Free Developmental Screening
On August 9-11, 2016, Early Intervention Partners will provide a free developmental screening for the children in the areas of gross motor, communication, fine motor, cognitive and social-emotional development. A qualified, trained professional will administer the screening in each classroom to measure the child’s present level of functioning. The screening results will be shared with you and the Center teachers through written documentation. They will begin screening at 9:00 AM.

2016-17 Parent Advisory Committee Meetings
The Center would like to invite all parents to participate in our Parent Advisory Committee meetings scheduled for this year. The purpose of the Parent Advisory Committee is to advise and assist Center staff on implementation of programs and activities for children and their families.

The Parent Advisory Committee meetings are held three times per year or as requested. Based on your feedback from the Parent Involvement Opportunity form (completed with enrollment forms) you said Tuesday at 12:00-1:00 would be the best time for our meetings. This year we will meet:

- Tuesday, September 27, 2016
- Tuesday, January 24, 2017
- Tuesday, April 18, 2017

All meetings will take place in EML Hall room 269. Please mark these dates on your calendar now. WE LOVE parent input and feedback which helps us best meet your child’s education and family needs.

Family Potluck Picnic (planning ahead!)

Date: Tuesday, September 20, 2016
Time: 5:30-7:00 PM
Where: Oak Grove Park Main Shelter
170 Maple Street North Fargo

Come join us for a family social and potluck picnic at beautiful Oak Grove Park. This is a great way to meet other families in the center and get to know the teachers. A potluck sign-up sheet will be posted on the classroom doors. We will start serving the meal at 6:00 PM. Please save the date!

Program Evaluation and Accountability
August will be a busy month of external program evaluations, as required for our September child care licensing visit. Our fire inspection, health and sanitation inspection, child care physical activity health code evaluation and nurse consult will all take place the beginning of August.
Bringing the Kitchen to the Classrooms
Remember those wonderful Center hallways smells as Michele makes homemade pumpkin or applesauce bread in the kitchen? Well now Michele will bring the kitchen to the classroom for the children to help prepare snack foods with her. Each month she will choose a classroom and have the children measure, scoop, peel, mash, pour and mix foods that are on our menu and maybe try a few new recipes. Food preparation will be age appropriate for the children and focus on healthy eating. Each month Michele will share the recipe the children have prepared in our newsletter, along with the children’s comments about the food. Remember your child is developing math, literacy, science and fine motor skills as they enjoy cooking with Michele.

Welcome and Good-bye
This month we would like to welcome Danielle (3 months) along with parents Jeongdoo Park and Sunmi Ku. Kate and Katalin will be transitioning to the toddler room. We wish them the best in their exciting and new adventure. See you on the playground girls!

Welcome Back Students
This has been a fast summer and now it is time to help welcome back our awesome NDSU Student Assistants. Most of our students are returning and I know they will be excited to see how much the children have grown over the summer. Please remember that as the students return, this can cause separation anxiety with some of the children. We will support your child’s needs as best as we can through this transition.

Featured Family
This month we will be putting up a sign-up sheet for our Featured Family Bulletin Board located below the sign in/out board. Family participation is completely voluntary. It is a way for us to get to know you and your family better and the kids LOVE to see their family through photos.

Behavioral Expectations of Infants Birth to 12 months

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Birth-6 months</th>
<th>Infants from 6 months-12 months</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Develops own rhythm in feeding and sleeping</td>
<td>• Learns through the senses, esp. the mouth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Gains early control of eye movement</td>
<td>• Likes to put things in and take things out of mouth, boxes, cupboards, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Begins to grasp things</td>
<td>• Likes to repeat the same behavior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Learns through senses</td>
<td>• Will talk to you, using babbling sounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Coos and vocalizes spontaneously. Babbles in syllables</td>
<td>• Finds mother or father substitute extremely important</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Discriminates primary caregiver (usually mother) from others; is more responsive to this person.</td>
<td>• Eating is a major source of interaction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Imitates movements. Gazes at faces and smiles.</td>
<td>• Becomes unhappy when mother, father, or primary caregiver leaves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Loves to be held, tickled, and played with.</td>
<td>• Needs to feel secure that someone will take care of them</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Shows excitement through kicking, waving arms, wiggling.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Shows pleasure in being fed or picked up. Cries when cold, wet, or hungry.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Fears loud noises, strange objects, pain, or situations or strangers.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Adapted from: Development Guide @ http://www.dshs.wa.gov/ca/fosterparents/training/chidev/cd06.htm
**Child Transitions**
Laura and Gemma will start the transition process to the preschool classroom on August 2. They will be full time preschoolers on August 16! Taking their place, as well as Roberts’s position, will be Amy with parents Sunny and Michael, Kate with parents Nikki and Bobby and Katalin and parents Carrie Anne and Zoltan. A warm welcome to our new families and children!

**Insect Repellent**
Teachers will apply insect repellent once a day as needed when mosquitoes are on the playground. The insect repellent will be applied outside. Please note on the sign-in and out sheet a check next to your child’s name on days it is applied to your child’s skin and clothing.

**Thank You Sommer!**
Our Student Assistants will be starting back in the Center on August 22. A huge THANK YOU to Sommer who has been working in our classroom. Her experience with children and calm approach has been a true asset to our classroom.

**Expanding Your Child’s Language**
Encouraging language development, specifically communicating and speaking, in infants and toddlers takes many shapes and forms. Beginning in young infancy, language development is supported by listening and watching for different types of sounds, gestures or cries a baby makes. In older infancy, language development is supported in exchanges which allow sufficient time for the child to respond to questions or suggestions. Young toddler’s language development is supported by modeling two or three word sentences that the child can imitate or responding to the child’s use of words to express needs or wants. Older toddler’s language development is supported by asking open ended questions. Open ended questions are questions such as “Tell me about that tower”, “How should we...”, “What do you think would happen if...” or after a child tells about an occurrence asking “Then what happened...”. Ideally, open ended questions are a question that requires more than a one word response and one to which you don’t know the answer to. Through open ended questions we facilitate the child’s ability to process information taken in, assess the information and to express thoughts regarding that information. Through their answers adults can find out a great deal about how the child thinks and feels (expressed either verbally or non-verbally).

The best part of this process is that any response is a correct response. Always keep in mind, no matter what the age of the child, the thought of expanding the child’s language skills by repeating what you heard the child say and expanding on their thoughts to you is a critical process in enhancing language development. This process broadens the child’s vocabulary and association skills which, interchangeably, enhance cognitive development.

Resources: North Dakota Department of Human Services Birth to 3 Early Learning Guidelines pg.30; Family-Friendly Communication for Early Childhood Programs by Deborah Diffily and Kathy Morrison, pg 10
Goodbyes & Welcomes!
As the summer comes to an end we will have new faces joining our classroom and old friends leaving. Savanna, Olen, William and Lyla will be starting kindergarten soon and are excited for new adventures and learning. We will miss each of you!

A new friends to welcome into our room on August 1 is Evan and parents, Yan & Wei. Also Robert, with parents, Limin & Xiaoning, Gemma and parents, Kimberly & Matthew, and Laura and parents, Chunju & Honggang will be transitioning from the toddler room to join the preschoolers full time August 16. We can’t wait to get to know these new friends!

Student Assistants
Classes will be starting on August 22 and our student assistants will be back. We hope to have many familiar faces return and welcome a few new students to our room. Student assistant photos, along with a short introduction will be posted in our classroom mid-September.

Gardening Updates
Our garden in growing and it is fabulous! Have you had a chance to look at it lately? We have tomato plants, carrots poking from the ground and potatoes starting. The children have been weeding, watering and harvesting lettuce, pea pods and radishes for our meals. Yum!

NDSU Extension has been coming to our classroom weekly teaching children how they can be healthy by eating a variety of foods. Julie Garden-Robinson has helped us be better gardeners and healthier eaters! We hope you have enjoyed the hand-outs she has been placing above your child’s cubby. In August, parents will be ask to complete a Preschool Garden Post-Survey on your child’s enjoyment of fruits and vegetables. There will also be a prize drawing for families returning the survey. Happy, Healthy Eating!

Fun Days!
- **Campus Walks**—We will be walking to various campus locations to explore our beautiful campus. Teachers will post a note next to the sign in/out board when we are gone and where we are at. If you know of a location you feel the children would be interested in learning about and could visit, please let the teachers know. We always enjoy new adventures.
- **Water Days**—The children will continue to have water play on the playground when the weather is warmer. Thanks for having your child’s water clothes available at the Center. The children always are excited to get wet and cool down!

Science Magic
The children have had fun exploring science recently and enjoyed a new Sudsy Goop recipe. Here is the recipe if you want to try it at home.

**Sudsy Goop**
**Ingredients:**
Soap    cornstarch    water    coloring

**Procedure:**
Make soapy water with a few squirts of body wash or baby wash.
Add sudsy water to cornstarch.
Mix until you get a batter like consistency.
Add food color or Kool-Aid for added color/scent.