From the Director

Summer Curriculum Fun!

Gardening: The infant/toddler and preschoolers will again be planning and caring for our vegetable gardens this summer. The children will be exploring, discovering, making predictions, charting and measuring our vegetables. As the vegetables are harvested the children will prepare, taste test fresh and cooked vegetables. We love when parents help us plant, water, weed and harvest our gardens!

Safety First! To promote safety awareness and knowledge of our community helpers, the Center will practice and discuss our tornado, fire, shelter in place and bomb threat safety drills.

Our Community Helpers: In June the children will meet a fire fighter and see the clothing he/she wears for protection. The firefighters will also bring their fire truck so the children can see the ladders, tools, etc. The truck will be parked in front of the FLC building for our tour. We will also learn about the Bike Police Officers and have a tour of an ambulance that will come to the Center.

Camping and Fishing in the Great Outdoors: The children will learn about the Great Outdoors with camping, fishing and water/boat safety. We will be setting up a canoe in the preschool room with paddles and life jackets for the children to explore! A special guest will help the children learn about fishing and the equipment needed to catch a fish!

Animal Tracks and Sounds: In July our curriculum will switch to animal sounds and tracks. Kevin Sedivec from NDSU Range Sciences will join the preschoolers to help them discover first hand animal sounds and match animal tracks with the animals.

Sports Sampler: Our sports sampler will begin with a field trip to the NDSU Wellness Center to learn what mom’s and dad’s do when they exercise to stay healthy. The children will have a tour and demonstration of the climbing wall, racket ball, exercise machines and volleyball. Upon returning to the center, the volleyball net and beach balls will be available for game time! A few other sports that will be explored are soccer, dance and baseball.

Science Magic: Children learn scientific concepts through real experiences such as doing experiments with magical ingredients, predicting what will happen when water is poured over ice and tilting ramps to make cars go faster in the block area. The children’s natural curiosity and willingness to explore new things makes science learning extra fun!

Ooey Gooey Art: Young children “do” art for the experience and enjoyment. It is the process and not the product that counts. The teachers will be planning ooey gooey art experiences for the children to explore. Parents will receive recipes to make at home with your child.

Mission

Our mission at the Center for Child Development is to serve and act on behalf of the needs, rights, and well-being of all children, their families and university students.

Summer Hours

Summer Hours start Monday, May 16th through August 19th, 2016.

Our hours will be 7:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Regular Hours of 7:30-5:30 will resume August 22nd.
Insect Repellant and Sunscreen

To protect your child from sunburn and insect bites, it’s time to update the parent consent form for another year. Please complete, sign and date the Authorization for Non-Prescription Products form and return it to the envelope on each classroom door no later than Friday, May 13, 2016. The permission form has been placed above your child’s cubby. If you choose not to give permission for us to apply sunscreen and/or insect repellent to your child, you will be asked to sign a waiver.

Each child will need to bring their own product from home, labeled with your child’s first name and last initial. **Parents are expected to apply sunscreen before your child arrives at the Center.** Teachers will re-apply the sunscreen in the afternoon for maximum coverage. Insect repellent will be applied as needed and documented on the sign-in/out sheet when applied to your child’s skin. Aerosol products are not recommended. Please refer to the Parent Manual page 24 for more details.

**Results of the April 21, 2016 Family Survey**

Center staff would like to thank you for taking the time to complete the Family Survey (Program Evaluation). This is part of our national accreditation as well as our program evaluation. It is completed twice a year. The return rate was 36/41 surveys or 88%. Our goal is to meet your child’s educational goals in partnership with you.

Your feedback indicated many program strengths including:

- Having a good relationship with my child’s teacher and other staff.
- Teachers take good care of your child, help your child learn to get along with others, and are good teachers.
- Parents feel invited to take part in classroom activities and events.
- Teachers often share information about things happening in the program and want to know about things my child is doing at home.

Questions answered “No” or “Don’t know” by two or more parents:

- **#16 – The program helps me to get to know other families in the program and encourages us to support each other.**
  Throughout the year the center organizes events that families are invited to participate in and to meet other parents. Examples include: Fall Picnic at the Park, Field Trips, Popsicles on the Playground, Wacky Wednesday Picnic Lunch, Parent Advisory Committee meetings, Parent Breakfast during Week of the Young Child, Harvest Taste Testing Party, Family Bowling, Caring and Sharing Community Giving Project, etc. When we have family socials, the children need to be supervised so it is hard to introduce parents to other parents. We hope that you will introduce yourself to others. Center staff are very open to new ideas on how we can help parents get to know one another and feel supported. We would love your ideas!!

**On the optional Family Survey Feedback Form you indicated:**

You like/ please continue...

- Field trips on and off campus
- Family events
- Parent-child learning opportunities (cooking together, etc.)
- Gardening
- Supportive teachers

Please try...

- Doing more curriculum such as (weather, days of the week, months of the year, alphabet, etc. with all age groups)
Welcome and Good-Byes

Please help us welcome Jeric (3 mo.) along with parents Matt and Liz, Meredith (7 mo.) along with parents John and Natasha, and Isla (5 mo.) along with parents Brandon and Kellie, and Alex (11 months) along with parents Pan and Pinjing. We look forward to getting to know your child and family!

A sad good-bye to Adriana, Daxton, Ephrem, and John as they transition to the toddler room. We wish you well and will see you on the playground!

Parent Conference Thank YOU

Thank you to all our families for taking the time out of your busy schedules to meet with us for conferences. The teachers enjoyed learning more about your child’s development and look forward to reaching new goals over the next several months.

Good-Bye Student Assistants

With the end of the semester, we will be saying good-bye to our awesome students for the summer. They will finish their work in the Center during finals week. We look forward to seeing them in the fall! One exception, Nicole G. will continue with our team for the summer!

Ten Fat Peas Song

Ten fat peas in a peapod (Hands pressed)

One grew….two grew. (Hold up 1 finger, then 2 fingers)

So did all the rest

They grew and grew and did not stop (Hands up in the air)

Until one day the pod went POP! (Clap your hands together)

Child and Teacher Transitions

May is looking to be a busy month with children transitioning between classrooms. A sad good-bye to: Graham, Desmond, Eowyn and Shawn as they move to the preschool room. We will miss our “graduates” and look forward to watching them grow as preschoolers.
A warm welcome to Adriana (Sarah and Aaron), John (Amy and Ryan), Daxton (Keshia and Tony) and Ephrem (Jeanne and Oliver) all from the infant room. We look forward to learning about YOU!

This summer our classroom will have a Student Teacher from MSUM joining us full days. Samantha K. has been student teaching in the preschool room spring semester. She will join our team May 16 for six weeks. Welcome Samantha!

Spring Clothing

We think it is safe to say that our winter season has passed and we are now enjoying warm and sunny days. With that said, take time to look through your child’s extra clothes basket, located in the bathroom, and replace the winter clothing with suitable warmer weather clothing.

Please carefully consider your child’s footwear for play. Open toed sandals are not ideal for playground play. Sandals with a closed toe and heal strap work best for staying secure on your child’s feet while they run and climb. The “Croc” type shoes usually have a loose fitting and can slip off while running and climbing. Tennis shoes are the best and safest choice.

Gardening

“April showers bring May flowers” as the saying goes. This month the children will be planting our vegetable garden on the playground. More information to come as the children choose what we will plant.

Summer Schedule Changes

Beginning May 16 the Center for Child Development’s hours change to 7:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Because of the change in operating hours our classroom schedule will change slightly.

- Breakfast will be offered from 7:30-8:30 AM
- Lunch at 11:15 for both groups
- Snack will be offered from 2:30- 3:15
- Nap/Rest will begin at 12:30.

On days when the heat index is below 90 degrees F the toddlers will be outside after snack. As a convenience to parents, the sign In/out clipboard will be on the playground for easy child sign out.

Annual Leave for Mary

Mary will be taking May 12 and 13 as annual leave. Her substitutes will be posted next to the sign in/out sheet.

Happy Mother’s Day!

Preschool Happenings by Monica and Robin

Preschool Graduation

Congratulations to our 12 friends that will celebrate their time at NDSU Center for Child Development. We are thrilled to have a graduation ceremony on May 5th at 3:00 PM with Aiden, Gabe, Ian, Livia, Lyla, Max, Olen, Ramin, Roman, Savanna, Soo-Ah & William and their invited guests. The children have grown and learned so much and will soon be on to the adventure of kindergarten! We feel so blessed that these children and families have been a part of our Program. Congratulations!

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Thank you for taking the time from your busy days to meet with your child’s primary teacher last month. Together we were able to help your child grow & learn and meet many developmental goals!

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Sad Goodbyes
This month we will begin saying goodbye to some of our friends as they leave the Center. Max has already left the center to spend time with Mom & Dad at home before kindergarten. Ian’s last day will be May 6th. Soo-Ah’s last day at our center will be May 10th, Livia will be done on May 20th and Aiden will be leaving us on May 27th. We wish each child and their family the best and are grateful we have gotten to know and grow with them!

The Center staff will soon be saying goodbye to our university students. We have enjoyed their support this past year and hope many will work with us again this fall. You will be missed!

Welcome New Friends
As friends leave our room, we welcome families from the toddler room and a new family.
- Graham (Katie and Keith) will join his sister, Lyla beginning May 2nd
- Desmond (Tajae & Seth) will become a full time on May 9th
- Eowyn (Jill & James) will be a full time preschooler on May 11th
- Shawn (Ping & Jun) will begin in our room May 23th
- Jason (Jia Jia & Bingcan) will begin May 30th
Welcome to all our new families! We can’t wait to get to know you better!

We are also excited to welcome Sammy F. back this summer as our Student Assistant. It is always wonderful to have returning students join our team to help the children grow & learn!

May Field Trips
4th – Field trip to Red River Zoo; 9:00-11:00. The cost will be $7.00 per child and will include a carousel ride. We welcome parents or grandparents to join us as we explore the zoo. The cost for an adult is $7.75 without a carousel ride. We will take University vans, so car seats will need to be buckled into the vans that morning upon arrival.

25th - Visit to David Betolini (William’s dad) office located in Renaissance Hall, Department of Architecture. We will take the city bus. More information to come.

Storytime Fun
During a recent story time a teacher read the book Clothesline Clues: What jobs do they do? After hearing the clues, seeing the tools, and uniforms; the children worked together to figure out the jobs. The children then shared what job they would like to do when they grow up. Here are their responses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aiden- Police Officer</th>
<th>Anna- Baker</th>
<th>Drake- Firefighter</th>
<th>Eben- Astronaut</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gabe- Police Officer</td>
<td>Ian- Astronaut</td>
<td>Kasper- Firefighter</td>
<td>Lyla- Scientist/Doctor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max- Scientist</td>
<td>Nyla-Firefighter</td>
<td>Olen- Construction Worker with Dad</td>
<td>Ramin- A Scientist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roman-Astronaut</td>
<td>Savanna-Chef</td>
<td>Soo-Ah- Scientist</td>
<td>William- Robot Maker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YeoJun- RobotMaker/ Dinosaurs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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