



FCCC NEWSLETTER

Play to Learn, Learn to Love

Director News

Dear Families- It's been an amazing year for us at FCCC! Our children are happy and steadily growing in leaps and bounds, we were designated to STAR 3 with support from our Success By Six mentor and the hard work from our teaching staff, new carpet and flooring has been installed in A, B & C spaces, the Bear Cub room was expanded into the old office space to provide more play space for children and FCCC's website was re-designed and is now more attractive and user friendly. These are wonderful accomplishments due largely to volunteer

efforts from our parent body and fundraising successes throughout the year. Thank you for being a wonderful community of families and staff who work together as partners to provide clean, safe, learning environments for our children. Our continuous quality improvement commitment is just another reason why our school has been successful for over 35 years in the community, and is still going strong. Thank you!

In 2013, FCCC will

continue to endeavor to fulfill its mission in encouraging young children in their ability to be caring, curious and responsible human beings in a community that reflects the economic and cultural diversity of our urban community. With that said, we ask that you participate in a brief 10 question survey that will be emailed to you at the end of January. Your feedback is invaluable and will help us to develop program and fundraising goals that meet

everyone's needs. I look forward to hearing from you. This month, classrooms will probably plan simple,



FCCC

January 2013

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Care Bear News

Happy New Year Care Bear Families.

The Care Bears would like to welcome our new families; Berek (Feige/Dustin), Sylvia (Sarah/Andrew), and Horace (Danielle/Horace). We would also like to say farewell to our graduating Care Bears and families. We want to wish you the best as you continue to grow in the

Bear Cub room.

For the month of January, the Care Bears will be focusing on Getting to Know Our New Families, and the Winter Season. Please make sure you dress your child in



appropriate clothes, this includes coats, hats, gloves, scarfs, shoes and socks, etc. We may go for walks and play outside, weather permitting. Also make sure your child has weather appropriate clothes in their extra clothes bin.

Bear Cub News

Happy New Year !

The Bear Cubs theme for January is "Dashing through the snow" and getting to know our new friends. We will be working on making our classroom look like winter time. Our activities consist of creating snowflakes, snowballs, snowmen, snow footprints, creating pretend snow etc. The Bear Cubs will discover that ice is cold, water turns into ice and ice turns into water. During circle time, we will be reading books about winter time, talking about what kind of clothes we need for winter time: hats, coats, mittens & scarves ,and we also will be talking about the importance of keeping on our hats, coats and mittens when we're outside. In the honor



of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., we will practice on being nice to our friends, sharing, taking turns and using gentle hands when we are touching our friends.

The teachers will spend a lot of time nurturing the new Bear Cubs, helping them feel comfortable, safe and happy. The older Bear Cubs will also show them how much fun it is in the Bear Cubs class.

Congratulations to Jackson, Danielle, Charlotte, Abby and Lily. Best wishes as you take on new challenges in the Cuddle Cub class.

Cuddle Cub News

Happy New Year! As we say goodbye to 2012, we look ahead to a fantastic new year in the Cuddle Cubs. First, we would like to take a moment to thank all of the parents for their kindness and generosity, not only during the holidays but throughout the year. The Cuddle Cubs teachers appreciate your thoughtfulness.

January is going to be a busy month for the Cuddle Cubs. We will focus our energy on many arts and crafts projects

celebrating winter and all it brings with it. We just hope that it doesn't become too frigid to spend some quality time outdoors.

This month we will also welcome several new Cuddle Cubs to our class: Abigail McCoy, Charlotte MacFarlane, Danielle Kobb, Jackson Springer, and Lily Friedman are joining us from the Bear Cubs. Marco and his mother, are new to Friends. I hope you will help wel-



come them to our wonderful FCCC community. We also say goodbye to some friends this month. Sequoya, Truman and Strummer have all moved to the Puddle Jumper class. Sam and Miles have moved to centers closer to their homes and Ozzie has moved all the way to Washington D.C. We will miss them and wish them well!

Happy 2013!

Puddle Jumper News

The Puddle Jumpers' theme for January is "People and Animals in Winter." We will look at how people and animals such as bears, squirrels, birds, pets and some farm animals get food and stay warm in the winter. We will explore the concepts of migration and hibernation.



and sorting nuts (cut outs of different nuts), exploring the Arctic, making snowballs and snow people and observing a melting snowball and looking for tracks (animal or people) in the snow

Activities for the month will include Art, Language, Science, Math and Cooking.

Art activities will include painting snow scene, making tracks, ripping paper to create a snow storm, cutting out snowflakes,

Language activities will include using the flannel board to dress people for the cold weather and telling "cold" stories, talking about the weather, discussing ways people and animals stay warm when it's cold.

Science activities will include burying

and taking nature walks to watch animals and collect sticks, firewood and rocks.

Math activities will include sorting and grouping by size and shape, looking at temperature by the numbers and measuring snow fall, and fishing. How many fish can you catch in one minute?

Cooking activities will include making warm cocoa, S'mores, chicken noodle soup, pigs in a blanket, tomato soup and grilled cheese, baking homemade biscuits and pretending to toast marshmallows.

On Tuesday January 29, 2013, we will have a camp day. Please have your child bring in camping supplies (sleeping bag, flashlight and a pretend flask (non-spill sip cup or water bottle). Also, please dress your child in stretchy clothes as we will hike up a "mountain".

We will also take short walks and play outdoors when it's not too cold or wet. Please be sure your child is appropriately dressed. They should have winter coats, boots, mittens or gloves, hats and scarves.

We would like to thank all of the parents for their thoughtful gifts and kind words of appreciation. It meant a lot to all of us. We appreciate your help and support as we help your children grow and develop from curious toddlers into independent preschoolers.

Preschool News

Happy New Year Everyone! We hope your holiday season was a good one! We would like to welcome our new Triangles and Quads, as well as their families. All of us are excited to have you join our class! This month, our theme is "Getting A Fresh Start." The preschoolers will be working on making snowmen using art materials, snow, and edible snowmen. Also, we will be creating winter scenery to decorate the space using paint, cotton balls, construction paper, pompoms, glue, and glitter.

The Triangles and Quads will begin to write and draw in our new alphabet books. Each week we will focus on a different letter. We will be drawing pictures and symbols, as well as writing

letters and words. This will definitely enhance our vocabulary and penmanship.

The preschoolers will be exploring with water, shaving cream, cornstarch, goop, and play dough this month. We are



looking forward to getting our hands dirty with these materials and see how much we can learn. In

addition, we will be making some delicious winter themed snacks!

The Quad and Triangle staff would like to thank all of the families for the generous holiday gift. It was greatly appreciated.

Birthdays: We want to wish Lincoln a very Happy Birthday! (1/26)

Reminder: FCCC will be closed in observance of Martin Luther King Day on Monday, January 21.

Wish List: AA & C Batteries

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 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, 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.

Director's News Continued (from page 1)

age appropriate lessons for children around the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and his tremendous fight for equality and peace among people and nations. Older children will have discussions about peace and fairness. Particularly, how we treat one another. I am providing you

with a link to a wonderful article written by Betsy Evans who held a discussion with 3 and 4 year olds on the subject of war and peace. Kids are so insightful and can teach us grown-ups a few things if we let them. :)

<http://www.kidsandconflict.com/reviews.htm#SoWhatIsPeace>

[reviews.htm#SoWhatIsPeace](http://www.kidsandconflict.com/reviews.htm#SoWhatIsPeace)

Happy New Year to all!

Rachel Neal Coats

Director

Baby News



The Stork has Stopped By...

And Delivered Hazel Gabrielle Sawyer

On December 28, 2012

A precious little bundle at 8 lbs. 10 oz.

Miriam (in the PJs) is very proud of her new baby sister.

Sara & Jeff are doing just fine.

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

Monday, January 21, 2013 in celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Please make alternative child care arrangements.



Allergy & Health Alerts

Classroom Allergy Alerts:

NUT FREE CLASSROOMS:

CUDDLE CUBS, TRIANGLES, AND QUADS .

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; 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.

proceeds go to support our Child Care Center and its programs.

Upcoming PNOs:

February 15—Pajama Jam S'mores Night!

April 19—Things that Hop!

June 14—Sand Castle Magic!

This is a fundraiser for FCCC. All

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 **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.

A Special Thank You to FCCC Families

Thank you so much for your holiday gift. Once again your thoughtfulness and generosity truly touches us. As teachers, the activities we plan daily, the projects we display on our walls, and the friendships we foster are all done in the spirit of nurturing and inspiring your child.

Receiving your gift each year, and the efforts by parents to ensure that there is a gift, reminds us that our work does not go unnoticed and is appreciated.

Thank you again, and best wishes for a wonderful New Year.

Sincerely,

The Teachers of Friends Child Care Center

Meet Our Staff

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

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

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
