

TPCDC Newsletter

November 2017



Dear Parents,

We are in the full swing of activities and events for the fall. It is hard to believe that soon it will be Thanksgiving! We would like to extend an invitation to all our parents for our Annual Thanksgiving Luncheon on Friday, Nov 17th, from noon - 1pm. You are welcome to bring a side dish or dessert (keep in mind that we are a peanut free center) to share. Please do not send lunch for your children that day. The staff will make a delicious lunch with all the trimmings. Please join us to socialize and celebrate the holiday at TPCDC.

Did you know that Montgomery County is the only county in the State with a Health Nurse dedicated to supporting the childcare programs throughout the area? This is a great resource to families and care providers in making sure that new information and health alerts are shared, answering health questions, and even training teachers in new health trends.

Additionally, ChildLink is an information and referral service for families with young children. Callers may receive simple referrals, consultation on child development or parenting issues, or linkages and follow up for families presenting more complex or at-risk situations which require early intervention services. ChildLink also assists families and providers in accessing mental health consultation on-site in child care programs. For more information about children's health and other county programs, go to:

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/HHS-Program/Program.aspx?id=CYF/CYFchildlink-p216.html>

Another great County asset is the Montgomery County Resource and Referral Center. They provide information, education and training to child care teachers and family providers to help them improve the quality of care and education that is passed along to the children. In early November, 22 TPCDC staff will attend an all-day conference at Montgomery College Germantown Campus to improve their teaching skills. More information about the variety of programs offered by the Resource Center can be found at:

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/HHS-Program/CYF/MCCCRRC/Index.html> .

Yet another helpful resource is the Maryland Family Network <http://www.marylandfamilynetwork.org/> . In addition to provide training and resources to families and providers, they support program improvement issues and public policy initiatives. Our latest activity with MFN is the Healthy Adventures with Zippy the Squirrel. Our 4 year olds (Rainbows and Explorers) will be engaged in additional physical activities to improve their well-being, and the teachers will have training in new ideas for getting children more active. We even got pedometers for each child, so they can quantify their activeness.

Important Dates to Remember- TPCDC 2017-2018 Calendar

November 9 & 10	Public School Early Release – TPCDC OPEN
November 10 th	Veterans Day Observance – TPCDC OPEN
November 17 th	TPCDC Thanksgiving Luncheon 12pm in Assembly Room. Parents are invited
November 17 th	Public School Early Release – TPCDC OPEN
November 22 nd	Public School Early Release – TPCDC CLOSSES AT 3PM
November 23 & 24 th	TPCDC CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING

FUNDRAISING.....

**Parents Night Out & Tea's School Days*

Thank you to all of the families that participated in our fundraising efforts during the month of October. Parents Night Out was a success and we raised almost \$1000 for the playground improvement project. This was the 3rd time we hosted the event. Each time we gain more parent participation and funds. We are looking forward to the next Parents Night Out scheduled for Saturday, December 9th. The participation in the Tea's School Days fundraiser was also appreciated.



HEALTHY ADVENTURES WITH ZIPPY THE SQUIRREL – SEE FLYER

We are preparing to kick off the first step of this initiative to increase with our 4 year olds (Rainbows and Explorers). This initiative is a fun and informative program about why it's important for kids to be active and provides ways to help increase and track their physical activity. This is a great opportunity to get everyone thinking about how we can all support children in building healthy habits for life. We will be sharing information about the program and ways families can be engaged via email shortly.

SCHOOL AGE CAMP REGISTRATION – REGISTRATION FORM

If you intend on having your child attend the Professional Day Camp on January 26, 2018, you need to sign up immediately in order to be guaranteed a spot. Also, remember that November 10th is the deadline to register and pay for the Winter Break, again do it soon to ensure your space. See the attached School Age Registration Form 2017-2018.

TEDDY BEARS NEWSLETTER – Ms. Ana

For the month of November, we will be exploring healthy food choices by reviewing various fruits and vegetables. The teaching team will be providing a variety of sensory based activities with fruits and vegetables in order to provide the children with multiple avenues of exploring a fruits & vegetables and appreciate them in multiple ways (taste, touch, smell, vision and hearing). We will continue to provide daily activities that encourage growth across all of the defined domains and content areas that the Creative Curriculum outlines.

MUNCHKINS NEWSLETTER-Ms. Razia

This month we will be learning about fruits and vegetables. Many of our activities will focus on strengthening fine motor skills. These projects include pre-writing, painting, drawing and cutting. We will be learning new songs about food and will help the children develop positive habits for staying healthy. We will encourage fitness by talking about and then exercising and dancing. Our field trips this month include going to the Takoma Park Silver Spring (TPSS) Co-op on Thursday the 9th and visiting the Giant food store (Arliss location) on the 16th. Our show and tell theme will be bringing a favorite fruit, vegetable or to share a story book about food with friends.

RAINBOWS NEWSLETTER – Ms. Corina

We are excited to start our music theme for the month of November. Music is used to express our feelings and is also a great tool to make learning fun. We will focus on on the following topics during our music study: music genres, instruments and the voice as a musical instrument. We also will be exploring cultural references in music. The Rainbow class would love for parents who are involved with music, who sing, play an instrument, dance or would just simply like to share a favorite musical activity to come in and share your gift with the class. We would also like for the children to bring in household items labeled with their names that can be used as music instruments. Teachers will return these items at the end of our music study. We look forward to having a musically inclined good time this month. FYI, November field trips will be posted later.

EXPLORERS NEWSLETTER – Ms. Arly

Our theme for the month of November is “Healthy Foods”. The focus will be on the importance of eating different types of nutritious and healthy foods. We will be learning how to stay healthy, grow strong, feel good and have more energy. We will also discuss what foods are not good for our body. In order to support the theme and extend the learning into the real world we planned the following field trips; Butlers Orchard Farm, Korean Korner Supermarket, Co-op Market, Whole Foods, and the Hispanic Market. The purpose of our field trips is to explore and taste a variety of foods with good nutritional values as well as promote social skills by exposing children to new and different environments. We look forward to a great month. For our Show and Tell, have your child bring items related to the topic.

BEFORE & AFTERSCHOOL NEWSLETTER – Ms. Dorothy

To kick off the month of November we will be creating our own memory tree to display our happy memories. We also will be talking about things we are thankful for. In addition to our monthly banner we will also be planting four plants. These plants will symbolically represent 1) good health, 2) kindness, 3) energy & 4) hope. We are starting our annual food drive on November 6th-17th. Any canned or dry food donations are welcome.