



FCCC NEWSLETTER

Play to Learn, Learn to Love

Director News

Dear Families,

Welcome to the 2012-2013 school year at FCCC! It's good to see so many happy faces during drop offs in the mornings. It's sad to see the summer season unofficially come to a close, but it is exciting forging forward into another great year of learning and fun for our children. This year, we look to earn our 3rd STAR in the Keystone STARS program, undergo our second Environment Rating Scale assessment and successfully complete our 18 month agreement in United Ways Success By Six program. We spent a great deal of time addressing our learning environments, making sure we have appropriate furnishings and materials in centers that reflect a range of developmental abilities as recommended by the environment rating scale which is the tool used by assessors to determine the level of quality in programs. In addition, teachers worked on space and room arrangements. In some spaces, changes are more subtle than others, but we are happy with the results. The next phase of quality improvements would be to address some of our cosmetic physical plant needs. First on our to do list is to replace carpet and flooring in as many spaces as possible. Puddle Jumpers and Cuddle Cubs are the highest priorities at this time. Friends Center has budgeted a small sum for which we will stretch and

supplement as needed to accomplish our improvement goals.

Our website has been down or inactive for the last few weeks because very shortly, FCCC will launch its newly designed website! The new website promises to be more user friendly to current and prospective parents as well as offer visitors a lot more substantive information. The secured section of the website will provide enrolled families access to classroom information (lesson plans, daily communication, and schedules), forms, calendars and newsletters. Keep an eye out for this very exciting launch information.

A full schedule of cultural arts programming will resume next week. Dance with Gwendolyn Bye will run on Thursdays for PJ's



and Triangles, music classes with David Brodie will run on Wednesday mornings for Bear Cubs through Quads, Hip Hop with Charles Tyson will run on Tuesdays for Quads and Spanish classes will take place on Mon-

days and Tuesdays for toddlers through preschool. Thank you for your support through annual fundraising to support the continuation of these invaluable programs.

FCCC's Barnes & Noble weekend event will run the weekend of September 28th, 29th and 30th. We earn a substantial amount of B&N dollars for book and material purchasing throughout the year that keeps our classroom libraries stocked with reading materials in good condition and with literary merit. Purchasing can take place in-stores or online using the assigned FCCC promo code. Feel free to share the code with co-workers, neighbors, family and friends. Our B&N representative will be providing the details for the event within the next week. Thanks in advance for your support!

Finally, please join us for our Back to School Night and Annual Meeting on October 3, 2012 from 5-6:30pm. Meet our Board of Directors and learn about short and long term strategic goals, as well as visit with your child's teachers in classrooms to learn about what a day in the life of your child looks like. Light fare and child care will be provided to attending families.

Have a great month of September!

FCCC

September 2012

Inside this issue:

Care Bear News	2
Bear Cub News	2
Cuddle Cub News	2
Puddle Jumper News	3
Preschool News	3
Announcements & Reminders	4
Upcoming Events	4
Allergy & Health Alerts	5
Holiday Closings	5
More Fun Stuff	5
Fundraising at FCCC	6
PNO	6
Barnes & Noble Book Fair Weekend	6
Bake Sales	7
Volunteering	7
Meet our Staff	7
Contact Info	8

Care Bear News

Welcome to a New Year with the Care Bears. Let our journey begin. First and foremost we would like to take the time to welcome our new families... Willa (Lisa, Scott, and big sister Winnie), Ethan (Kristin, John and big brother Lucas) and Evelyn (Katie and Alexander). We would also like to welcome Lameika to our family who has worked at FCCC for 7 years.

Also, farewell and best wishes to Gre-ta, Betty, Michael, and their families. We would like to thank Robin who will no longer be working in the Care Bears with us; we will see you when

Bear Cub News

Welcome to the Bear Cubs class and to the 2012-2013 school year. Our theme for the month of September is "Getting Acquainted" (getting to know me, my body, my family and my friends). Activities will be based around projects that will help us to learn about ourselves and also help us learn about others, for example, helping the children identify their body parts, reading books and singing songs about body parts, body tracing, hand prints, foot prints, taking pictures, painting, etc. The teachers will be spending a lot of time nurturing the children, helping them to adjust to their new environment, as

Cuddle Cub News

Welcome to the Cuddle Cubs!! The class is ready for our new friends to join us for some fun! Calum Thornton, Miles Popp and Karoline Dieckmann have joined us from the Bear Cubs. Over the next several weeks, the Cuddle Cubs theme will be "Getting to Know Me, My Body and My Family." We will read books, sing songs and do some activities to help us get to know each other better. We will also be introducing/reinforcing some expectations of our class, such as: staying at the table with your food; throwing trash away; sit-

you visit.

In the month of September the Care Bears will be focusing on getting to know our new families and helping them transition into the Center. A few ways to help our new families adjust are: Our open door policy, Parents will be asked to bring in items from home to make their little one more comfortable, and Family photos will be placed around the room. We are hoping these and other ways will help ease the transition period.

Baby Updates:

well as helping them feel safe and happy. We also will be introducing and reinforcing the new expectations of the children in the Bear Cubs class, such as staying at the table with food and sitting for circle time. Parents, please bring in family photos. We would like to place the pictures around the classroom so the children can see their family during school hours. For example Mommy, Daddy, Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles, Cousins and pets. No more than five pictures.



Some of our babies are beginning to pull up, roll over, sit alone, and reach for objects. We will continue to encourage their growth and development.

Happy birthday to Abigail Furber who will be turning 1 on September 29.

Please label your child's belongings with their name (cups, bottles, food containers, jackets, hats, bags, blankets, sheets, etc.). It will help us keep track of your child's things. Also, please remember to sign your child in and out everyday.

Again, welcome to the Bear Cubs class !



ting for circle; lining up to go outside, washing hands at the sink.

Please send in a few family pictures.

Good luck to Lucas, Ariana and Sean as they move into their new class. Welcome back to Vickie, who comes back to us after spending the summer working with the campers.

Congratulations to Truman and Sequoya,



on September 26th!

who are officially potty-trained!

Birthday wishes go out to Maya on September 23rd and Vickie

Puddle Jumper News

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 names. 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 bagel pizzas, cooked play dough, mashed potato, and fresh squeezed orange juice, shape sandwiches, Jell-O pudding, mixing pancake batter and a vegetable salad

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 to create a new color

Math activities will include counting parts of the body, sorting by shape and size and measuring ingredients in 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 or walking several laps around the court yard, lacing shapes and stringing beads and filling and dumping containers.

To all of the children who participated in the Olympics, congratulations. You are all winners and great athletes.

Thank you to the administration, staff and parents for your time and hard work in helping to make FCCC's first Olympics a huge success. Weren't our little stars extra bright on this day?

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

Well wishes to all of the Puddle Jumpers who have transitioned to the Triangles.



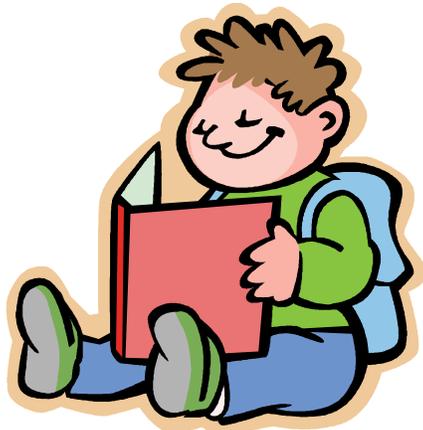
Parents, please label all of your

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.

Preschool News

The new year is off to a great start! The new Triangles and Quads have adjusted well, and are looking forward to challenging and exciting learning experiences. Our theme



for the month of September is "Getting to Know One Another."

As a group, the children are expanding their interpersonal skills through work and play. We will be learning about each other's individuality through discussing ourselves, our families, hobbies, and other interests. We are also developing our motor skills, and the ability to follow directions during our daily activities. The children are excited and eager to engage in classroom activities that include coloring, painting, pasting, cutting

with scissors, etc.

We are looking forward to a fun-filled and productive school year.

Happy Birthday, September 4th to "Quad," David Zale. Happy Birthday, September 12th to "Triangle," Susanna Harries.

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.

Parking Placards have been provided in your child's mail cubby. Please be sure to display them in your windshield, along with turning on your hazard lights during drop-off and pick-up.

Upcoming Events



The FCCC Board Annual Meeting & Back to School Night will be held on Wednesday, October 3rd at 5:00p.m. in the Cherry Street Room. All parents are asked to attend. Light snacks will be provided.

The Annual Kindergarten

Fair hosted by FCCC will be held on Thursday, October 11th at 5:00p.m. in the Rufus Jones Room. All Preschool Parents are invited to find out more about the enrollment and admissions process for Public, Private and Charter Kindergartens.

WELLCARE TRACKER:

FCCC will now be offering complete health care reminders: including due and overdue immunizations and health screenings (hearing, vision, lead, anemia, oral

health, growth & development screenings.



Allergy & Health Alerts

Classroom Allergy Alerts:

NUT FREE CLASSROOMS:

CUDDLE CUBS, TRIANGLES, AND QUADS .

SHELL FISH/FISH FREE CLASSROOMS:

PUDDLE JUMPERS

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 environ-

ment. 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.

Holiday Closings

FCCC will be closed on Friday, **August 31st** for an In-service Day and Monday, **September 3rd** for Labor Day. Please enjoy your holiday weekend, and we will see you for

the start of the 2012-2013 School Year at FCCC.



More Fun Stuff

At FCCC, our little ones will enjoy special programming, such as:

Our Quads will get down and boogie with Teacher Charles in **Hip Hop class** on Tuesdays. Our Bear Cubs, Cuddle Cubs,

Puddle Jumpers, Triangles & Quads will enjoy **Music Class** every Wednesday with Teacher Dave.



Our Puddle Jumpers & our Triangles will

have fun with Teacher Gwen in **Dance Class** on Thursdays.

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.



Fundraising Events:

PNO; *Barnes & Noble Book Fair Weekend (September 28-30)*, Annual Auction; 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!

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:

October 19—Shake, Rattle & Roll!

December 14—Frosty the Snowman!

February 15—Pajama Jam S'mores Night!

April 19—Things that Hop!

June 14—Sand Castle Magic!

Barnes & Noble Book Fair Weekend

FCCC will hold a Barnes & Noble Book Fair the weekend of September 28-30th at the 1805 Walnut Street B&N. This fundraising event is a wonderful opportunity for fami-



lies to get out, enjoy some special activities with their children and purchase some great reading material, while helping FCCC raise funds to replenish our classroom libraries and our Family Resource Library.

Come and show your support for FCCC and its amazing quality child care by inviting friends and family to shop at Barnes & Noble.

Don't forget, you must mention FCCC when you make your purchases.

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
December 3-7

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.

Meet Our Staff

Care Bears Teachers:

Markita, Kyra, Erica, Nathalie, Lameika, Toni

Bear Cub Teachers:

Michelle, Linda, Carla

Cuddle Cub Teachers:

Shannon, Barbara, Laura, Lea, Vickie

Puddle Jumper Teachers:

Cordella, Grace, Bobbie, Meghan

Preschool Teachers:

Teresa, Susan, Missy, Bjay, Shadae, Jamal

Floater:

Robin Bell

Subs:

Gail Centola, Jeanette Repollet

Office Staff:

Raechel, Susan, Eileen



FCCC

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



PLAY TO LEARN, LEARN TO LOVE

FRIENDS CHILD CARE CENTER

Office	(215) 241-7011	fcccoffice@friendschildcare.org
Director	(215) 241-7108	fcccdirector@friendschildcare.org
Finance	(215) 241-7011	fcccfinance@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
