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.

**Mission >>>**

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**Child Care & Education Hours >>>**

**Regular Hours**
7:30 AM - 5:30 PM, resume Jan. 13th
*Dec. 23rd – Jan. 10th, 7:00AM – 4:30 PM

**Summer Hours**
7:00 AM – 4:30 PM

**Center Closures**
Jan. 1st – New Year’s Holiday
Jan. 20th – Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday

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**Wish List**
No requests for January

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**Developmental Re-Screening**
Pediatric Partners completed developmental screenings on all children in August. They are returning January 14, 15, and 16 (Tuesday-Thursday) to re-screen a few children. They will begin screening at 9:00 AM. Parents of screened children will receive written results above their child cubby.

**Parent Advisory Committee Meeting**
When: Tuesday, January 28, 2020
Time: 12:00-1:00
Where: EML Hall, Room 269

Please join us as we prepare for our spring semester curriculum, discuss progress toward our 2019-20 program goals, the fall Family Survey feedback, flexible spending account procedures, safety etc. The agenda will be emailed to parents Mid-January. Please attend as we really value your input and feedback.

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**From the Director**

**Happy New Year!**
The Center staff wish you and your family a Happy New Year! We thank you for your continued support and partnership in helping your child learn and grow. We have the BEST parents ever!

**Safety and Security within the Center**
The Center for Child Development follows NDSU policies, state laws, ND licensing requirements and our Early Childhood Code of Ethical Conduct. Our paramount responsibility is to provide care and education in a setting that is safe, healthy, nurturing and responsive to each child.

It has been brought to our attention through the November Family Survey and the Center suggestion box that parents are interested in learning more about the security measures NDSU and the Center use to keep children safe. The Center is a university laboratory school with one of our goals to educate and support university students as they pursue their education at NDSU. This makes us different from community childcare programs as we are in a public building. Our observation booths are available to university students, faculty, and staff for educational assignments and observation. Parents (NDSU faculty and staff) also frequently observe the children throughout the day. As NDSU is a public educational facility, doors between buildings and hallways are accessible to student’s walking to and attending classes. The Center teachers always lock classroom doors after the last family leaves the classroom. NDSU Police check and lock both exterior and interior doors shortly after closing time.

When professors use the Center for student assignments, they notify the Director in advance sharing the number of students in their class, specific assignments the students are required to complete and the approximate number of times the students will observe. The children’s last names are never shared with the students and the child’s date of birth is only shared with the professor as needed for assignments.

Other security measures used:
- NDSU has security cameras on the playground, tunnel entrance and main entrance to the Center. NDSU Police monitor the hallways through security cameras.
- The center has specific written and posted emergency procedures for:
  - Child Abduction
  - Missing Child
  - Fire
  - Tornado
  - Bomb Threat
  - Shelter in Place
  - Airborne Chemical/ Radiation Accident
Scholastic Book Club Update

The Center for Child Development has been coordinating with the HR/ Payroll Office on the Flexible Spending Dependent Care plan. Flex participants are no longer able to send in one claim form for the entire year and automatically be reimbursed. ASIFlex requires that a claim form be sent in for each reimbursement and it has to be signed off on by the Director. The Director will not be able to sign off on these forms until AFTER the service is provided and then parents will be able to submit the form to ASIFlex. It is very important that parents fill out all necessary information (top 2 sections of the form) BEFORE the Director will be able to sign off. When the Director certifies the form, it will be placed above your child's cubby the first week following the care period.

Parents will be able to submit 6 months of completed forms at one time to the Director (January - June 2020). She will keep them in a file, certify them monthly and return to you using the process above. Claim forms can be found on the ASIFlex website www.asiflex.com and the options to submit the claim are listed on the bottom of the form (fax, mail, online).

Scholastic Book Club Update

Thank you to everyone who came to the Scholastic book fair we appreciate you coming. We had 14 books donated to the center and bought six more with Scholastic dollars. We had more than 600.00 in sales so have 50% of sales to purchase other books or materials to use in the classrooms. We will be putting Scholastic Book Club flyers in the classrooms monthly for spring semester. The first ones will be in a folder on the door January 15 and they are due back January 22 so I can place the order. Thank you and enjoy reading.

Let's Bake >>>

Little Chef's

Magic Mozzarella Dough (Low Carb Pizza)

6 oz. shredded part-skim mozzarella cheese (about 1 ½ cups) 5 Tablespoons unsalted butter
½ cup almond flour ¼ cup coconut flour
2 teaspoons baking powder 1 teaspoon vanilla
¼ cup Stevia Sweetener ¼ teaspoon salt
1 large egg

Directions

1. Sprinkle a large piece of parchment paper with almond flour
2. In a large saucepan, melt the cheese and the butter over low heat until they can be stirred together
3. Remove from heat and add the almond flour, coconut flour, baking powder, vanilla, Stevia, and salt. Stir in the egg and mix until everything makes a cohesive dough forms. Use a rubber scraper to knead the dough in the pan. It may still have some streaks of cheese.
4. Turn the dough onto the floured surface and knead until uniform. This will only take a little kneading. If after a minute or so your dough is still sticky add a tablespoon of almond flour

To make the pizza, sprinkle the parchment paper with a little almond flour. Place dough on floured work surface and place another piece of parchment paper on top of dough. Roll out into 12- inch circle. Remove top piece of parchment and crimp edges to form edge. Transfer bottom piece of parchment paper to a pizza pan. Bake at 350 Degrees for 10 to 15 minutes until golden brown.

The children made a sweet dough with this recipe and prepared a fruit pizza so we put whipped cream cheese on it and different kinds of fruit. Michele made the crust in the kitchen and then brought the ingredients in for the children to see compare and taste. We talked about the different types of flour to see how they were the same or different. We tasted the mozzarella cheese. We looked at the different types of fruit observing size, color and texture. The children tasted and enjoyed the fruit pizza we created together.

Raising a Reader, Raising a Writer Tips for Families by Teresa Byington

In November 2019, Deb Habedank attended the National Association for the Education of Young Child (NAEYC) Conference in Nashville TN. There was a new brochure published by NAEYC titled Raising a Reader, Raising a Writer. Each monthly newsletter I will summarize research based suggestion for families in raising a reader, raising a writer.

Talk, Sing, and Play with Your Child

Crying, cooing and babbling are all ways babies “talk” to us. When you talk or sing to your baby, she responds to what you say by moving her mouth and making her own sounds. These back-and-forth interactions help your baby learn how conversations work.
As your child grows, keep the conversation going—in whatever language feels most comfortable. Talk to him about what he sees, hears, smells, tastes, and feels. Describe what you are doing and what you see him doing. As you talk, sing, and play together, your child will quickly learn concepts and words that he hears you use. He will also pick up the sounds and rhythms of language. Hearing and understanding spoken language give him an important foundation for learning to read and write while creating lasting memories.

- Talk as you do everyday things together, like eating, bathing, and riding in the car.
- Expand on what your child says. If she says, “Kitty!” you might reply, “Yes, I see the kitty, too! He is furry and orange. Do you see how long his whiskers are?”
- Sing songs, recite nursery rhymes, and play repetitive games that include movement, like “Wheels on the Bus,” and Patty Cake.
- Make up stories or songs that star your child.
- Pretend play together, using props like old phones and puppets that encourage conversation.
- Play word games that help your child focus on the individual sounds in words. “Which word starts with the mmm sound—cow, mouse, or baby?”
- Ask open-ended questions like, “What does the cloud look like to you?” This inspires your child to talk more.

**New Student Assistants**

We are starting the semester with three new Student Assistants. Their names are Jordyn, Adianna, and Ciera. Help us welcome them to our classroom!

**Low Cost, Everyday Materials for Learning**

Here are a few activities that you can do at home with your child that are fun and very easy.

1. Empty shoeboxes—you can play peek a boo games and hide toys inside.
2. Clear Tupperware containers—put a toy or a small ball inside and have your child explore it.
3. Measuring cups and big bowls—your child can stack them or even try to put the cups together or fill them with toys.
4. Recycled plastic containers—children can use these for drums or put items inside. (Ice cream pails work great.)
5. Plastic Bottles—you can put bells, beads, sugar, water, dry beans, etc. into the bottles and your child can use as an instrument. Make sure to seal the top with glue for your child’s safety.
6. Empty diaper wipe containers and plastic covers—these work great for children to open and put lids inside.
7. Pringles cans—work great to create noisemakers. You can put beads or bells inside, seal the top and shake away.
8. Ziploc bags—make great books for your child. You can cut out pictures, tape inside the bags and put several bags together.
9. Ziploc bags— make great feely bags. You can put water, sand, shaving cream, etc. inside and let your child explore with their hands. Just make sure to seal the top with tape or the bag may leak.
10. Make your own sensory table—Use a small tub filled with water, sand, or even snow and let your child explore. You can add measuring cups, spoons, etc.

**Staffing Update**

- All Student Assistants are returning for Spring Semester with the exception of Morgan who will be completing her internship.
- Mary and Sarah’s lesson planning times will remain the same with office times of 8:30–10:00, Thursday for Sarah and Friday for Mary. Michele will be in our classroom both mornings.

**Birthdays!**

- Ayla turns 1 Jan. 4th!
- Iver turns 1 Jan. 25th!

- Huck turns 3 Jan. 22nd!
- Lars turns 3 Jan. 26th!
Gym Days!
With the weather being colder (typically) through January and February, we will walk to the Benson Bunker Field House (BBF) on Friday’s for gym day when temperatures are 0 degrees or warmer. Our goal is to be at the gym at 10:00 and return at 11:00. If you will be dropping your child off during that hour, please bring them directly to BBF. During the rest of the week we will utilize our Large Motor Room (FLC 319) and/or the hallway outside our classroom when temperatures are too cold to go outside. Our planned movement time in room 319 is from 10:15-11:00.

Mary’s Annual Leave
Mary will be taking annual leave from Friday, January 3 through Thursday, January 9. Opening our classroom will be:
- Jennifer on Friday (1/3) and Thursday (1/9),
- Holly (from the Infant room) Monday through Wednesday (1/6-1/8)

Sarah’s hours will remain the same from 8:00-4:30

Safe Play Outdoors
Please be sure to bring back your child’s outdoor clothing after the break as the children love to play in the snow. We go outside every day when temperatures are 0 degrees or above.
- Check zippers on your child’s coat. If it does not stay zipped, your child’s neck may get cold. A neck gator might help with this. Teachers prefer no scarfs due to hanging ends that may get caught in playground equipment.
- Please check the fit of your child’s clothing items. If the length of your child’s coat arms and snow pants are too short or mittens do not fit properly your child may get cold outside. To reduce the chance of frostbite teachers pull sleeves over gloves & snow pants over boots. Having a longer fit helps keep these items in place.
- Thanks for marking your child’s name on all clothing items as some children have the same popular clothing items. Teachers want to make sure everyone’s clothing items are kept with the right child.

Your Child’s Extra Clothing Box
Teachers have gone through your child’s extra clothing box located in the bathroom and put a note in your child’s cubby of which items need to be “restocked”. If extra clothing is summer wear or appears too small, we have placed it above their cubby to take home and replaced. The children’s toothbrushes will be changed over winter break.

Lotion Up!
Upon arrival in the morning, please feel free to offer lotion to your child after hand washing. The basket of lotion is located on top of the mailbox shelf near the bathroom. Teachers are trying to offer lotion several times a day to prevent dry skin on hands and wrists.

Upcoming Curriculum
- Thursday, January 16th: Show & Share Day: Please have your child bring a special item from home to show and tell. The children will also share item at playtime with their friends, so please keep in mind safety and durability when helping your child to choose. (Please no weapons or electronics).
- Parent’s Reading to the Children: If you would like to read with us during January please sign up for a time on the bulletin board. We would love to have every family read at least once this year! Just visit with Monica or Robin if you have questions.

Monica Vacation: Monica will be on annual leave January 24th – 30th, for a winter getaway. Substitutes will be posted for parents closer to the date of leave.