



FCCC NEWSLETTER

Play to Learn, Learn to Love

Director News

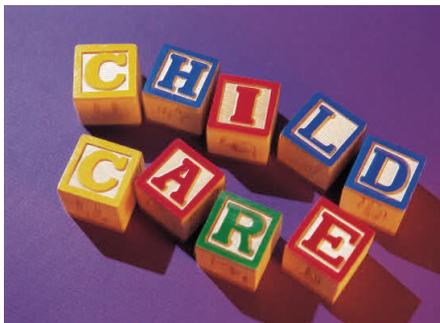
Dear Families,

I'd like to begin by thanking everyone for their participating in various October school events which included the high participation level in this year's annual meeting and Back to School Night, the interest and moderate attendance level to our Kindergarten Fair, chaperoning and driving to Johnson's Farm and the high level of parent attendance in this year's Halloween parade. We respect and value your time and truly appreciate your involvement in community events.

November's school calendar is chock full of special events as well! This month's activities include lessons on nutrition and harvest celebrations and building social skills in children with a higher emphasis on expressing gratitude, caring and sharing. This is a good time to emphasize using good manners and celebrating children's aptitude to be helpful and kind. With that being said, please help us celebrate your child and their peers by filling out a good deeds leaf and returning it to one of the office mailboxes. We will be capturing and acknowledging special moments throughout the month and building a 'good deeds' display in the Friends Center Lobby Display Case. Feel free to personalize leaves by coloring or decorating! Are you a good party planner/

events organizer that is thoughtful and creative? We need your help! Please email me if you would have an interest in helping to plan this year's holiday potluck which is to be held on December 13, 2012 from 5-7pm. Last year's theme was "It's A Small World" and each classroom represented a specific continent by bringing traditional food items to the potluck gathering and providing decorations. We are open to new ideas and/or ideas to build this theme even more.

Parent conferences were well attended, and I hope everyone left their conference with questions answered and feeling more enlightened about their child's school life and development. Our teachers use PA's Early Learning



Standards as a resource to guide lesson planning and assess development. The standards also provide information about what children usually know or are able to do within specific age ranges. These standards help inform families, teachers and other

educational professionals about appropriate expectations for children of different ages. I encourage you to visit www.papromiseforchildren.com and subscribe to their "Learning Is Everywhere" monthly newsletter which has a host of simple, easy to do at home activities for families.

FCCC was designated to STAR 3 and has a window of late November to mid December when State assessors will come out to do an environmental rating assessment of one infant/toddler and one preschool aged classroom.

The rating range is 1 to 7 and includes the following subscales:

- Space and Furnishings
- Personal Care Routines
- Listening and Talking
- Activities
- Interaction
- Program Structure
- Parents and Staff

The assessment will run anywhere between 3-4 hours on that day. We will receive a written summary and a summary page of scores. Our expectation is to exceed the minimal 5.25 overall rating in order to meet STAR 3 requirements.

Thanks for your continued support!

FCCC

November 2012

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Care Bear News

Red, Orange, Yellow and Brown, look at all the pretty leaves all over the ground. The Care Bears would like to welcome in the Fall. For the month of November, we will be focusing on our fine and gross motor skills., getting our younger infants to sit up with and without support, rolling back and forth, holding their heads up (steady) etc. For our older infants, climbing, picking up and grasping toys, pulling up to stand and standing alone. These milestones are so important throughout an

infants development. Infants grow so fast, we are happy to see that we can encourage them.

We will be having a Thanksgiving Feast on November 20th at 11:30am. We ask that ALL parents sign-up to join us. This is a great way and time to sit down, chat and get to know each other and of course EAT :).

As the winter approaches, please dress your children in appropriate attire. This



includes socks, shoes, coats and hats. Weather permitting, good air quality and over 25f, we are allowed to go outside. (We will also provide blankets if needed).

Wish List: Batteries (AA), Digital Camera.

Birthdays: Max celebrates his first on November 19th.

Bear Cub News

Our theme for the month of November will be Celebration of Differences (caring, sharing, taking turns, Thanksgiving, potluck). The Bear Cubs will be working on caring and sharing. The B.C. will become more aware of each others' feelings (sadness, happiness and fear). We also will be working on having patience, waiting his/her turn. We will be talking about sharing with your friends, using gentle hands when playing with friends and using your words. The Bear Cubs will work on conjoined painting and gluing activities and playing games that involve sharing and taking turns. Aside from this, we will

read books about Thanksgiving, how families get together on this special day to have a feast and show how thankful they are for each other. We too will have a feast. Each family will be asked to share their favorite dish. Details will follow at a later date.



We would like to thank all parents who participate with the Johnson's Corner Farm center-wide trip and the Halloween celebration. Without the parents

participation, the Bear Cubs wouldn't have the opportunity to participate with center-wide trips and the Halloween celebration.

Wish List : Hard hats, small pocket-books, dresses, shoes, scarves etc.

Happy Thanksgiving !

Cuddle Cub News

The month of November will be a wonderful time for the Cuddle Cubs. Our themes for the month will be Caring and Sharing, Native Americans and Thanksgiving. We have been working on sharing with our friends, using gentle hands when touching others and using your words when your friends aren't being nice. We will also work on lots of fun things to celebrate Native American culture and Thanksgiving such as: totem poles, sand art, taste testing different vegetables, making place mats and a cornucopia, making pasta neck-

laces, and turkey handprints and Indian headbands and corn bread.

The Cuddle Cubs will have a pot luck lunch on Monday, November 19th. More details will follow.

Thank you to all of the parents who went to Johnson's Corner Farm and also to those who helped out for the Halloween parade. We wouldn't be able to do it without you!



November is a busy birthday month for the Cuddle Cubs.

Happy Birthday wishes go out to:

Ozzie (6th), Sophie (12th), Quincy (17th) and Lea (21st)!

Puddle Jumper News

The PJs theme for the month is Sharing/Caring. Throughout the month, we will read books about Thanksgiving, food, families, feelings and friendship.

Activities for the month will include:

Dramatic play: Goldilocks And The Three Bears, Peter's Chair and pretending to be doctors, nurses, mothers and fathers, teachers and friends.

Walks: Vine Street Library, Dollar Store and Reading Terminal Market

Art: Making collages (fall, healthy food and junk food and nature) and a sharing tree

Cooking: Making macaroni and

cheese, corn bread, shucking corn, baking cakes and making fruit and vegetable salads

Circle: Listening to stories such as A Chair for My Mother, Feast for 10, and

The little Red Hen (Makes a Pizza). We will also sing songs about family, friends, food and feelings. In addition, we will discuss ways to take care of our body.

These activities will help build self-confidence, vocabulary, small and large motor skills. In addition, children will learn empathy and turn taking. A visual timer will be used to help with turn taking.

Our shared feast will be held on Thursday November 15, 2012 from 11:45 am to 1:00 pm. A sign up list will be posted on the refrigerator. We hope that you will be able to join us because "Sharing is caring". Your PJ will be hard at work preparing some of the food for this feast. Therefore, please be sure that he/she arrives by 9:00 am.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.



Holiday wish list: A blender, books on CDs, refills for our beanbag chairs, spices for cooking class and Thank you in advance.

Preschool News

The theme for the month of November is Home and Family. The children will learn about harvest celebrations around the world, different family structures and cultures. The Triangles and Quads will also have a multicultural feast on, November 15, 2012, and you are welcome to share your child's favorite dish with us. Although caring and sharing is a part of our everyday practice here at Fccc, we will continue to stress the importance of

Family and Friends at home as well as at school. We will also incorporate a letter of the week using art, science and numerous hands on equipment as we fall into a new season.



Happy birthday Jaida Jones

11/20/09

We would like to apologize for not including Alma's birthday on last month's newsletter. Alma celebrated her birthday on 10/31/12. We wish both triangles a very happy birthday!

Announcements & Reminders

Every Wednesday is **pizza day**.

Check children's mail slots every day.

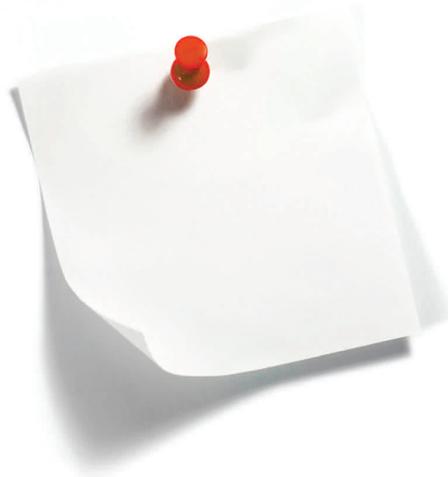
Friends Child Care Center is now on **Facebook**. Check us out for upcoming Fund-raising Events.

<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.

Important Reminders

UNICEF: Donations for Unicef must be dropped off no later than Wed. 11/7/12.

Lifetouch Photo Returns: Photos are due 11/14/12. Please be sure to drop off your child's payment

envelope with any unwanted photos.

Holiday Feasts to be held in classrooms— please look for sign-up sheets in your child's classroom.



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. Par-

ent Login is 'letmein.'

We would love to hear feedback regarding our website and on how we can improve communication with our families.

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

Holiday Closings

Upcoming in November: FCCC will be CLOSED on Monday, **November 12th** for an In-service Day;

Thursday, **November 22nd** and Friday, **November 23rd** for the Thanksgiving Holiday.



Allergy & Health Alerts

Classroom Allergy Alerts:

NUT FREE CLASSROOMS:

CUDDLE CUBS, TRIANGLES, AND QUADS .

SHELLFISH/FISH FREE CLASSROOMS:

PUDDLE JUMPERS

Please be sure to wash 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.

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.

Volunteer to work on planning committee for annual auction and social.

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.



PNO; Annual Auction; Bake Sales; 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 or Annual Auction Committee, please notify the office. We would love your help!

Fundraising Events:

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:

December 14—Frosty the Snowman!

February 15—Pajama Jam S'mores Night!

April 19—Things that Hop!

June 14—Sand Castle Magic!

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 2012-2013 Bakes Sale Schedule: weeks of

December 3-7

February 11-15

April 15-19

June 10-14

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.

Volunteering at FCCC

FCCC has many opportunities for families to volunteer their time and/or services to help improve life here at Friends Child Care.

If you have any skills, time and/or energy to participate in a family work day, sew or repair broken or torn items, share your skills during show and tell, read stories to the children, chaperone field trips, help with fundraisers, work on the Annual Auction Committee or work on the Social Planning Committee to organize planned family events, we would love your help and ideas.

Please contact the FCCC Office and let us know how you would like to help by emailing or calling the FCCC office.



Meet Our Staff

Care Bears Teachers:
Markita, Kyra, Erica, Nathalie, Toni

Bear Cub Teachers:
Michelle, Linda, Carla

Cuddle Cub Teachers:
Shannon, Barbara, Lea, Vickie

Social Planning Committee:
Family Pot Luck Event to be held on Thursday, December 13th from 5-7:00pm in the Cherry Street Room.

This is a wonderful social event for parents, children and staff to join in holiday festivities and enjoy a great array of exciting foods. Parents are invited to attend and are asked to provide a pot luck contribution.

A theme for this event will be determined and classrooms will provide decorations.

Please email Raechel at fcccdirector@friendschildcare.org if you can serve on this committee.



Puddle Jumper Teachers:
Cordella, Grace, Bobbie, Meghan

Preschool Teachers:
Teresa, Susan, Missy, Bjay, Jamal, Jeanette

Floaters:
Laura Kirby, Robin Bell



Subs:
Gail Centola

Office Staff:
Raechel, Susan, Eileen



Friends

CHILD CARE CENTER

Play to learn, learn to love

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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
