



## From The Director,

Welcome to another great year at TPCDC! Thank you to all the families who have expressed appreciation for the quality of care and education that the children received this past year. We will work very hard as a staff to continue to improve the program while keeping in place all the things that you have come to value in the TPCDC community. Please continue to give us support as we make this an even better program for children and their families, as well as for the caring staff. The teachers created a summer program that was fun-filled and adventurous with so many educational and thrilling field trips, and then worked even harder during the professional week to prepare their classrooms for the fall learning activities.

## New Friends and Staffing Patterns!

We would like to take this opportunity to introduce the newest members to the TPCDC family! A hearty welcome to Pam Colvin, Sendi King, Candy Escobar, Razia Begum, Stephen Lopez, Leo Lopez and Leta Jones. There are staff bios posted in both buildings; one next to the office and the other is inside the church building hall. Please take a moment to learn a little about your child's teachers.

We would also like to welcome our new friends and their families to the center as well as to acknowledge the transitions of our current staff members. The current staffing pattern is as follows:

### **TEDDY BEARS**

Ms. Ana Rodriguez  
Ms. Rosy Hill  
Ms. Martha Talento  
Ms. Reina Vasquez  
Ms. Rosa Lopez

### **MUNCHKINS**

Ms. Corina Powell  
Ms. Beatriz Perez  
Ms. Yanira Salgado  
Ms. Amanda Dullin-Jones  
Ms. Elzmarie Eckert  
Ms. Pam Colvin

### **RAINBOWS**

Ms. Indhira Hill  
Ms. Beatriz Ramirez  
Ms. Teresa Abanto  
Ms. Rosa Lopez  
Ms. Brenda Roberts

### **EXPLORERS**

Ms. Selvi Vijayakumar  
Ms. Sherri Smith  
Ms. Arly Reyes  
Ms. Dorothy Battle

### **BRIGHT STARS**

Ms. Brenda Roberts  
Ms. Christine Bui  
Mr. Stephen Lopez

### **SHINING STARS**

Ms. Rosa Lopez  
Ms. Sendi King  
Ms. Candy Escobar

### **SCHOOL AGERS**

Ms. Dorothy Battle  
Ms. Najwa Plunkett  
Mr. Leo Lopez (temp.)  
Mr. Jonathan Berrios

## **TEDDY BEARS' NEWSLETTER**

Welcome to the Teddy Bears' classroom. We look forward to a wonderful year. This month we will spend time getting to know each other, by singing each other's names, using flash cards and pictures of the children and providing one on one interactions while playing in the learning areas. In addition, we will be emphasizing identification of each learning area and the toys that belong in each one of them. Besides helping the children to get acclimated to the environment and routine, our main goal is to provide them with activities that foster their cognitive, socio-emotional, language and physical wellness skills through interactive and cooperative play, singing and encouragement to use their language skills when conflict arises amongst themselves.

## **MUNCHKINS' NEWSLETTER**

To all the Munchkin parents and children welcome, welcome, welcome! A new school year has begun...let's all take a deep breath and get our minds and body ready to take off on this new race of life's adventures. As a team of co-teachers our goal is to make this transition for the children as easy as possible. We are happy to say that crying at transition times has decreased dramatically. The children are still working to understand space and time. This makes for an interesting and sometimes challenging day for both you as parents and us as teachers, nonetheless, we want to remind you that with constant repetition, reinforcement and communication, the children will begin to respond to the classroom routines and cues. We thank you in advance for reinforcing some of these techniques and cues at home as well. For the month of September we are working on inculcating the routines and habits of the Munchkin room, with that in mind; **we encourage you to please help us by washing your child's hands upon arrival and making sure that you do not leave food or drinks in their cubbies.** Other items we are working on are: recognizing the letters of the alphabet, numbers, taking turns, standing in line, self-help skills such as making their cots for nap time, cleaning up after playing and having a meal. We see the excitement when they are praised for making their cots and when they create a "trash flower" after they finish eating. Lastly, we value all of your questions, concerns and communications however it can be difficult to give our undivided

attention while children are present and under our supervision. In an effort to communicate with you all regularly we have a message book available to you. During the day we will review the message book and give you a call to discuss any items listed. Rest time is the most likely time that you will receive these calls due to the down time in the classroom. We look forward to an awesome year!

### **RAINBOWS' NEWSLETTER**

Welcome New Rainbows! The month of September is going to prove to be a month of educational fun. The theme/study for this month will be Buildings. Preschoolers seem to always be interested in building, observing and demolishing. The Rainbows will learn that there are shapes in architecture (Math/Geometry), tools can be used in alternative ways (such as in science and small motor skills) and will explore how tools and machines make everyday life easier. We will do "bulldozer" painting by pushing paint across paper with combs and flat edges (Art). The Rainbows will also draw pictures of houses and apartment buildings and make block towers. A trip to the Building Museum is planned. For the cooking project we will create "Marshmallow Structures." No show-n-tell is scheduled for this month. Let's have a successful month of learning.

### **EXPLORERS' NEWSLETTER**

We are three weeks into the school year and the Explorers are having a great time! Our group times are filled with fun activities such as singing our good morning song, choosing jobs, answering the question of the week, reading, singing and movement. Our theme is Home, School, Family and Friends. We are learning to respect the differences between our classmates and families. Each year the Explorers use a 100 day calendar to celebrate completing half of our school year. When we reach 100 days of school, we celebrate with a piñata, dancing and yummy snacks. Our countdown tree is hanging on the wall in the class. The children draw/write in their journals every day. Parents are welcome to look at their child's journal. Each child has their own portfolio in the classroom. We use the portfolios to collect samples of your child's work. Parents are welcome to look at their child's portfolio however please do not remove any work samples. Last minute reminders: Please remember that your child should have a complete set of clothes in their cubby. Additionally, please send a small family photo to display in the classroom. We look forward to a fun and exciting year!

### **SCHOOL AGERS' NEWSLETTER**

We hope everyone enjoyed their summer break! So now it's time to put away the sunscreen, swimsuits and beach towels and get ready to bring out the notebooks, backpacks and pencils. We are super excited to say "Welcome Back School-Agers, Shining and Bright Stars!" We hope everyone is excited about our upcoming school year. We are also very excited about our new Kindergarten classroom, Bright Stars. For the month of October we will look forward to getting to know our new friends and welcoming back our old friends. We plan on playing many bonding games, utilizing the fundamentals of sharing, being kind to each other, following rules and being responsible. So buckle up and get ready for a fun-filled ride into friendship, laughter, games and learning activities. This month we will also celebrate fall by having a "Fall Harvest Party." We will make cool art creations, go on a scavenger hunt and prepare a group cooking project. A sign-up sheet, for yummy food donations, will be posted on the bulletin board outside of each classroom. As a friendly reminder please call the office to let the classroom teachers know if your child will not be attending TPCDC. We are looking forward to a great month.

### **Parent Orientation Night**

Please join us for the **Parent Orientation Night** on Friday, September 19th, from 6-7:30 p.m. This is a great opportunity for parents to meet with the teachers to learn more about the classroom activities, goals and age-appropriate learning activities as well as get answers to questions and share ideas. We are providing childcare and pizza, but please be sure to sign up so we can plan accordingly.

### **Annual Board Election**

The **Annual Board Election** will be held Wednesday, October 8rd, from 6 -7 p.m. 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. We are also recruiting room parents for each classroom, so please consider this as a way to help be an involved parent. All parents are requested to participate in at least 2 volunteer activities each year. Again, we are providing 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, rake or paint brush? Come spend a couple of useful hours sprucing up the Center on our **Fall Clean-up Day** on Saturday, November 1st, from 9 am to noon. **Note: childcare will not be available at this event.**

### **TPCDC Kid's Corner**

#### **Student Interviews**

What do you like best about your new classroom?

**Alice E.** (Rainbows) "I like playtime."

**Elijah H.** (Rainbows) "I like putting my lunch box away."

#### **Group Time Spotlight**

Explorers enjoying the story "Dinosaur Days"!

