



FCCC NEWSLETTER

Play to Learn, Learn to Love

Director News

Dear Families,

Spring/Summer Programming 2013

Spring/Summer programming is on the horizons! Quiver Farms will be delivering chick eggs and our children will do some surrogate parenting while they are with us. Care required is to turn the eggs at least three times daily and keep them warm and hydrated until it's time for hatching. The entire process takes about 5-7 days and then the farmer returns to take his fuzzy chicks back to the farm.

On April 25th, the butterfly project arrives! Bear Cubs through Preschool will welcome several fuzzy caterpillars that will stay in observation housing throughout the metamorphosis process. It's very interesting watching the caterpillars transition into cocoons and emerge as butterflies to be set free outdoors after a few days.

Yoga classes will come to an end after this week and will resume in the fall. Yoga instructor Maureen has done a phenomenal job over the past 6 months and she is looking forward to returning in September. Teachers will incorporate the yoga skills the children learned into gross motor activities so that everyone stays limber and ready to pick up the strings when the time comes. :)

Instructional swim at Sweat Gym for Puddle Jumpers through Preschool children will



begin on May 6, 2013, running every Monday and Wednesday from 9:30-10:30am. Permission slips were emailed and are to be returned to the Office by April 12, 2013. Please email or call me if you are unable to meet this deadline but have an interest for your child to participate. As you may already be aware, the skill of learning to swim is vital for both children and adults; for both health and safety reasons. Swimming supports the development of arm and leg coordination (ex: doing the butterfly requires arms and legs to do different motions at the same time) and strengthens cardio vascular systems. Most importantly, it's fun!

Parent Communication Survey 2013

Please remember to take the quick survey emailed to you asking for your feedback about the quality and relevance of the information you receive daily from classrooms and the Office. The survey is due to be completed by April 9, 2013. Your feedback will help us to develop a more streamlined communication process that is consistent from classroom to classroom. We value your input and would love to hear from you!

DVAEYC sponsored: For Me, For Now, For Later Financial Literacy Program for Preschoolers

FCCC

April 2013

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Care Bear News

Finally spring has sprung! Our babies and teachers are planning to take advantage of the nice weather as it approaches. We are still working on Me and My Body, playing games like where's your _____, and here is my _____. With our younger babies, we are massaging their limbs to help them get stronger as we point out body parts. We are building language and recognition by doing these activities.

Our older infants (toddlers, yes there are a few toddling) are growing like weeds,

Bear Cub News

Spring is here and the children & teachers are both thrilled to be getting more outside playtime. The Bear Cubs' theme for the month of April is 'Springing into Action,' 'April Showers,' 'Growing, Planting & Flowers.' During this month, the Bear Cubs will be working on various spring projects, such as flowers and grass, plus planting, the weather,

and buzzing like bees. With all the crawling, walking, climbing (on shelves), trying to kick balls, and feeding themselves has kept us on our toes.

Our younger babies are getting bigger everyday too! They are learning to roll over, and learning to crawl, they are adjusting to their new environment and new faces.



We would like to welcome some new babies to the Care Bears: Hazel Sawyer and her family (Sara, Jeffrey, and big sister Miriam), and Liam Thornton along with his family (Aparna, Andrew, and big brother Calum). We hope to make our new families feel welcome and help our babies and their families adjust to life in the Care Bears.

Happy Birthday to Mason who turns the big 1 on 4-16-13.



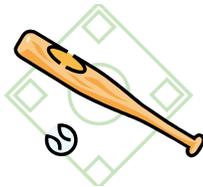
Cuddle Cub News

April showers do bring May flowers but the Cuddle Cubs are hoping for a sunny month full of outdoor play. It's been a long, cold winter and we're ready to continue working on Spring themes. We will be working on recognizing colors through activities such as painting, coloring and taking a walk over to the Macy's indoor flower exhibit so that our little guys can really get a visual and tactile feel for all things Spring.

We are also looking forward to the arrival of this season's batch of eggs that will arrive on Wednesday, April 3, from Quiver Farm that the Cuddle Cubs will watch hatch into beautiful baby chicks. On April 25, we will embark on our yearly butterfly project where we'll get to watch as caterpillars transform to butterflies.

Since the Cuddle Cubs love to sing and dance teacher Vickie will spend the month teaching them the Spanish standard 'De Colores.' It's all about colors and Spring. Since this is the

sun, what happens on rainy days, clouds, wet, puddles, gloomy, dark etc. We are asking all the parents to please bring in a flashlight for your child. We will be using them on rainy, cloudy, dark and gloomy days. This will be a fun activity for the Bear Cubs. This month we will



also be observing chick hatching and watching the chicks grow, The eggs will arrive on April 3rd. Aside from this, we will be working on identifying body parts, head, shoulders, knees, toes etc.

Wish List:

Sand toys for our sandbox.

prime time to teach young minds a new language why not start with this sweet tune?

Here are the lyrics, so parents can reinforce and take part in the fun at home!

De Colores

De colores, de colores se visten los campos en la primavera
De colores, de colores son los pajaritos que vienen de afuera
De colores, de colores es el arco iris que vemos lucir
Y por eso los grandes amores de muchos colores me gustan a mí
Y por eso los grandes amores de muchos colores me gustan a mí

Canta el gallo, canta el gallo con el quiri quiri quiri quiri quiri
La gallina, la gallina con el cara cara cara cara cara



Los polluelos, los polluelos con el pío pío pío pío pío pío
Y por eso los grandes amores de muchos colores me gustan a mí
Y por eso los grandes amores de muchos colores me gustan a mí

De colores, de colores brillantes y finos se viste la aurora
De colores, de colores son los mil reflejos que el sol atesora
De colores, de colores se viste el diamante que vemos lucir
Y por eso los grandes amores de muchos colores me gustan a mí
Y por eso los grandes amores de muchos colores me gustan a mí

Birthday wishes go out to Leyli on April 12 and Karoline on April 17!

Thank you to all the parents for your support and continued generosity.

Happy Spring everyone!

Puddle Jumper News

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, stems, petals, leaves and seed pods), 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 (April 22, 2013).

Activities for the month will include:

Art

Paint a giant potty, making paper underwear, painting "tales from the potty" and decorating underwear., make butterflies from toilet paper rolls and construction paper, make flower bouquets with coffee filters and water color paint.



Science

We will till soil, plant seeds, weed our garden, water plants and examine parts of a plant. We will also observe some caterpillars transforming to butterflies

flies

Language art

What do the kidneys do? What vegetable do your kidneys look like? What goes into your intestines? What is the job of the leaves,

stems and roots? What do plants need to grow? Where does the waste go when you flush the toilet? Observe a plant "drinking" water.

Math

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

Cooking

Bake a "flower" cake, make fresh squeezed lemonade, rice and beans, fruit salad, and edible dirt.

Wish List

We would like some soil as well as some seeds to plant. Thank you!

Preschool News

Spring is definitely in the air at Friends Child Care! The preschoolers are gearing up for a fun filled month of learning! Our theme for April is "Things That Grow." The Triangles and Quads will be focusing on a variety of plants and what they need to bloom. We will even create our own terrarium using cups, seeds, cotton balls, and water. In addition, we will make our own grass seed plants using water, seeds, and a sponge. This month, we will read books about numerous types of flowers and seeing if we can spot them outside.

The Quads and Triangles will take in the fresh air, as we walk to Reading Terminal Market and the Van Colin Park on the

Parkway. Here, we will search for signs of spring inside and out. Also, we will welcome the farm, as they bring chick eggs for us to observe. We can't wait to see them hatch and grow!

The preschoolers will continue to learn a new letter each week, as well as practice writing them in our journals. We will incorporate art, by having the children create spring pictures, using paint, markers, crayons, and colored pencils. Each class will create a chart displaying how short or tall our plants grew. We will even practice writing the names of our favorite flowers! On the warm



and sunny days, we will take the opportunity to have circle, read stories, and play games outside. Towards the end of the month, the center will have another special treat. We will observe the life cycle of real butterflies. When they are fully grown, we will take part in releasing them outdoors.

We want to wish the following children a very Happy Birthday: Lena (Quad) April 10, Leah (Triangle) April 11, Logan (Quad) April 14, Gerard (Triangle) April 16, Mira B. (Triangle) April 27.

Hablamos Española

Feliz mes de Abril! Happy April! This month's Spanish theme is "Primavera/Spring". I will be introducing new words to the children relative to our new theme.

Abril - April

Sombrilla - Umbrella

Arco Iris - Rainbow

Pajaro - Bird

Abeja - Bee

Hierba - Grass

LLuvia -Rain

Flores - Flowers

Mariposa - Butterfly

These last couple of weeks, Spanish classes has been very successful. Many of our children have learned their shapes, colors, days of the week and sports in Spanish! I will continue to work on some of the same material so the children can become more familiarized with the words and use them in their everyday vocabulary.



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 op-

portunity 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.

Upcoming Events:

April 1st: Reenrollment Forms & Deposits are DUE

April 3rd: Quiver Farms delivers eggs for hatching

April 12th: Instructional Swim Permission Slips are DUE

April 15th-19th: Bake Sale

April 19th: PNO

April 22nd-29th: Parent-Teacher Conferences

April 25th: Begin Butterfly Project

April 27th: Camden Riversharks Fundraiser

May 6th: Instructional Swim Lessons begin



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 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.

Director's News Continued (from page 1)

Our preschool (Quads & Triangles) was selected to participate in PNC's financial literacy program for preschool aged children. The three main focuses of this program is to introduce children to the concepts of spending, saving and sharing. Our preschool teachers will receive free technical assistance from DVAEYC which includes off-site professional development and on-site coaching, classroom math centers will receive new materials, and children and families will be invited to a special event at the Delaware Valley Association for the Education of Young Children (DVAEYC) conference on Saturday - April 13th from 10:30-12noon. If you have not returned your consent forms, please do so today.



Raechel O'Neal Coats
Director

Happy Spring to all!

FCCC BOARD MEMBER SEARCH

FCCC is searching for energetic, committed parents for prospective board members. Membership includes monthly meetings and an annual retreat. A background in fundraising, education, legal, etc., particularly sought out. Please contact Raechel directly at FCCCDirector@friendschildcare.org to receive a Board application.

Allergy & Health Alerts

Classroom Allergy Alerts:

NUT FREE CLASSROOMS:

CUDDLE CUBS, PUDDLE JUMPERS, TRIANGLES, AND QUADS .

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

*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.

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.



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!

T-shirts are now available in the FCCC Office for \$10.00/each.

Fundraising Events:
PNO; Bake Sales; etc.

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

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.



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.

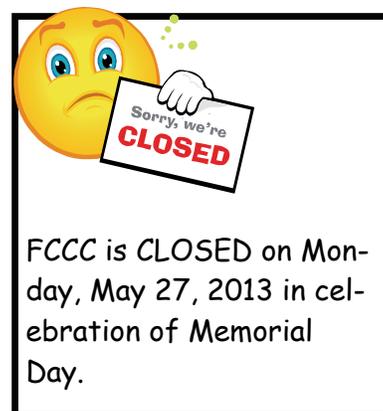
Upcoming PNOs:

April 19—Things that Hop!

June 14—Sand Castle Magic!



School Closings



FCCC is **CLOSED** on Monday, May 27, 2013 in celebration of Memorial Day.

CAMDEN RIVERSHARKS FUNDRAISING EVENT

DON'T MISS OUT ON
THIS FUN EXCURSION
TO SEE A GREAT BASE-
BALL GAME WITH FCCC.

DON'T FORGET TO WEAR
YOUR FCCC T-SHIRTS.



Friends Child Care Center

Saturday, April 27th, 2013 – 5:35pm
Join us after the game for Fireworks and Kids Run the Bases!






Reserve your seats today!

1. Log on to www.riversharks.com and select "Riversharks Fundraising Program Log-In" icon on righthand side
2. Enter your group's unique code
3. Select "Buy"
4. Choose your seats and complete your order
5. Root for the Riversharks!

Your Groups
Unique Code: fccc

TICKETS ONLY \$12

\$5 of Each Ticket is Donated to
Friends Child Care Center

Ticket Sales end @ 5pm Friday, April 26th
\$1.25 processing fee per ticket

Questions? Contact:
Patrick Campbell
215-828-6558
newphillyhomes@gmail.com

1-866-SHARKS-9



riversharks.com

Meet Our Staff

Care Bears Teachers:

Markita, Kyra, Erica, Nathalie, Toni, Robin

Bear Cub Teachers:

Michelle, Linda, Carla

Cuddle Cub Teachers:

Shannon, Barbara, Lea, Vickie

Puddle Jumper Teachers:

Cordella, Grace, Jeanette

Preschool Teachers:

Teresa, Susan, Missy, Bjay, Jamal, Jacqueline

Floater:

Laura Kirby

Sub:

Gail Centola

Administration:

Raechel, Susan, Eileen





Friends

CHILD CARE CENTER

Play to learn, learn to love

1501 Cherry Street
Philadelphia, PA 19102
(215) 241-7011 (Tel)
(215) 864-6973 (Fax)
www.friendschildcare.org



FRIENDS CHILD CARE CENTER

Office	(215) 241-7011	fccoffice@friendschildcare.org
Director	(215) 241-7108	fccddirector@friendschildcare.org
Finance	(215) 241-7011	fccfinance@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