

Friends Child Care Center

September 2011



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Dear Parents,

Happy New School Year and welcome to all the new and returning families! I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer with family and friends and is ready for another fall/winter season. The children truly enjoy the extended outdoor play periods and summer activities. The end of the summer celebration that included a visit from Quiver Farms and barbecue was a big hit! The smiles and enthusiasm shared by infants through preschool upon seeing the animals was wonderful.

Many thanks to all the wonderful summer staffing we had which allowed our regular staff to take much deserved vacations. We are very appreciative to Gail, Lameika and Robin who are our steady flexible staffing team and Sara, Catherine and Janay who came to us from Friends Select for the summer and did a phenomenal job!

Fall is right around the corner and change is in the air! FCCC enthusiastically looks forward to climbing new heights in Keystone Stars with mentoring from United Way's Success by 6 Program. We have been assigned a mentor who will work directly with teaching staff in the ongoing assessment of their learning environments, practice and procedures. You all should be pleasantly surprised when you return to school on Tuesday with the changes already made. Teachers would love to receive your feedback!

Thanks to all who responded to the classroom surveys circulated in June. We had a 33% participation level which is greatly improved from past surveys. Approval ratings were high for our program and teaching staff.

There are a few slight staffing pattern changes I want to inform the community of. Laura Kirby, who has dedicated more than 32 years of service to the Care Bear classroom, will join the Cuddle Cub team this year. New employee, Jamal Mullins will join the preschool team in the afternoons. Jamal has 4 years experience working with preschool age children, is currently enrolled in a CDA program and comes with high recommendations from co-workers and supervisors. Meghan (currently in Quads) will join the Puddle Jumpers in afternoons with Erica and Grace.

FCCC will host its first Barnes & Noble fundraising event this month! This event will run September 23rd-25th in stores and online. A promo code will be provided to families who wish to make purchases and in-store special activities will take place on Saturday 9/24 and Sunday 9/25 at the 18th & Walnut Street location. Look for more details as the date gets closer!

Rachel O'Neal Coats

FCCC Director



Friends Child Care has rescheduled our Summer Farm Trip!

FCCC will have a center-wide farm trip to

Johnson's Corner Farm

Located in Medford, NJ

On Friday, September 23rd.

We have previously sent out permission trip slips and many of our families have already signed up to go. For new families and families who did not have the opportunity to sign up, new permission slips will be distributed.

A bus will be available for our children aged 2 and up. Parents are welcome to join the fun.

For children under the age of 2, we ask that you chaperone and/or drive (if possible).

All children under the age of 2 must have a car seat for travel.

Don't miss out on our annual Farm trip!

Brown bag lunches & drinks must be provided.





Let's welcome autumn with open arms. The summer has been very warm but the Care Bears are ready for a cool breeze. It's a new school year, and we would like to say fair well and best wishes to our families moving to their new rooms: Rose Burns (Mike & Jill); Quincy Godlewski (Lisa & David); Frances Hornsby (Minne & Bob), and Osborne Springer (Emily & Aaron). It has truly been a pleasure working with you, and we will miss you very much. We will like to welcome our new families: Michai Ruff (Adia & Anthony); Charlotte Macfarlane (Caroline & Greg); Greta Lee (Faye & Andy); Nolan Lee (Elinor & Matt); Abigail McCoy (Emily & Barry); Danielle Kobb (Amy & Alex), and Karoline Dieckmann (Jennifer & Stephan).

In the month of September, the Care Bare staff will be welcoming the new families and helping them transition to leaving our new prides of joy. Leaving your new baby is always difficult, but we are here for you if needed. WELCOME!!!

We will be focusing on getting to know the children. We are really up on floor time so the Care Bears will be spending most of their time there. If the weather permits, we also will go on morning walks and spend afternoons/early evenings out in the court yard area. Please bring jackets in case the weather gets cooler.



Care Bears



Welcome to the Bear Cubs! Everyone did extremely well during transitioning. No one cried. This month's theme is Getting To Know One Another. The teachers will be spending a lot of time nurturing the children, helping them feel safe and happy.

The activities will include:

- *Painting
- *Body tracing
- *Hand prints
- *Foot prints
- *Creating an apple tree

We also will be busy with finger play, singing songs, listen and dancing to music and getting lots of outdoor time before the winter weather sets in.

Good luck to all the Bear Cubs who joined the Cuddle Cubs on Tuesday September 6. We will miss them but wish them the best of luck.

We would like to thank Sean and his family for the new radio. It was greatly appreciated.



Bear Cubs



Welcome to Cuddle Cubs!! It's hard to believe it is September already! The Cuddle Cubs are anxiously waiting for their new friends to come join us next week. We are hoping for a smooth transition since most of the kids already know us – Keep your fingers crossed! We wish all of the transitioning Cuddle Cubs well in their new class! Our theme for the month is 'Getting to Know Me, My Body & My Family.' The children will learn new songs and do some fun activities while learning about each other. We will be introducing and reinforcing the expectations of the Cuddle Cub Class, such as: Staying at the table with food; Throwing trash away; sitting for circle; Using gentle hands when touching our friends; Lining up to go outside; Washing hands at the sink.

One important reminder for the parents: PLEASE LABEL YOUR CHILD'S BELONGINGS! (Cups, bowls, jackets, hats, lunch boxes, blankets, sheets, etc.)

Happy Birthday to Lola, who turns 2 on September 5th and Bridget who turns 2 on September 22nd! Happy Birthday to Vickie who celebrates her birthday on September 26th.

Thank you to all of the parents who provided items for our class over the past year – freeze pop, books, toys, fruit, vegetables, desserts, batteries, etc. We really appreciate everything you do for us!!

Welcome Miriam Sawyer, new to FCCC and Ariana Mondlak, Deegan Campbell, Lucas Crawford, and Stella Kavanagh from the Bear Cubs.

Wish List: Batteries (AA, AAA & C); Big CD/DVD Book; Magazines (home & garden type, National Geographic, Smithsonian, etc.)

Cuddle Cub



This month's theme is **getting to know you**. Throughout the month the PJs will learn one another's first and last names and their parents' first name. We will also look at and display photos of families. In addition, children will be given opportunities to take a few photos of their classmates and give their take on the caption. Activities for the month will include art, cooking, science, math and storytelling and large and small motor activities.

Art activities will include painting and drawing pictures of families, creating a 'me' and gluing collages of good foods and junk food.

Cooking activities will include making pizza, cooked play dough, mashed potato, strawberry lemonade, finger sandwiches, pancake batter and Jell-O pudding

Science activities will include using food color, celery and water to show that plants 'drink', observing a refrigerated and unrefrigerated cut piece of fruit for 3 days, and mixing colors.

Math activities will include counting parts of the body, sorting by shape and size and measuring for recipes.

Storytelling will include using the flannel board and drums to tell stories in 'your own words' and reading various books about the body and families.

Large and small motor activities will include walks to various parts of town, running races, jump and lacing shapes and stringing beads

Welcome to all of the new Puddle Jumpers and their families.

Well wishes to all of the Puddle Jumpers who are transitioning to the Triangles.

Parents please label all of your child's personal belongings. Also, please bring in a few family photos. We will display them around the classroom

We look forward to a wonderful year of fun and hands on learning.

Puddle Jumpers



The new School Year is off to a great start in the Pres-school space. The new children are also adjusting well as we focus on the theme, 'Getting to Know One Another' for the month of September. As a group, the children are working on expanding their interpersonal skills as we learn about each other's individuality through discussions about ourselves, families, hobbies and other interests. The children are eager to engage in classroom activities that include enhancing skills in art, science, math, language and movement.

We are looking forward to a fun and productive year!

Birthdays for Triangles: David Zale on 9/4

Birthdays for Quads: Timothy Wong on 9/6



A Special Note from the Campers

Summer has come to an end and we sadly had to say Goodbye to another wonderful year, but wish all of our children Good Luck in their new adventures. The Campers had a fun, exciting and creative Summer. We will miss you all!



Friends Childcare Center

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Philadelphia, PA 19102
Fax (215)864-6973

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:

fccdirector@friendschildcare.org
fccoffice@friendschildcare.org
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www.friendschildcare.org

Our Happy Family:

Markita, Bobbie, Brandy, Nathalie, Jeanette

Michelle, Linda, Kyra

Shannon, Barbara, Laura, Lea, Vickie

Cordella, Erica, Grace, Meghan

Teresa, Susan, Missy, Bjay, Shadae, Janay

Raechel, Susan, Eileen

Subs: Robin Bell, Gail Centola, Toni Franks, Lameika Headen, Sanna Musitief, Sara Powick



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 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 CARE BEAR Room is a Shell Fish/Fish Free Zone.
- ❖ In-service Day: Friday, September 2, 2011 – FCCC IS CLOSED! Please find alternative child care.
- ❖ Labor Day: Monday, September 5, 2011 – FCCC IS CLOSED! Please find alternative child care.
- ❖ Johnson's Corner Farm: Center-wide on Friday, September 23, 2011.
- ❖ Barnes & Noble Weekend Fundraiser: 9/23-9/25 in Rittenhouse Square.
- ❖ PNO: October 21, 2011. 'Leaves are falling...'
- ❖ 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 Greta Harriet Lee
August 12, 2011

A precious little bundle at 9 lbs. 5 oz.
Hunter (in the Triangle Classroom) is very proud of his new baby sister.
Faye & Andy are doing just fine.

And Delivered Jacob Repollet
August 20, 2011
Jeanette Repollet (CB Teacher) is 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: 'Leaves are Falling...'

The next PNO is **Friday, October 21, 2011**. Please sign up by **Wednesday, October 19, 2011**. 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:

12/16 'Twas the night...'

2/17 'Pajama Jam'

4/20 'Things are Springing up all over...'

6/15 'Movie Night'

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



