



# FCCC NEWSLETTER

Play to Learn, Learn to Love

## Director's News

DECEMBER 2015

Thank You!

The bake sale was a tremendous success, and we thank everyone who contributed by baking, making purchases and/or table sitting throughout the week. We raised an impressive \$808 and made a lot of new friends doing so!

Tis The Season to Curb the Gimmies & Create Memories!

The holiday season is upon us and it certainly is challenging to stay focused on core family values during this time of

giving and receiving; that of kindness, compassion, gratitude and caring for others.

A friend called me the other day sharing her worries that her sons receive too much from their parents, family and friends with all the gifts and special attention. She was most concerned that all the excess may encourage greediness, ingratitude and an insensitivity or lack of concern for the needs of others, especially those less fortunate. The concerns



raised would seem like overkill to some but for many parents, is relative.

So what are parents to do? With a little planning, there are many fun and creative ways to create balance for your children. This is a great time of year to make a charity donation and include your child(ren) in cleaning out toy boxes/shelves/closets to give

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## Care Bear News

The holiday season is upon us.

This month we will be doing activities for the various winter holidays, including but not limited to: Christmas, Chanukah, Kwanzaa, etc. All of the children will participate in age appropriate activities, such as painting, gluing, bingo dot-ters, etc.

We are planning walks to see the different light displays thought the city. We will walk to Comcast, Macy's, Rittenhouse Square, Dilworth Park, Love Park, etc. We may not make it to all of the displays

## Bear Cub News

Happy Holidays!!!

The Bear Cubs' theme for December is Winter Celebrations Around The World. December will be a joyful, fun and exciting month for the Bear Cubs. We will be working on Various projects celebrating Hanukkah, Christmas and Kwanzaa. We will make lots of holiday crafts and read holiday books. There will be lots of singing, dancing and listening to holiday music. We will create a special present for

depending on the weather. If you know of any other displays, please feel free to mention them. We also have an open invitation for parents to join our walks. Also if it is on a day your child is not here please feel free to you join us.

Welcome back Markita on December 7, we missed you.

Happy Birthday Maddie on December 20.

Upcoming Center-wide Event: Family Holiday Pot Luck—

mommy and daddy. Shhhh it's a surprise. We will also



go to see the light shows at Macy's and Comcast Building.

Please join us on Wednesday, December 9 in the Cherry Street Room from 5:00-6:30pm.

WISH LIST:

Radio (CD player) new or used

Batteries

Books



Have a joyful holiday season and a happy healthy New Year!

Upcoming Event: Join us for our Family Holiday Pot Luck on December 9, 2015 in the

## Cuddle Cub News

This is my wish for you: peace of mind, prosperity through the year, happiness that multiplies, health for you and yours, fun around every corner, energy to chase your dreams, joy to fill your holidays!

-- D.M. Dellinger

Tis' the season for togetherness and fun in Cuddle Cub land!

We will be taking walking trips to the Macy's light show, as well as the Comcast Center before the weather outside gets too frightful. If you thought our Fall-themed crafts were neat, you haven't seen anything yet! The Cuddle Cubs will be embarking on



a slew of Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and winter wonderland-themed craft and art projects. We will also be hard at work putting together a very special holiday gift for all of our mommies and daddies. The month of December is all about celebration, and we will be reading books, singing songs and participating in activities that pay homage to all of the many traditions of various cultures around the world.

If you have any special songs, games, traditions or books, please feel free to share them with us so that we can incorporate them into our daily activities throughout the month.

### **Birthdays:**

Nolan 12/11

Foster 12/14

Teacher Shannon 12/28.



Happy Birthday Nolan, Foster and Shannon!

### **Reminders:**

Please let us know if your child will be out during the holidays.

Please don't forget that the center-wide Holiday Potluck is December 9 in the Cherry Street room from 5-6:30pm.

We wish you and your family a happy and healthy holiday season!

## Puddle Jumper News

Brrr! The days are getting shorter and the nights are getting colder. The start of winter must be just around the corner.

The Puddle Jumpers theme this month is "The Blizzard of Winter Wonderland". We will be learning about different celebrations this month such as Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanzaa. The PJ's will be getting extra crafty working on all the different projects. We will be reading stories and singing songs to go along with the many traditions. Also, we will experiment with water and ice cubes and talk about the weather changing and becoming

ing frostier as it gets deeper into winter.

We will be taking some adventurous trips to the Macy's light show and walking through Dickens Village, as well as visiting the Comcast Center.

If you have any special traditions, or snacks to add along with this month's traditions, please feel free to share with the teachers or stop in and share with the class.

**Reminders:** Please remember to label all jackets, gloves, and hats! As the colder weather is creeping, we usually tend to layer our clothes and things get a

little mixed up in cubbies. Also, parents please remember to wash your child's hands upon drop off in the morning which is inside the B- Space room until 8:30 and also during pick up. Thank you! Its important we stop the germs from spreading, they are everywhere!!

**Family Holiday Potluck** is December 9. Save the date!

The Puddle Jumper Teachers would like to wish you and your family a happy and healthy holiday season.

Happy Birthday to Jace on 12/18 and Hazel on 12/28.

## Triangle News

'Tis the season to be jolly! As we enter into the month of December, the Triangles will focus on "The Wonders of Winter Celebrations". With that being said, from our family to your family, we wish you all a safe, healthy, and happy holiday season!

Though, it is the season of fun and celebrations, we will continue to enhance our skills in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) while exploring with the alphabet, numbers, shapes and colors. We will integrate math into these activities allowing each child to

grow and expand developmentally at his/her own pace. While incorporating each holiday into our lesson plan, we will also exercise our culinary skills preparing a few simple recipes. We will make edible menorahs, potato latkes, snowmen made from marshmallows and carrots, Santa's hat made with strawberries, bananas, and green grapes. We will integrate our skills in math into this activity by practicing the various measurements. We will blend in a little science as we watch and observe the different changes in the ingredients. We will also tinker with engineering

as we use craft sticks, wooden shapes and objects, clay, and an array of other materials to construct masterpieces of art as we transform our room into a winter wonderland of holiday cheer.

**Reminders:** Please make sure your child has the appropriate clothing for the change of weather. Please include socks, hats and gloves for outside play.



## Quad News

During the month of November, the Quads began learning ways to resolve conflicts. They used their words as well as 5 minute timers. In addition, they learned the phrase, "It's not what you say but how you say it."

Throughout the month of December, the Quads will listen to stories about Hanukkah, Christmas and Kwanzaa. They will create works of art that depict each holiday. They will discuss how each holiday is celebrated and recognize symbols for each holiday. They will also learn songs about each holiday. Aside from this, they will compare and contrast the Menorah and the Kinara based on the number of candles, as well as the color of the candles on each. Activities will include cooking, art, math,

language and geography. Cooking activities for the month will include making potato latkes, applesauce and baking corn muffins and cookies. Art activities will include using various materials or objects to create a Menorah, Christ-

to say Merry Christmas in a few languages. Geography activities will include looking at maps and locating various countries and discussing which holiday is celebrated in that country. In addition to this, we will take walks to various parts of the city to look at the holiday displays.



mas tree and a Kinara. Math activities will include measuring ingredients for cooking, sorting objects by shape and size, counting the number of candles on the Menorah and the Kinara. Language activities will include learning how

Reminders:

**Photo Reshoot Day** is Wednesday, December 9.

**Family Holiday Pot Luck** on Wednesday, December 9.

Happy Birthday to Ameenah on December 26!

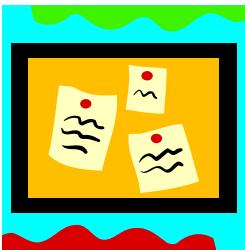




## Upcoming Events

- ◇ Family Holiday Pot Luck: December 9
- ◇ Preschool Trips: December 10—FSS Holiday Concert; December 11—12 Days of Christmas; December 15—Peter Rabbit
- ◇ Christmas Holiday Closing: December 24 & 25
- ◇ New Year's Day Holiday Closing: January 1

## 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](http://www.librarything.com), Username: fccc, Password: 1501cherry for a list of books in our library.

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



## School Closings:


- Christmas Holiday, December 24 & 25.
- New Year's Day, January 1

## Director's News (Continued)

to a family with less means or maybe nothing at all. Children have shared with me their holiday wish lists for material things (some quite interesting!) but maybe creating a family list of wishes for good deeds for others might be helpful. When my kids were little they noticed one of our elderly neighbors always struggled getting from the bus stop to home with groceries, so we gifted her with a rolling cart to help out. The surprise on her face and the enjoyment the kids got from her reaction was priceless! As you hustle and bustle to meet social engagements, don't forget to plan time for quality time with your kids that does not require going anywhere or doing anything special other than enjoying one another's company. It can become a bit overwhelming for everyone to meet so many social obligations in a 30 day time frame. : ) Family game night or baking cookies or making greeting cards is always a lot of fun!

With all that being said, I wish you all the happiest of holidays and a healthy and prosperous New Year!

P.S. I hope to see you all at the holiday potluck on December 9th in the Cherry Street Room from 5-6:30pm. Mlanjeni's Magical Theater (puppets, singing and magic) will perform "Holidays Around the World" for the children at 4:30pm leading into the feast. Please join us!



Raechel



# Allergy Information & Health Policy

## Classroom Allergy Alerts:

### *NUT FREE CLASSROOMS:*

#### CUDDLE CUBS AND PRESCHOOL

»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

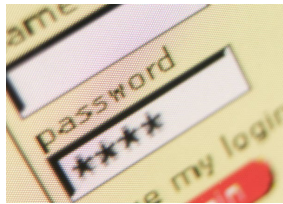
children and staff that everyone participates in reducing the spread of illness and maintaining a healthy environment. FCCC bases its health and wellness policies in accordance with DPW Regulations and the American Academy of Pediatrics Caring for Our Children Performing Standards. Please call to inform 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 symp-

toms 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](http://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, April

### Bear Cub Teachers:

Michelle, Linda, Andrea

### Cuddle Cub Teachers:

Shannon, Barbara, Ericka

### Puddle Jumper Teachers:

Lea, Jeanette, Zakiyah, Renee



### Preschool Teachers:

Teresa, Cordella, Missy, Bijay,  
Roshawnda

### Floaters:

Ashley Osborne  
Shanice Brown

### Volunteer:

Tiffany Williams

### Subs:

Gail Centola

### Administration:

Rachel, 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:

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!

**Opportunities:**



**T-shirts** purchase T-shirts \$14

**Bake Sales** man the tables, bake goodies

**Annual Appeal** donate directly to FCCC, ask for matching fund from employer

**Silent Auction** be a classroom cheerleader, solicit donations, join the committee, attend the event and bid, bid, bid...

**United Way Donor Option** select FCCC when you donate to United Way, using the donor option #3228.

## 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 2015-2016 Bakes Sale Schedule: weeks of **January 11-15**

March 14-18

May 9-13

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*

1501 Cherry Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19102  
(215)241-7011 (tel)  
(215)864-6973 (fax)  
[www.friendschildcare.org](http://www.friendschildcare.org)



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## FRIENDS CHILD CARE CENTER

Office	(215) 241-7011	<a href="mailto:fcccoffice@friendschildcare.org">fcccoffice@friendschildcare.org</a>
Director	(215) 241-7108	<a href="mailto:fcccdirector@friendschildcare.org">fcccdirector@friendschildcare.org</a>
Finance	(215) 241-7011	<a href="mailto:fcccfinance@friendschildcare.org">fcccfinance@friendschildcare.org</a>
Care Bears	(215) 241-7013	<a href="mailto:carebears@friendschildcare.org">carebears@friendschildcare.org</a>
Bear Cubs	(215) 241-7012	<a href="mailto:bearcubs@friendschildcare.org">bearcubs@friendschildcare.org</a>
Cuddle Cubs	(215) 241-7027	<a href="mailto:cuddlecubs@friendschildcare.org">cuddlecubs@friendschildcare.org</a>
Puddle Jumpers	(215) 241-7007	<a href="mailto:puddlejumper@friendschildcare.org">puddlejumper@friendschildcare.org</a>
Triangles	(215) 241-7012	<a href="mailto:triangles@friendschildcare.org">triangles@friendschildcare.org</a>
Quads	(215) 241-7012	<a href="mailto:quads@friendschildcare.org">quads@friendschildcare.org</a>