parents. I fully commend our teachers for their dedication and commitment to excellence! Please feel free to share constructive feedback with your classroom teachers. We find it useful and welcome your input. Also, please feel free to reply to emailed communication sheets with questions or comments. The teachers are appreciative of all the positive feedback you've given about this new communication mode offered this year.

The Barnes & Noble bookfair was phenomenally successful, and we are very appreciative for the outpour of support generated throughout the parent body. At the start of the week, we had reached just under \$2,500.00 in sales in-store. The fair will close on Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup> and a final number will be shared. FCCC will receive 25% of the sales in book profit in lieu of 10% in monetary proceeds. This will help us to revitalize classroom book corners with new selections and the parent resource library with new materials as well. Again, thank you so much for your participation.

Back to School Night will be held on Thursday, October 6, 2011 @ 5pm. I hope you will all come out and hear from our teachers about their curriculum and goals for your child (ren) for the next few months. In addition, teachers are preparing to share first observations about your child with you in the form of a Child Service Report. Informal teacher conferences will be offered during the week of October 10<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> for which you will be given the opportunity to have a phone conference. Please look for communication from you Classroom to set up a time with you.

On October 20, 2011 – FCCC will host its second annual Kindergarten Fair. Preschool parents and soon to be preschool parents are encouraged to come out and get information about the application and enrollment process for area independent, charter and public school systems. Most importantly, come hear from Teacher Susan about how the preschool curriculum addresses kindergarten readiness.

There is some improvement regarding parking for our families for drop off and pick up. The PPA removed some meters to expand our passenger loading zones by 2 additional spaces and they moved the No Stopping sign a few feet closer to the corner of 15<sup>th</sup> and Cherry. Also, PAFA has 2 passenger loading spaces on the 1400 block of Cherry for which they have extended a courtesy to our families to use during drop off and pick up. I hope this alleviates some of the traffic congestion at the beginning and end of the day.

The window work is moving along nicely. Thank you for your patience throughout the renovation. I will try to let you know as much in advance as possible of traffic pattern changes for ingress and egress.

Every year, FCCC has a Halloween Costume parade around the courtyard and then disperse into the building for trick or treating. The parade will take place on Monday – October 31, 2011 @ 10am. It can be challenging helping your child to select a costume appropriate for school. Please refrain from superheroes and weapons or characters who promote violence to resolve conflict. Masks can be scary for our little ones regardless to whether the face is friendly. Simple is always best!

Happy October, Everyone!

*Rachel O'Neal Coats*

FCCC Director

Friends Child Care has rescheduled our Farm Trip *Again!*

FCCC will have a center-wide farm trip to

## **Johnson's Corner Farm**

Located in Medford, NJ

On Wednesday, October 26<sup>th</sup>.

New Permission Slips will be distributed. If you are no longer able to participate in the visit to the farm, please let the office know so that we may refund your money.

A bus will be available for our PJs, Triangles & Quads. Parents are welcome to join the fun.

For children in our CB, BC & CC Classrooms, we ask that you chaperone and/or drive (if possible).

All children traveling in cars must have a car seat. Brown bag lunches & drinks must be provided.

Don't miss out on our annual Farm trip, Petting Zoo and Pumpkin Picking!





Let's FALL in love with leaves, apples, pumpkins and other things that remind us of Fall. The Care Bears would like to give a warm welcome our new families in our room. We can not wait to all grow together.

In the month of October, the Care Bears will continue to enjoy the fall weather while we can. We will be getting out on walks and out in the court yard for outdoor play as often as we can, so please have the children dress appropriately for the changing weather. Please bring socks for their little feet ;).

The theme for this month will be continuing to getting to know the children and meeting them where they are. It can be difficult coming into a new environment and becoming familiar with all the new faces. We, in the Care Bear room are here for support if you may need it.



# Care Bears



The Bear Cubs have settled in to their new class and have been busy playing with their friends, exploring their new class and getting to know their teachers. We had a few tears, but overall it went well. We also have a few kids that joined our class the last week of September (Ruby and Kadi) and they are also adjusting well. The theme for this month will be Falling into Autumn. The children will see and learn how Halloween can be lots of fun and how Autumn causes many changes: the weather, clothes, leaves, trees & flowers, etc. We will try to work on some activities such as create leaf hand prints, Autumn trees, paint with fall colors, exploring pumpkins, creating pumpkins, ghosts and making jell-o, etc. We also are looking forward to our hayride and pumpkin picking trip to Johnson's Corner Farm on Wednesday October 26 and to our Annual Halloween Parade on Monday October 31.

The Bear Cubs are proud to announce that Sean and Sequoya are showing off their walking skills and Quincy and Osborne are taking steps.

- Reminders: Back to School Night Thursday October 6, 2011
- Photo Day Tuesday October 18, 2011
- Johnson's Corner Farm Trip Wednesday October 26, 2011



# Bear Cubs



The Cuddle Cubs are settling in nicely to their new Class and have been busy playing with their friends, exploring their new Class & playing in the play yard. It is amazing the Changes that Can occur in just one month. The Children that just became Cuddle Cubs in September are quickly adjusting to the new routines and the older kids are enjoying their new roles as 'The Big Kids.' They are very helpful (& just a little bossy) with the younger kids.

Our Theme for October is 'Falling Into Fall.' We will focus on the changing weather and trees, leaves, the color orange and Halloween. We will also take walks to the library for books and to Reading Terminal to buy some fruit & vegetables. We'll make a scarecrow & jack o' lantern, too! We will also make some tasty treats, such as pumpkin bread & applesauce.

The Cuddle Cub teachers hope you will join us for Back to School Night on Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup>. Teachers will be available to answer any questions about our Class to discuss any issues or concerns.

The Cuddle Cubs are looking forward to our visit to Johnson's Corner Farm on October 26<sup>th</sup> for pumpkin picking, petting zoo and picnic lunch. We hope parents can join us for a fun day at the farm.

Reminders: Please remember to update your child's extra clothes for size & season. Also, as the weather gets colder, please remember to send hats & mittens as we go outside on most days.

Smile! Picture Day is Tuesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you to Alma & Abe's parents for giving our class some small gourds and pumpkins. The kids are really enjoying them.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Cole on 10/27; Neely on 10/28; and Alma on 10/31.

Wish List: Magna-Doodle; Batteries (AA & AAA); Dustbuster

Cuddle Cub



During the month of October, the Puddle Jumpers will be celebrating several holidays and welcoming the fall season. Some of the October holidays we are celebrating are not very well known holidays, but we like them anyway. The Sweetest Day is celebrated on 10/15, National Pumpkin Cheesecake Day is celebrated on 10/21, Take Your Teddy Bear to Work Day is celebrated on 10/11, National Dessert Day is celebrated on 10/14, and of course Halloween on 10/31.

Also, Fire prevention week is the second week of October. If there are any holidays that your family celebrates that you would like us to include, please let us know. We have activities and events planned for the holidays mentioned. We are planning a Pajama Party for Take your teddy bear to work (school) day. We are asking parents to send in a favorite teddy bear with their child and arrive dressed in pajamas. We have cooking classes to celebrate National pumpkin cheesecake day, and National dessert day. For sweetest day, we are making cards for the sweetest people in our lives. And of course, we will be celebrating Halloween with "spooky" stories and colorful art and a Costume Parade in the courtyard followed by Trick or Treating throughout Friends Center (parents are welcome to join the fun).

Puddle Jumpers



The Triangles and Quads are adjusting well as we **FALL** into another month. Our Theme for the month of October is 'Healthy vs. Junk Foods.' We will also purchase nutritious snacks to eat upon returning from a walk to Reading Terminal. Amongst the fun activities of 'Healthy vs. Junk Foods' and 'Halloween,' we will also work on letter recognition. We will do exercises such as asking children to point out the first letter of their names using the alphabet chart.

As we approach the end of the month, we look forward to carving pumpkins with our book buddies, dressing up in our costumes, as well as participating in our annual Halloween parade.

Happy Birthday Zion in the Triangles Class on 10/17 and William on 10/27 and Rafael on 10/30 in the Quad Class! Happy Birthday to Teacher Susan on 10/6.

Trips: Sylvester & the Magic Pebble at the Enchantment Theatre on October 3<sup>rd</sup>; Johnson's Corner Farm on October 26<sup>th</sup>.

Smile!! Photo Day is October 19<sup>th</sup>.



# Friends Childcare Center

1501 Cherry Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19102  
Fax (215)864-6973

## 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](http://www.friendschildcare.org)

## Our Happy Family:

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



# Reminders & Announcements

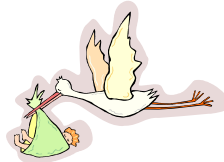
## Reminders & Announcements

- ❖ Every Wednesday is pizza day.
- ❖ Check children's mail slots every day.
- ❖ FCCC Website is [www.friendschildcare.org](http://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](http://www.librarything.com), Username: **fccc**, Password: **1501Cherry**
- ❖ The Following Classrooms are Nut-Free Zones: **PUDDLE JUMPERS, TRIANGLES & QUADS.**
- ❖ The CARE BEAR Room is a Shell Fish/Fish Free Zone.
- ❖ 'Sylvester & the Magic Pebble' on October 3<sup>rd</sup> for PJs, TRs & QUs.
- ❖ Back to School Night: on October 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm in Rufus Jones Room.
- ❖ Parent/Teacher Conferences: Week of October 10-14<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ Photo Days: Tuesday, Oct. 18 for CBs, BCs & CCs; Wednesday, Oct. 19 for PJs, TRs & QUs.
- ❖ Kindergarten Fair: on October 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm in Cherry Street Room.
- ❖ PNO: October 21, 2011. 'Leaves are falling...'
- ❖ Center-wide Farm Trip: Johnson's Corner Farm for pumpkin picking on Oct. 26<sup>th</sup> for a 10:00am arrival.
- ❖ Costume Parade: Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup> at 10:00am in Courtyard.
- ❖ 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.

## The Stork has Stopped By...

And Delivered Dorothy Ruth Slawe  
September 17, 2011

A precious little bundle at 9 lbs. 6 oz.  
Billy (in the PJ classroom) is very proud of his new baby sister.  
Meredith & Daniel are doing just fine.



# 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](http://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](http://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: 'Leaves are Falling...'

The next PNO is **Friday, October 21, 2011**. Please sign up by **Wednesday, October 19, 2011**. 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:

12/16 'Twas the night...'

2/17 'Pajama Jam'

4/20 'Things are Springing up all over...'

6/15 'Movie Night'

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







