From the Director

Update Your Child’s Authorization for Non-Prescription Products Form

It is now time to update your Child’s Authorization for Non-Prescription Products form. This form authorizes Center staff to apply diaper cream, lotion, sunscreen, insect repellent and lip balm etc. You will also indicate the brand name of the product teachers are given permission to apply. This form will be placed above your child’s cubby and is due back no later than May 10, 2019, along with the products you choose to use. If we do not receive the completed, signed and dated form from you by May 10th, teachers will not apply any of the above stated items. An envelope will be placed on each classroom door for easy return.

Our Summer Teachers

Infant-Toddler Room: Stacey, Ariel, Michele and Tasha

Toddler Room: Mary, Hayley/?, Michele and Jennifer

Preschool Room: Monica, Robin, Michele and Kayla
  - Preschool Room Field Experience Student: Cierra

Summer Curriculum and Hands-On Learning

- May 13-17 Health, Wellness and Safety
- May 20-31 Our Community and Gardening
- June 3-14 Math Rocks
- June 17-28 Beach, Fishing, Swimming Safety
- July 1-12 Camping and the Great Outdoors
- July 15-31 Creative Drama and Dramatic Play

Child Care Hours

Regular Hours
7:30AM-5:30PM

Summer Hours
May 13th 7:00AM-4:30PM

Child Care Closed
Monday, May 27th - Memorial Day

Wish List
Birdfeeder, I/T Playground
Natural wood materials, Preschool room
Cowboy boots

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.

The Center received a $500.00 ND Jr. Master Gardeners Grant to promote the love of gardening and eating healthy foods. An intern that works with Julie Garden-Robinson, NDSU Extension and Dietician, will help our teachers plan and implement the gardening curriculum.

The toddlers will be planting green and red peppers, tomatoes, red and purple potatoes, carrots and honeydew. Teachers plan to prepare with the children mashed potatoes, air-fry potatoes, vegan stew, melon salad and fresh veggies with hummus.
The preschoolers will plant cantaloupe, string beans, tomatoes, peppers, rainbow carrots, potatoes, whole wheat grain and oregano. The teachers and children will prepare with our harvest spaghetti sauce, steamed and fresh rainbow carrots, potato soup and make homemade wheat bread.

Planning a Family Vacation?

The summer is a great time for family vacations and trips. If your child will be absent from the Center, please let your child’s teacher know in advance so we can maintain accurate meal count and staffing. Safe and fun travels!

April 2019 Family Survey Results

The Center would like to thank all parents for taking the time to complete the Family Survey/Program Evaluation. While this survey is no longer required by NAEYC, our program chose to continue in order to improve the quality of care and education we provide for the children. This year we reformatted the survey and added new questions. The survey return rate was 39 of 41 families, or approximately 95%!

All parents indicated by agree or strongly agree that:

- Parents have a good relationship with their child’s teacher
- Teachers help children learn to get along with others
- Teachers often share information about classroom happenings
- Teachers use what they know about the children’s interests to help them grow and learn
- Student workers interact positively with children
- Parent-Teacher conferences are effective in meeting the children’s needs
- Teachers work with parents to meet children’s individual needs
- The Center is effectively managed
- Parents always feel welcome to participate in program planning
- Parents feel respected by the program staff
- Classroom materials include items that children are interested in
- Teachers advance children’s further learning by making activities more challenging
- Food served is nutritious
- Staff communication with families is professional

Areas indicated that need improvement include:

- Teachers wanting to know about things children’s are doing at home (2)
- Teachers and parents talking daily about children’s well-being (4)
- Teachers asking about things that are important to our family (2)
- Parents and teachers working together to find solutions that work for both parties (2)

Parents indicated that they really liked/please continue:

- Outside visitors (faculty/staff specialists)
- The variety of activities
- Movin’ and Groovin’
- Gym time, cooking/baking and gardening
- Toy rotation
- Featured family board
- Field trips
Some concerns expressed by parents included:

- Unlocked classroom doors during the day
- Children transitioning to the Preschool room
- The branch in the Preschool Room not being fully secure

Suggestions from parents that they would like us to try at the Center included:

- Other forms of communication, such as apps like SeeSaw
- Incorporating more beans as a protein source
- More family bowling events
- Teaching sight words
- Placing a code on the observation room

Overall, parents said the staff are “doing a wonderful job”. They “love” sending their children to the Center each day and feel that that this is a “good learning environment” for their child.

Thank you again to all the parents for taking the time to complete the Family Survey/Parent Evaluation.

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**Infant / Toddler EML 161 Happenings by Stacey & Ariel**

**Goodbyes and A Warm Welcome**

This month we will be saying good-bye to Miss Maxine. It is time for her to transition to the toddler room and explore new materials with her new friends. Her last day in the infant room will be May 17th.

We would like to welcome Mythri (5 months), and her parents Ramya and Sudarshan to our Bison family!

Also, most of our students will be done with work finals week, but returning fall 2019. Bailey will be done on May 2nd and she will be graduating! We wish her the very best and a successful future!

**Parent-Teacher Conferences**

A big thank you goes out to our families for taking time from your busy schedule to meet with Ariel and Stacey for parent-teacher conferences. We love to learn more about your child and now look forward to working together to help your child accomplish their new developmental goals.

**Infant Social-Emotional Development**

Social Emotional Development in infants includes trust and emotional security, self-regulation and the beginning of relationships with adults and children. The sense of trust and emotional security that infants and toddlers develop within their families and cultures shape their interactions and relationships throughout their lives.
Behaviors that show trust and emotional security:

8-18 months:
* Greets caregiver with a smile or a hug
* Cries when left with a new caregiver or an adult
* Enjoys looking at or pointing to familiar people or family
* Prefers to be comforted from familiar adults when tired or hungry

18-36 months:
* Says “good-bye” or “hi” when familiar people enter or leave
* Reaches for familiar adults when unfamiliar adults approach
* Wants to take a familiar toy or blanket to a new place
* Greets familiar adults when they return

Strategies used to promote trust and security include:

8-18 months:
* Greet child and hold close to provide comfort and reassurance
* Talk with your child about where you are going and when you will return
* Accept your child’s cries when you leave as a sign that your baby trusts you
* Offer reassurance and leave familiar photos with your child when you are gone

18-36 months:
* Talk with your child about where you are going and when you will return
* Give your child a familiar toy to provide comfort, this could also include photos of familiar adults
* Reassure the child that the familiar adult will return and describe for example mom will be back "after nap"

Adapted from the Early Learning Guidelines Birth to Three.

Happy Mother’s Day to all our special Moms!

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**Toddler FLC 113 Happenings by Mary, Hayley & Michele**

**Sun Protection ☀️**

Please bring a bottle of new sunscreen for your child, labeled with their first name and last initial. Center procedure is for parents to apply sunscreen in the mornings at home or upon arrival. Teachers will re-apply sunscreen after nap allowing time for the sunscreen to soak in before going out to play for the afternoon. Sun glasses and a sun hats are good sun protection items for your child as well.
Safe Foot Wear

Please bring your child in shoes that are appropriate for running, climbing and jumping. Such foot wear would have a closed toe and a strap across the heel and tennis shoe. Crocks are not ideal as they fall off the foot while running and are not a secure fit.

Child Transitions

We are beginning our summer child transitions. Meredith will be a full time preschooler on May 20th. We will be welcoming to our classroom Maxine, with parents are Mike and Carly.

Summer Gardening

The toddlers will be planting their garden this month. We look forward to watching and learning how our plants grow, what they need to grow and then taste test fresh vegetables and fruit.

Thank You Hayley

Thank you to Hayley for her support, nurturing care and guidance she has provided the children, families and co-workers in the Center for Child Development. We will miss you and hope the very best for you in your new life journey!

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**DOG NAMED WAGS** - here is a fun children’s song the children enjoy!

I’ve got a dog and his name is Wags.
He eats so much that his belly sags.
His ears flip flop (put hands on top of head as ears and flip flop them)
And his tail wig wags (wiggle hips)
And when he walks he goes zig zag (move hands in a zig zag motion)

Repeat 3 times with motions:
Flip flop, wig wag, zig zag
Flip flop, wig wag zig zag
Flip flop, wig wag zig zag
I love Wags and Wags loves me! (Crisscross arms over heart)

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**Preschool Happenings by Monica & Robin**

Child Transitions

This month we will be saying goodbye to three friends as they begins a new adventure. Adrienne’s last day at the Center is May 17. Bell and Calvin’s last day is May 31. These children will be missed by friends and teachers!

*Happy Birthday to YOU!*
May 9th – Jack turns 5!
We will be welcoming a new toddler friend, Meredith, into our classroom on May 20. Her sister Soleil is very excited to show her around! Isla and Ruby will also be transitioning this month. We welcome back Isla’s parents, Kelli & Brandon and excited to get to know Ruby and parents, Jill and Aaron. It’s always fun to see the toddlers grow into preschoolers. Welcome new friends!

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Thank you parents for taking the time from your busy days to meet with your child’s primary care provider last month. We are better able to help your child grow and learn when teachers have your valuable input into our teaching and your child’s individual goals.

Our Nature Curriculum

Have you seen some of the natural additions to the preschool classroom and playground? Teachers made it one of our classroom goals this year to add more natural elements to the classroom. The new materials are designed to bring nature closer to our learning. By examining a log on the playground we can see how high it is, how many rings in has, how the bark looks under the magnifying glass and lots more. Children don’t have to count little colored bears to learn to count. Counting rings on the log works the same and they can learn about why those rings are there at the same time.

The tree branch is our newest addition to the classroom. Monica and Izzy worked one afternoon tying it tightly to the metal beams in the ceiling. The children were amazed to see if when they entered the classroom. There has been discussion about how old the branch might be, how many little branches it has, what should we do with the branch now that its hanging (you’ll have to wait to see what we’ve decided). Let us know what you think about other natural materials we’ve added or feel free to bring in some from your yard for the children to discover and explore. We’d love to have a couple more large branches, a long log for balancing outside, some log "slices", and wooden spools. Anything else “natural” and safe would be appreciated.

Preschool Happenings

13th-Theater Production-A Jaguar Tale at 9:30 in Walsh Studio Theater

15th – Walk to Soccer Park – if the weather cooperates we will spend the morning playing at the Soccer Park behind T lot. We will leave after breakfast and return around 11:00. Feel free to join us to play soccer and move on the playground equipment.

21st – Preschool Graduation – We will have a special graduation ceremony in our classroom along with treat made by the younger children. This year we have nine children going to kindergarten: Adrienne, Bell, Amy, Aaron, Zaid, Gemma, Jack, Robert and Soleil. They have grown so much and are ready for their next stage in learning.

Gardening Fun

The preschoolers will be planting our gardens in raised boxes and pots on our playground this year. We will be working with the NDSU Extension Department again to grow the best garden we can. The children will be preparing some special recipes to try as we grow and harvest our produce.

Spring! Fly a Kite, Jump in a Puddle, Wish on Dandelions, Lie in the Grass, Run Barefoot, Reach for the Stars, Imagine, Tread gently, Sleep Soundly, Dream BIG! Author Unknown