From the Director

New 6-Week Winter Menu Cycle Begins

October 1 the Center will begin our new winter 6-week menu cycle. Lunches are catered from the NDSU Memorial Union with breakfast and snack prepared by the Center. Please note that a * next to a food item indicates a whole grain rich food.

Fall Caring and Sharing Community Giving Project

Date: Wednesday, October 24-31, 2018

The Center for Child Development believes that even young children can make a difference in the community by helping others. The children will experience service first hand and that giving/kindness to others has greater benefits than receiving. Our ultimate goal is to help develop caring adults who give back to the community.

This fall we will partner with the Fargo Public Schools Development Foundation to make a monetary donation to the Got No Milk Fund. This program provides milk for elementary students for their mid-morning snack. Teachers believe that morning milk truly contributes to increased attention in the classroom and is important for physical development. Through this experience our children will learn:

- The value, pleasure and importance of helping others
- The importance of milk for physical development
- Where milk comes from
- How it might feel if your basic needs were not met
- That together we can make a positive difference for others

The Caring and Sharing Community Giving Project flyer along with a milk container will be distributed above your child’s cubby Wednesday, October 24 with more details. Please watch for this flyer.

Little Chefs – Vegan Zucchini Bread

The toddlers enjoyed making this recipe. They measured the ingredients and compared different colors and textures. The spices had different scents and were fun to compare their color. We talked about the zucchini and how it had been picked it from their garden. They taste tested the bread and decided they were pretty good cooks!!!!
6 T. ground flax seeds  
⅝ c. warm water  
2 c. light brown sugar  
⅝ c. oil  
⅝ c. applesauce  
1 tsp vanilla  
2 – 2 ½ c. zucchini, grated  
1 cup chocolate chips or raisins, optional

Grease two loaf pans. Mix together flax seed and warm water. Add sugar, oil, applesauce, and vanilla; beat well. Add grated zucchini; stir until combined. In a separate bowl, stir just until ingredients are moistened, some lumps are fine. If adding additional raisins or chocolate chips fold in. Divide batter in prepared pans.

Bake at 350 degrees for 55-60 minutes or until a knife inserted comes out clean.

Partnering with the Fargo Public Schools to Promote Literacy

The Fargo Public Schools wrote a grant to promote literacy from birth through 12 grade and received this large grant! The Center for Child Development partnered with the Fargo Public Schools focusing on the birth through age five population to promote literacy such as:

1. **Alphabet Knowledge**: Each spring, 80% of kindergarten eligible children will demonstrate their alphabet knowledge by naming 18 upper and 15 lower-case letters and know the sounds associated with 10 or more letters.
2. **Alphabet Knowledge**: Each spring, 80% of kindergarten-eligible children will demonstrate their alphabet knowledge by correctly producing the sounds associated with 10 or more letters.
3. **Phonological Awareness**: Each spring, 80% of kindergarten-eligible children will demonstrate an awareness that spoken language is composed of smaller segments of sounds by producing the beginning sound in a spoken word such as “Dog begins with /d/”.
4. **Writing**: Each spring, 80% of kindergarten-eligible children will write for a variety of purposes using increasingly sophisticated marks by writing his/her first name correctly.

The name of the grant is **Striving Reading Comprehensive Literacy Grant**. Both the children will benefit from this three year grant and our teachers through professional development and intensive training on the tools we already use such as the Creative Curriculum, Teaching Strategies GOLD and the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS). Deb Habedank serves on this committee and the Center for Child Development was chosen as one of three early childhood sites to partner with the Fargo Public Schools. More information will be shared with parents as we are just starting to learn the specifics about the grant and how dollars are to be used.

“Crunching, crinkling autumn leaves, spiraling, swirling, in the breeze.” Author Unknown
MSUM Students

We are happy to have two Minnesota State University Moorhead Practicum students in our classroom this semester. Jonathan and Emily will complete 40 hours each on floor with the children. They will complete observations of the children, plan and implement activities. Welcome Students!

October Curriculum

October will be a fun month full of educational activities. The children will be exploring gourds, painting pumpkins, making applesauce, discovering the inside of the pumpkin, and doing some activities with leaves.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

This month the teachers will be preparing for parent-teacher conferences scheduled in our classroom for November 5-15. Watch for a Parent-Teacher Conference sign-up sheet towards the end of the month. We will also send home an Infant/Toddler Pre-Conference Survey form for you to complete and return. Our primary care groups are as follows and this is who you will meet with for your child’s conference:

Stacey: Linda, Clara, Natalie, and Azalea
Ariel: Maxine, Vincent, Uyum, and Loukya

We look forward to learning more about your child, sharing developmental information and together setting new developmental goals.

Teacher Lesson Planning

Weekly office planning time is used for lesson planning, changing the learning environment, preparing for conferences, meeting with field experience students etc. Teacher lesson planning times are:

Ariel: Monday 8:30-10:00 & Thursday 8:30-10:30
Stacey: Thursday 11:00-12:30, 3:30-4:30 & Friday 8:30-10:30

Our weekly room meeting will be held Friday mornings from 8:30-9:00 with Michele in our classroom.

Parent Reminder:

- Please sign your child in and out daily. This is very important for emergency situations and for USDA Child and Adult Care Food Program documentation.
- Label ALL items being brought into the classroom. This includes bottles, coats, diapers, wipes, etc.
- Have a warmer coat, hat and gloves/mittens available for your child’s outdoor play. The outdoor temperatures can be chilly some days, especially in the mornings.
- Always remember to wash your child’s hands with soap and running water for 20 seconds upon entering the classroom. We are trying to keep all children and adults healthy.
Garden Update

The children harvested HUGE zucchini and yellow squash from our garden. Green beans and tomatoes were slightly less successful (wild life). The children have tasted fresh tomatoes and green beans. Together we made zucchini-pineapple muffins and ratatouille.

Autumn Weather

With the cooler temperatures we would like parents to please replace their child’s summer clothing with warmer autumn/winter clothing. Your child’s extra clothing box is located in the bathroom cupboard. Please bring light gloves or mittens for your child as well as a warm hat and jacket. The mornings can be a bit chilly.

Teachers will be sending home your child’s insect repellent.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held in November. A sign-up sheet for conferences will be posted by the sign-in and out sheet mid-October. In the event that the times listed by your child’s primary care provider are not a good match, please talk to that teacher about scheduling a time which may be a better fit. Our Primary Care groups are:

Mary: Leif, Eliza, Meredith, Alexandria, Everly, Inga and Rozalyn
Hayley: Jeric, Vivienne, Ruby, Lars, Huck and Isla

Hayley Annual Leave

Hayley will be taking annual leave on October 25th and 26th. Her substitutes will be posted prior to her leave.

YUMMY (and so easy) PUMPKIN MUFFINS

1 box Spice Cake Mix
1 can Pumpkin

Mix the two ingredients together. When mixture is moist pour or spoon into muffin pan and bake at 350 degrees for approximately 15-20 minutes. To add a delicious component add dark chocolate chips to the mixture.

Welcome Allison

We would like to welcome Allison, a Minnesota State University Moorhead practicum student to our classroom for an Early Childhood education experience. She will work in our classroom Tuesday and...
Thursday through October and then begin full time on November 5 through the rest of the semester. Allison will plan and implement educational activities for the children. Near the end of the semester she will complete a Head Teaching week. We are so excited to welcome her to our classroom.

**Children’s Fall Clothing**

Fall has arrived! The cooler weather is here and we would appreciate you going through your child’s extra clothing box (located in the bathroom cupboard) and replace summer clothing with warmer clothes. A light jacket with hood, a hat and thin gloves for outside play would keep your child comfortable. The children do go outside to play every day this time of year unless it’s raining.

**Insect Repellent**

Teachers have disposed of your child’s used sunscreen. We will keep the insect repellant until the first freeze.

**Field Trip to Lil Bitz Pumpkin Patch October 16th**

The children and teachers have planned a field trip to Lil Bitz Pumpkin Patch on Tuesday, October 16 from 9:15-11:15 AM. Cost of attendance is $5.00 per child and $5.00 per parent. Please bring your child’s field trip fee by Wednesday, Oct. 10th. Each child will pick out a small pumpkin and enjoy some fun games. We will be using NDSU vans for this trip so children’s car seats are needed the day of the field trip. The vans will be open for you to install your child’s car seat in when you arrive in the morning of the 16th. If you would like to attend and drive your own child, just let us know and we will have you sign your child out for the field trip. Parents are encouraged to join us for this morning filled with fun and nature.

**Parent-Teacher Conferences**

Fall Parent-Teacher conferences will begin the last week in October and continue through November. The conference sign up page will be posted next to the sign-in and out sheet. Please indicate a time that works best for you. Parents will meet with your child’s primary caregiver which was noted last month in the newsletter and posted in the classroom. Teachers look forward to discussing your child’s growth and development at home and in the Center. We have set aside time for each child and ask families to help us to keep on schedule out of courtesy to the next family waiting for their conference. Teachers would be happy to schedule an additional time to meet if requested. A Pre-Conference Parent Survey will be placed above your child’s cubby mid-October for you to complete and return. This allows teachers to address your questions and concerns first.

**Stone Soup Parent-Child Taste Testing**

Did you get a chance to taste our stone soup last week? The children had lots of fun picking the vegetables, chopping them, adding broth and seasonings to make this yummy soup! The weather has been chilly enough that the warm soup tasted great! The children also prepared the story time Stone Soup using our toy vegetables. They had fun placing vegetables in a black kettle and stirring during story time.

**Monica Vacation:** Monica will be on vacation the week of October 1-5. Robin will work 7:30-4:30 each day and Michele will be in the room at the end of the day.