

TPCDC Newsletter

October 2017



Dear Parents,

We've got the first month of the school year under our belt, and in all the rooms we've seen the children adjust to the many activities and programs we do each day. One of the most important parts of TPCDC's efforts to help the children be ready at five for 'big' school is to support the children's development of a variety of social-emotional skills and abilities. We provide an atmosphere of loving and respectful care, with lots of practice using words to express our wants and feelings, and many opportunities to work and play together. Studies have shown that children cannot learn unless they feel safe and accepted, so we make a place where they feel accepted and cared for. The links below give additional ideas of activities you might wish to do at home with your child to build social emotional skills.

<http://www.readyatfive.org/download-document/for-parents/parents-tips/216-03-feb/file.html>

<http://everydaylife.globalpost.com/activities-childrens-emotional-social-development-3375.html>

Important Dates to Remember- TPCDC 2017-2018 Calendar

October 6th – Public Schools Early Release – TPCDC Open

October 7th – Parents Night Out

October 16th – Townhall & General Board Election 6:30 – 7:30 (All Parents Are Invited To Attend)

October 25th – Pajama Story Hour with Ms. Kati & Book Exchange 7 – 8 pm

October 28th – TPCDC Fall Clean Up 9-12 pm



FUNDRAISING.....

****Parents Night Out***

Saturday, October 7th from 4-8 p.m.

Takoma Park Child Development Center will host its Fall "Parents' Night Out"

Fundraiser!

Is the back to school routine stressing you out? Need some free time to tackle those summer projects you never quite got around to? Or do you just love doing everything you can to support the fund for the new TPCDC playground?

Well – you're in luck! On Saturday, October 7, TPCDC will host its Fall Parents' Night Out Fundraiser.

During this time, your kids can enjoy quality care from their favorite teachers, a pizza dinner, and fun with their friends at TPCDC, while you enjoy some free time. And the proceeds go to benefit a new playground for the Center!

- How does it work?

- First, register to attend at <http://tinyurl.com/TPCDCFallPNO>.
- Then, please pre-pay. You can pay by check in the office or online at <https://www.paypal.me/TPCDC>.
- Finally, on October 7, drop your child(ren) off at TPCDC at 4 p.m., and pick them up at 8 p.m. Have a great time doing something fun in between.

- How much does it cost? \$40 for the first child, and \$30 for each additional child. Remember, it's for the playground!

- Who can participate? TPCDC students and their siblings ages 18 months and up.

- Is there a deadline? Yes, please register for the event and pay your fee by Wednesday, October 4. The registration form will close after that day.

- Anything else? Available spots are limited, so we recommend signing up early!

Questions? Please email karen@tpcdc.org or lisa.dreisch@gmail.com.

****Amazon Smile***

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. ; Takoma Park Child Development Center. The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. The purchase price is the amount paid for the item minus any rebates and excluding shipping & handling, gift-wrapping fees, taxes, or service charges.

Healthy Adventures with Zippy the Squirrel

TPCDC has been selected by the Maryland Family Network to participate in the Healthy Adventures with Zippy the Squirrel initiative. This initiative is a fun and informative program about why it's important for kids to be active and ways to help increase their physical activity. This is a great way to get everyone thinking about how we can all support children in building healthy habits for life. Explorers and Rainbow children and staff will be participating. Please stay tuned for further information.

Join the TPCDC Board of Directors

We need you to join the Board of Directors this coming school year! The board is responsible for determining policies and oversight of employee benefits. They provide assistance with personnel, finance, operating policies and program matters, like nutrition and staff development. If you think you might be interested, contact the office or talk to one of the current board members. At TPCDC, we encourage families to participate as much as possible, and serving on the Board is one way to help the Center run smoothly and keep the high quality of care and learning that you have grown to know and rely upon for the children. Being an involved parent and sharing your skills is a great way to ensure that all the children have the best start possible. All parents are requested to participate in at least 2 volunteer activities each year.

Annual Board Election

The **Annual Board Election** will be held in October, and the elected board will be installed on Oct. 16th at the General Board Meeting/Townhall. Again, we will provide childcare and pizza, but please be sure to sign up so we can plan accordingly.

Fall Clean-up Day

Are you handy with a broom, hammer, and rake or paint brush? Come spend a couple of useful hours sprucing up the Center on our **Fall Clean-up Day** on Saturday, October 28th, from 9 am to noon. We also are in need of a parent coordinator for this event. **Note: childcare will not be available at this event.**

TEDDY BEARS NEWSLETTER – Ms. Ana

Dear Teddy Bear parents, we are happy to see how our Teddy Bears are getting acclimated to the classroom and following the routine. It just took them two weeks and they all seem to enjoy being in the classroom after the little separation anxiety in the mornings. For the month of October, we will be discussing fall/autumn colors which it will be enhanced by doing art activities that will incorporate the colors that we see during this season. We will promote all the domains (social-emotional, physical and cognitive) by creating colors making art such as apple prints, leave collages, finger painting, pasting, coloring as well as having cooking projects where the children will be encouraged to be actively engaged.

We have planned our field trip to the pumpkin patch for October 18th. We are leaving by 9:30 am and returning to the center no later than 12:45 pm. Your child will need a picnic lunch (everything disposable), yellow TPCDC shirt (you can purchase from the office if you do not already have one or would like another), be at the center by 9:15 am.

MUNCHKINS NEWSLETTER- Ms. Razia

Welcome to October! We have a fun autumn filled month for the Munchkins. The Munchkins will continue to get to know each other and adjust the classroom. We will do many fall themed activities including pumpkin painting, making a fall scrapbook, creating an apple tree, making pumpkin pie playdough, and much more! We will enhance our sensory skills and discover different types of textures including crunchy and soft leaves, acorns, playdough, pumpkin seeds and apple sauce. On Wednesday, October 4th, we will go to Clark's Elioak Farm and children will get to enjoy many activities including, going on a hayride, seeing farm animals up close and feeding them and much more. Then, on Wednesday, October 12th we will have a potluck lunch where children will each bring a dish to share with each other. We will also continue to develop our language and literature skills by visiting the library every Wednesday to listen to new stories. Please remember to check our Show-n-Tell calendar to know when it's time for your child to present to the class. We look forward to another great month.

RAINBOWS NEWSLETTER – Ms. Teresa

Our study for the month of October will be trees/autumn. The children will learn the about trees in reference to the benefits of trees, parts of the tree, types of trees, what animals live in trees and human usage of trees. The children will also have a visit from an arborist who will speak to them about caring for trees. During this month we plan on taking many nature walks to gain first hand experience and focused attention on the trees surrounding the neighborhoods. Our first field trip is to Butlers Orchard has been scheduled for Wednesday, October 25th. Our plans for going to the Botanical Garden is in the preliminary phase and tentatively scheduled for October 30th.

EXPLORERS NEWSLETTER – Ms. Sherri

The Explorers' theme for the month of October is exotic fruits and vegetables from A to Z. We will focus on the importance of eating fruits & vegetables and the positive affect it has on our body. The children will learn the names of various selected fruits & vegetables and experiment with each one while using their senses (taste, touch, smell) to heighten the experience. During our experimentation, the children will be able to classify fruits & vegetables into their appropriate categories. These discussions will lead to deeper questioning such as which vegetables grow underground vs. above ground as well as which fruits grow in bushes vs trees. For show and share this month children can bring their favorite fruit and/or vegetable recipes to share with their classmates. By the end of each day, the children will be able to answer: 1) Where (world geography) does the fruit or vegetable originate? 2) Where can fruits and vegetables be grown or where can they be purchased? Lastly, 3) How do the fruits and vegetables help the body?

BEFORE & AFTERSCHOOL NEWSLETTER – Ms. Rosa

Hello October! After a wonderful month of back to school excitement, new teachers and new friends, fall is finally in full swing! This is a beautiful month to enjoy colorful leaves, sweet cider, apples, pumpkins and candy corn! For the month of October, the classroom will be doing a lot of fun indoor and outdoor activities. We have planned fall arts and crafts activities, and also fun science projects, like erupting pumpkins, monster slime and more.

Parent reminders:

- *We are updating emergency forms - please stop by the classroom and check your child's forms.
- *Please remember to sign your child out in the afternoons! This is for your child's own safety.
- *Also, please make sure to call or email the office if your child will be absent.

