

Friends Child Care Center

March 2012



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Dear Parents,

Just 20 minutes a day reading aloud with young children strengthens relationships, encourages listening and language skills, promotes attention and curiosity, and establishes a strong reading foundation. These skills are essential for success in school and in life. Listening to and talking about stories with your children helps to develop their brains, ears and eyes for future success in learning to read. It's helpful to set aside 10-20 minutes for the relaxing and intimate activity of reading with your child(ren). The convenient thing about this is that reading can take place anytime, anyplace and anywhere! I would love to hear what some of your favorite stories are and perhaps we can add them to FCCC's lending library located in the vestibule of the Bspace. Yes, we have our very own lending library for which you are invited to borrow materials. There are books, audios and puppets available to everyone. New materials are on the way!

FCCC's 4th Annual Auction & Social is only 2 months away! You won't want to miss the socializing and competitive bidding for classroom projects and a beautiful handmade quilt personalized by every child enrolled in our school. In addition, there will be a myriad of items, gift certificates and services to choose from. No one needs to go home empty handed! The fundraising goal for this year's auction is to raise \$15,000 that will be used to support current cultural arts programming (Spanish, dance & music) and potentially bring in SoccerShots (Pj's & Preschool) and Yoga Child (Bear Cubs, Cuddle Cubs and Puddle Jumpers). There are lots of ways for you to get involved. This is a fun community event that helps us to raise a large portion of our fundraising dollars. Please consider contributing in one of the many ways listed below.

- Contribute to classroom themed baskets. Auction cheerleaders have reached out via email. Email me if you aren't sure who your room cheerleader is.
- Solicit items or services. You received appropriate paperwork in email and your child's mailbox.
- Purchase ad space. (Business or personal.)
- Attend auction and bring family and friends.
- Volunteer your time before, during and after the event. Email me for details.



Thanks to everyone who supported the Bake Sale last month. We raised close to \$600.00 and much is to be credited to all the faithful bakers who donated items and the overwhelming purchasing support from our parent body and Friends Center tenants and visitors.

Teacher Vickie has resumed teaching Spanish to Cuddle Cubs, Puddle Jumpers, Quads and Triangles on Mondays and Tuesdays. The kids are so happy to have this program back! I observed the Quads this week and was impressed with the number of colors and body parts the children could name in Spanish without prompting. Fabulous!

I love that classrooms have sharing days (Show & Tell) as it promotes socialization, conversation and getting to know one another. I ask that items brought to school on these special days are in keeping with our school policies and practices. Some excellent choices would be books, music, favorite nutritious snack, photos, clothing items, etc. Please do not allow your child to bring electronics or items (above mentioned and other) with superhero themes or weapons. The reason for this is that children often have sharing time at some point, and we want shared items to be aligned with our general practices.

I look forward to seeing you at this month's Coffee & Chat on Wednesday – March 28th from 7:30-9:30am in the Office. It was nice touching base, and I appreciate the emails for those who could not attend.

New to our staff is Carla Gamble who was hired as a part time Floater. Carla comes to us as an experienced, Creative and natural nurturer. Her references from former employers and co-workers are of high praise for her likeability, love of children and competence.

Please remember to always display your placards and turn on hazard lights when doing your dropping off or picking up.

Have a wonderful month of March!

Rachel O'Neal Coats
FCCC Director



 My, does time fly when you're growing up... Our Care Bears are all growing and developing so fast right before our eyes. This month, we will continue to focus on our fine and gross motor development. The children are exploring and finding out things that they are able to do on their own. It's amazing!! We also will be working on communication and language. We will continue to communicate the things we are doing while interacting with the children. Most are eating solid foods; feeding time is a wonderful time for communication and language.

The Care Bears would like to say fair well to Nolan Lee and his family, it truly was a pleasure to see him grow. Although it's sad to see him go, we wish him the best and hope to see him soon. On a happier note, we would like to welcome Erica Mason (from Puddle Jumpers) into our classroom.

Our development this month: Our new Care Bears Alaina and Betty are adjusting very well to the classroom. They both enjoy standing up and when you talk to them. Michael and Greta enjoy eating their solid foods, they also enjoy playing in front of the mirror and looking at themselves. Our older infants are all on the loose. They enjoy our new pull-up bar with mirror and have almost mastered the art of reaching out and pulling up on it. I cannot say enough how amazing it is to see them all grow so fast.



The Bear Cubs theme for the month of March is At the End of the Rainbow/ March Madness. We will be working on projects focusing on St. Patrick's Day, such as making a giant rainbow filled with bright colors, shamrocks, pot of gold, and a leprechaun. We will be using different color paint, construction paper, tissue paper, cotton balls, glitter, etc. We also will be focusing on March Madness. The Bear Cubs will participate in various games and activities involving balls: baseballs, basketballs, volley balls, soccer, etc.

We would like to announce that Michai and Samuel, who joined the Bear Cubs on February 1st are adjusting well to their new class, teachers and friends. We also would like to announce that Rose will be joining a new school on March 1st near her home; we will miss her but wish her well.

We would like to take this time to thank Michai and his family for the lunch they bought the teachers on February 28th. It was greatly appreciated.



Spring is almost here!!! To celebrate the Cuddle Cubs theme for March is 'I can sing a Rainbow!' We will continue to work on recognizing all the colors of the rainbow. We will paint with different colors & take walks to look for colors in our environment. We will have color days, where we will focus on individual colors with our activities, clothes, even our snacks! Maybe we will even get to see a rainbow!

Birthday wishes go out to Miriam, who celebrates her big day on March 2nd.

Thank you to all of the parents who have so generously been donating snacks to our classes! They have all been delicious and very much appreciated.

Wish List: Cordless Phone, AA Batteries, any boys clothes/shoes that can be used for dress up.



Our theme for March is "March Madness". We will learn about the games of basketball and baseball. We will look at the sizes of the balls played with in these games and compare which balls are bigger and/or smaller. We will also discuss clothing and safety equipment used to practice playing these games. We will have a pretend game day! We'll watch a ball game and eat hot dogs and drink milkshakes.

Art: Paint butcher paper baseball and basketball jerseys and glue numbers on them. Draw baseballs and basketballs. Create a baseball field and basketball court using paint, card board, and little people.

Math: Count the number of players on the baseball field and basketball court.

Language: What type of balls do players use in different sports? How are they used? What are positions played in each sport? How do the players score? What equipment do the players use?

Cooking: Bake baseball cupcakes and a basketball shaped cake. Make melon balls from watermelon, cantaloupe and honeydew melon. Make shamrock milkshakes and Irish potatoes.

We will take a walk to Von Collin Park and run the baseball diamond.

The PJ's wish list for our classroom is AA batteries for our classroom camera.



The Quads and Triangles are gearing up for March Madness, which is the theme for the month! We are looking forward to learning about various sports, teams and players. The Preschoolers will have the opportunity to play baseball, basketball, soccer, hockey and football. Also, we will discuss the different kinds of equipment used in these sports.

In addition, the Triangles and Quads will focus on transportation, such as cars, buses, trains, airplanes and boats. We will talk about which ones operate on land, sea and air. We can't wait to ride trains, buses, trolleys and subways throughout the City!

We are looking forward to a couple of field trips as well. The Quads and Triangles will be traveling to the Liacouras Center to see '1, 2, 3! Elmo and Friends,' on March 15th. On March 16th, we will visit the Irvine Auditorium to watch the performance of 'Seussical.' This will be super exciting!

Towards the end of the month, we will all be participating in the Butterfly Project. We will be taking an in depth look at the life cycle of a butterfly.

Birthday wishes go out to Wilhelmina on 3/28.



Friends Childcare Center

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Philadelphia, PA 19102
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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:

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fccoffice@friendschildcare.org
fccfinance@friendschildcare.org



www.friendschildcare.org

Our Happy Family:

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



Reminders & Announcements

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- ❖ Every Wednesday is pizza day.
- ❖ Check children's mail slots every day.
- ❖ FCCC Website is 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, Username: **fccc**, Password: **1501Cherry**
- ❖ The Following Classrooms are Nut-Free Zones: **PUDDLE JUMPERS, TRIANGLES & QUADS.**
- ❖ The **PUDDLE JUMPER** Room is a **Shell Fish/Fish Free Zone.**
- ❖ Coffee with the Director: Wednesday, March 28, 7:30-9:30am.
- ❖ Butterfly Project: March 29th.
- ❖ Reenrollment Forms: Please return with \$200 Deposit before April 2, 2012.
- ❖ Instructional Swim: For PJs, TRs, & QJs, return forms & payment by 4/13/12.
- ❖ PNO: April 20th. 'Things are Springing up all over.'
- ❖ FCCC 4TH ANNUAL AUCTION & SOCIAL: Friday, May 4th, 2012 at Ladder 15, 5:30-8:30pm.
- ❖ 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 Stella Sacunas
February 21, 2012

A precious little bundle at 7 lbs. 7 oz.

Cameron (in the Puddle Jumper classroom) is very proud of his new baby sister.

Abby & Robert 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 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 - 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: 'Things are Springing up all over...'

The next PNO is Friday, April 20, 2012. Please sign up by Wednesday, April 18, 2012. 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:

6/15 'Movie Night'

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

