From the Director

Thank You for Completing Child Enrollment Forms

Thank you for completing your child’s annual enrollment forms. From the information you submitted, child emergency information, email addresses, phone numbers, parent consent, allergy information, food program, and health records are all updated and copies provided to the classroom. The Child Information Sheet will be updated by you approximately every three months. As your child visits their health provider through the year, please remember to bring in the updated health care form. Remember you can go to www.ndsu.edu/childcenter/ to obtain and complete Center forms.

Sports Day

On Friday, July 15 we invite your children to wear their favorite sports jersey or team t-shirt, hat and bring a ball (labeled with their name) of a favorite sport. The children will have an opportunity to tell about the sport they love and play with their ball on the playground. The teachers also have some creative ideas for the children to just have a “ball”.

Wacky Wednesday Picnic

When: Wednesday, July 20, 2016
Time: I/T Rooms 11:15
Pre Room 11:30
Where: Center Playgrounds

Wacky Wednesday is a day to be silly, goofy and laugh at ourselves. Please dress silly by wearing mixed up clothes, hair, hat, socks or shoes. Just be creative and have fun with your child!

Parents please bring your sack lunch and join your child for a picnic outdoors. Feel free to play on the playground with your child after lunch. Hope you can come!

USDA Three Year Food Program Review

The purpose of a Food Program review is to see if the Center is operating the program in compliance with Federal Regulations. The reviewer checked to see if our paperwork is complete and accurate, forms submitted by parents were signed and dated, our kitchen sanitation practices meet codes, if the children are served credible meals and teachers encourage healthy eating practices in a family style meal service. Our visit was held on June 28, 2016 and all went very well with no recommendations for improvement.
Thinking In and Out of the Box: Garden Exploration for Children-Pilot Project

The Center was chosen to participate in a NDSU Extension grant as one of five pilot programs to implement gardening with children and families. The children and families will learn about growing healthful foods to save money, the science of growing food, try new recipes, learn about food safety and the children will engage in physical activity in the care of the plants. The children, teachers and Todd W. and Julie G.R. planted tomatoes, green peppers, snap beans, peas, carrots, lettuce, radishes, cucumbers, spinach, purple potatoes, basil, and cilantro. A Gardening with Children Extension newsletter will be placed above your child’s cubby with delicious recipes, children’s books on gardening and in season fruits and vegetables etc. We hope you read this newsletter and check out our gardens located on the playgrounds. WANTED: Parents who want to weed our garden with their child.

Outdoor Play
We will continue to spend time outside playing, gardening and actively moving. Campus walks, buggy rides, water play, reading books, chasing bubbles, discovering nature, writing with sidewalk chalk and water painting etc. We would love for parents to join us and read books to the children under the canopy!

Field Experience Student
Last month Brittney, a field experience student, started teaching and playing with the children. She will complete a total of 82 hours in the Infant room through the end of July. Brittney works Tuesday and Wednesday from 9:00-1:00 and Thursday from 12:00-4:00.

Taking a Vacation?
Just a reminder, if you are planning a vacation or plan to keep your child home for the day to play, please let us know in advance. This helps our classroom have accurate lunch counts and for teacher to plan their vacations.

Where’s Sam and Stacey?
Sam will taking annual leave on July 21, 22, and 25 for a trip to Colorado! She will post subs as it gets closer. Stacey will take annual leave July 18.

Healthy Snacking

- **Homemade Banana Chips**
  Slice bananas and dip in lemon juice
  Bake at 200 degrees for 2 hours.
  Flip bananas and cook an additional 1.5-2 hours or until crisp.

- **Oven Dried Strawberries**
  Wash and slice the strawberries thin.
  Bake at 215 degrees for 3 hours.
  Take out of oven and continue to dry out for another hour.

Happy 4th of July!!!!
Water Play FUN!
Teachers will be setting up water play this month on the playground. The children will enjoy sprinkler play and the sensory table filled with water. We will give you at least one day’s notice of water play so you can bring your child’s swim suit, towel, and water shoes.

Mary on Annual Leave
Mary will be taking annual leave on Friday, July 1st.

Child Transitions
Robert will start his transition to the preschool classroom starting on July 25th. He will be a full time preschooler August 16th along with Laura and Gemma.

Thank You
A huge “THANK YOU” to the parents who accompanied us to the Red River Zoo on June 23rd. We had both parents and siblings joining us and had a wonderful time seeing the animals and riding the carousel. Thank you parents for being such a wonderful support to teachers and the children. You are very much appreciated!

“Penny and Pals” Concert Dates
June 17th @ Island Parks “Midwest Kids Fest” (9:00-noon)
August 11th @ Rheault Farms “Community Play Day” (10:00-1:30)
August 27th @ “Island Park Show” (2 p.m.)

Monster Bubble Recipe
6 cups distilled water
¾ cup light corn syrup
2 cups dishwashing liquid
Mix well, let solution sit for 4 hours before using.

Crunchy Taco Song
(Tune to “Frere Jacques”)

Crunchy taco, crunchy taco
Spicy and hot, spicy and hot
Lettuce and tomato, lettuce and tomato
More cheese please, more cheese please!

Have a wonderful July!
Big Welcome!

We would like to welcome two new families to the Center starting July 1. Christopher with parents, Christine & Joseph, and Annie, with parents, Li & Zhangyu.

We have said goodbye to Ramin as he leaves the Center for kindergarten and to Kasper as his family moves away. We will miss these two boys, but always welcome new friends to our group!

Daily Routines
Please sign your child in each day as you arrive and out when leaving with your child as this is a Center requirement. Teachers use the sign in and out sheet for meal counts, head counts throughout the day, and for emergency purposes.

When picking up your child at the end of the day, please try to arrive by 4:15 so your child has time to transition from school to home. Our closing teachers needs to leave at 4:30 and they are unable to share with you how your child’s day has gone when you arrive at 4:30. Please help your child transition for home by helping them clean up their play materials and take home mailbox treasures. This lets children know there are important tasks to complete and establishes a consistent routine for pick up time.

We LOVE Water Play
Please keep a spare water outfit (swimsuit or short set), water shoes & towel at school each day for water play. We spontaneously decide with the children to participate in water play activities because it is hot outside or the children show interest. Teachers will let you know on Fridays if swim wear was used so it can be taken home for washing. Please put swim wear in a bag and mark all items with your child’s name.

Educational Field Trips
July 12 – The NDSU Wellness Center. We will leave the Center at 9:40.

July 22– The West Fargo Splash Pad (weather permitting). We will leave the Center at 9:00. Please arrive with your child in their swimsuit and bring clothes for them to change into when we return. Your child will need their water shoes and a towel.

As always, please join us if you can! The children are always so proud to have mom or dad visit.

Toys from Home
Help your child keep their home toys at home or by leaving them in their car seat. Teachers have seen many small toys in cubbies lately and friends are stopping by the cubbies and playing with them. It’s very difficult to keep young children out of others children’s cubbies when there is interesting toys to attract their attention.

Art Supplies & Toys Going Home with Children
Teachers have noticed children taking Center art supplies like buttons, beads, stickers, and small toys and rocks home by placing them in their cubby, mailbox or pockets. Please help your child to understand that they can create using the materials at school, but we need to keep all the toys and materials at the Center for friends to make their art projects.

Happy Birthday to You: 31st – Drake will turn 4!