

TPCDC Newsletter

May 2017



Director's Notes

This week, 3 teachers and I had a wonderful opportunity to attend the 2017 Spring School Readiness Symposium, which featured Dr. Walter Gilliam from the Yale Child Study Center, who spoke on implicit bias, its impact on the quality of early learning experiences for children, and strategies to address this social justice issue. We came away with an eye-opening understanding of the underlying bias within our society and the impact that implicit bias has on children that we are striving to raise up to be better at accepting all their peers with each of our uniqueness. We also gained a lot of strategies to make our classrooms an environment of acceptance and support for all individuals. Want to learn more?

- Do Early Educators' Implicit Biases Regarding Sex and Race Relate to Behavior Expectations and Recommendations of Preschool Expulsions and Suspensions? From the Yale University Child Study Center, September 28, 2016

http://ziglercenter.yale.edu/publications/Preschool%20Implicit%20Bias%20Policy%20Brief_final_9_26_276766_5379.pdf

- Embracing Equity: 7 Steps to Advance and Embed Race Equity and Inclusion within Your Organization from the Annie E. Casey Foundation <http://www.aecf.org/resources/race-equity-and-inclusion-action-guide/>

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/matthew-lynch-edd/promoting-respect-for-cul_b_1187683.html

Important Dates to Remember:

May 8-12th- Staff Appreciation Week

May 29th-Memorial Day-TPCDC is Closed

Staff Appreciation Week:

Staff Appreciation Week is coming up from May 8-12th. We have some fun activities planned for our staff during this week with the theme of "How Sweet it is To Be Taught by You". Your children and your small acts and words of appreciation are greatly valued by the teachers. The staff at our center are essential to creating a warm and energetic learning environment for our children. Every kind word and act of appreciation received from you are greatly valued by the teachers. Please see the below information with the daily themes, and ways that you can contribute.

Monday – Children bring cards, letters or pictures for their teachers.

Tuesday: Staff VIP Breakfast Provided by the TPCDC Parent Board

- We believe all of our staff are VIP's. If you are interested in helping with breakfast please email the office.

Wednesday – Children Bring Flowers for the Teachers. Everyone (children and teachers) can dress-up with a Fairy-tale theme.

- Children can bring one flower or some flowers to their teachers on this day. It is the thought that counts!

Thursday – An Appreciation Lunch at 1 pm

- The appreciation lunch will be sponsored by the center, and the office is looking for a few volunteers to help with the set-up. If you are available between 12-1 please contact the office.

Friday – We'd like to create a "Treat Bar" for the teachers, where they can make their own special treats baggies/sundaes. We'll be collecting treats (candy bars, candies, store-bought cupcakes, chocolates, ice cream and other store-bought treats)

All Week Long – Post Love Notes on the Staff Bulletin Board or Classroom Door.

- The office will provide paper in the shape of SWEETS for parents to write notes to the teachers to be posted on their classroom door.



TEDDY BEARS NEWSLETTER – Ms. Ana

Dear parents, April had been fun, the children have had a good time talking about Baby animals, imitating its motions and its sounds. For the month of May, they will continue enjoying and learning while we talk about Flowers. We will read variety of books about flowers, sing songs, play with flowers seeds and plant them. We will also do art work related to flowers and observe the different colors and shapes of flower when outside. To enhance our topic, we will have a field trip to Brook Side garden on May 17th, and to Botanical Garden on May 31st where the children will have the opportunity to see different kind of flowers as well as to enjoy the outdoor experience.



MUNCHKINS NEWSLETTER-Ms. Pam



Our bodies are made to move and that is just what we will do this month! Children will have the opportunity to explore a topic that interest them. Children will gather information to become more aware of the world around them. They will explore many types of exercises, observe others while exercising and learn how to be safe while using equipment and their bodies. Happy May!

RAINBOWS NEWSLETTER – Ms. Teresa

As we know children are very curious and like to try new things on. We have a dramatic area where children dress up as doctors, teachers, chefs and even pretend to be fathers and mothers by dressing in different clothes. This month we will be talking about clothes and Spring. We will focus on how clothes are made, how we take care of them and the different features of clothes. We have a field trip planned May 5th to see the Chinese Acebats performance. While see the performance children will see many types of cultural clothes. We will also focus on the season of Spring since the weather has changed flowers are blooming and the types of clothing we wear has changed too. Some outdoor activities we will be doing are having lunch at the park, field trip to Washington youth garden, the playseum and planiting seeds.



EXPLORERS NEWSLETTER – Ms. Sherri



Hello Explorer Parents, We have several changes occurring in the month of May. We have stopped rest time, so please take linen and rest time activity items home. We will no longer have show-n-tell, but children may continue to bring small stuffed animals to play with. (Maximum 2) Sunscreen season is here. Please make sure your child has a bottle of sunscreen to keep in the classroom. Parents are required to apply the first application in the morning and the teachers will reapply in the afternoon. This month we will investigate Roads. Why? Because roads are all around us. Roads take us to school, to the store, and to visit family and friends. A study of roads provide children with an opportunity to learn how roads are made, where roads take us, how we can stay safe on the road, and the features that make up a road. We want to encourage children to explore a topic that is familiar to them. We also observe and investigate the life cycle of the Painted Lady Butterfly. We will watch tiny caterpillars grow and change into beautiful butterflies, as well as, gathering information about how they are important to the Earth. Several field trips are posted on the calendar and we still have several pending. Information will be posted as soon as the field trips are finalized.

Save the date: Graduation for the Explorers is fast approaching, Friday June9th from 3:30-4:00pm in the assembly room

We will have our second parent/teacher conferences the last two weeks of May. A sign-up sheet will be posted soon.

SHINING STARS NEWSLETTER – Ms. Rosa



MAY IS HERE! Warmer weather has finally arrived and we are ready for a lot of fun in the sun! For this month, Shining Stars classroom will be focusing on physical fitness and exercise. The kids will enjoy learning the benefits of regular exercise and why it is important to strengthen their bones, muscles, and keep their bodies healthy. We have planned music and movements activities, games, neighborhood walks and more. We also are going to continue working on our backyard garden project.

Parents please remember that the school year is almost ending and summer is around the corner, so don't forget to sign your child up for our Summer Camp if you haven't done so.



During the month of May we will celebrate several events. It's America bike month, so we want to encourage the kids to ride their bikes to school May 8th. We will celebrate May 15th National Chocolate Chip day, so for the afternoon snack we will enjoy eating chocolate chip cookies. On May 16th it is wear purple for peace day. Please have your child wear purple in honor of Peace. We will also be collecting pennies during the month of May in honor of Lucky penny day, also pennies collected will be donated to charity. Happy May!