

TPCDC Newsletter

September 2017



Welcome to an exciting new school year at TPCDC! Thanks to all who shared suggestions through the family survey and in other ways. We will continue to work very hard as a staff to improve the program while keeping in place all the things that you have come to value in the TPCDC community. Please continue to support us as we make this an even better program for children and their families, as well as for our caring staff. The teachers created an awesome fun-filled and adventurous summer program that included lots of new field trips, and now are working even harder during the professional week to attend trainings and to prepare their classrooms for the fall learning activities.

Don't forget that we are recruiting parents for our Board. Thank you to the members who are completing their 2 years of service...they worked energetically to help TPCDC, and are now ready to pass on the baton to new volunteers. Please let Terry know if you are interested in joining; elections will be in early October.

I've been reading a fascinating book (<http://apathappears.org/>) that explains the importance of caring, loving bonds to brain development in children's growth, and their link to future social and economic successes in children and the adults they become. I look forward to this year of enabling children to be loving, giving individuals. Another great resource:

<https://my.vanderbilt.edu/developmentalpsychologyblog/2014/05/parental-influence-on-the-emotional-development-of-children/> Hug On!!

Important Dates to Remember- TPCDC 2017-2018 Calendar

September 4th- TPCDC Closed for Labor Day

September 5th- First Day of School

September 15th- TPCDC Parent Orientation (6:15-7:30) ~ child care and pizza provided

September 21st- Public Schools closed. TPCDC open

September 29th – Public School Early Release ~ TPCDC open

Parent Orientation Night

Please join us for the **Parent Orientation Night** on **Friday, September 15th**, from 6:15- 7:30 p.m. This is a great opportunity for parents to meet with the teachers in their child's classroom 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.



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.**

Staffing Patterns!

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.

TEDDY BEARS

Ms. Ana Rodriquez
Ms. Martha Talento
Ms. Reina Vasquez
Ms. Dorothy Battle
Ms. Amanda Dullin-Jones

MUNCHKINS

Ms. Yanira Salgado
Ms. Beatriz Perez
Ms. Ada Cruz
Ms. Razia Begum
Ms. Amanda Dullin-Jones
Mr. Leo Lopez

RAINBOWS

Ms. Teresa Abanto
Ms. Beatriz Ramirez
Ms. Corina Powell
Ms. Rosa Lopez
Ms. Brenda Roberts
Ms. Aleta Anthony

EXPLORERS

Ms. Selvi Vijayakumar
Ms. Indhira Hill
Ms. Arly Reyes
Ms. Sherri Smith

BRIGHT STARS

Ms. Brenda Roberts
Ms. Christine Bui

SHINING STARS

Ms. Rosa Lopez
Ms. Janeth Castro

SCHOOL AGERS

Ms. Dorothy Battle
Mr. Stephen Lopez

TEDDY BEARS NEWSLETTER – Ms. Ana

The Teddy Bears team would like to welcome you and your child to our classroom. This month we will provide opportunities for the children to build secure attachment based relationships with the teachers and each other. We will do so by incorporating small and large group activities that largely foster social/emotional growth and development. Also, in order to make the environment as predictable as possible, the staff will consistently orientate the children to the daily routine as well as actively engage in each of the defined interest areas in the classroom with the children. Overall, our aim is to create an environment that promotes cognitive, social/emotional, physical and language development with a healthy approach to learning. Once again, welcome to the Teddy Bears. We look forward to a great year.

MUNCHKINS NEWSLETTER-Ms. Razia

Welcome new Munchkins and parents! We are so excited to have you here. We have a wonderful school year ahead of us and can't wait to experience it with you. For the month of September, we will focus on getting to know each other and all of our families. We look forward to getting to know everyone through fun-filled games and activities, including making a friendship tree, counting family members, creating a height chart, going to the Playseum, having a potluck, and more! During this time, we will develop cognitive skills, expand our vocabulary through language and literature, practice gross and fine motor skills through different physical activities and more. On Wednesday, September 20th, we will go to the Playseum where the Munchkins will get to visit mini cities, shops and neighborhoods. We will have Show-N-Tell throughout the month and each day. One child will be the "star of the day". On that day, that Munchkin can bring some of their favorite items to show the class. At the end of the month, we will have a potluck and talk about all of the fun things we learned and did this month. As a friendly reminder, please label all your child's belongings. Once again, welcome to the Munchkins classroom.

RAINBOWS NEWSLETTER – Ms. Corina

All together now; inhale, exhale, inhale, exhale and then repeat one more time. A school year has ended and a new one begins. The teachers in the Rainbows room welcome the new Rainbows children and their families. As we approach the new year or the Beginning of the year, we look forward to the new Rainbow children to become accustomed to the new teachers, routines and classroom environment. Howard Gardner, a contemporary American developmental psychologist known for the theory of Multiple Intelligences stated, "If you're very good in music, I can predict with just about zero accuracy whether you are going to be good or bad in other things". With this in mind, the Rainbows co-teachers will approach the year encouraging the children to be creative, model critical thinking skills, appreciation for community, respect for each other and a thirst for the written word. All of this will accomplished through play. The above mentioned will not be difficult. Though the children will be moving from the Munchkin room to the Rainbows room, we are familiar with each other. We have shared the playground and played together, we have greeted and spoken to each other in the hallways and even visited each others' classroom. We already know each others' names.

EXPLORERS NEWSLETTER – Ms. Sherri

Welcome to the Explorers. Happy brand new school year! September is finally here. Our theme (unit) for this month is, 'building a community'. With this unit we will be focusing on the community (our classroom, neighborhood, classmates and parents). The beginning of the new school year is a time for creating a sense of community and our classroom is the perfect meeting place. Whether children are new to preschool or not, expect that many will experience strong emotions such as fear, anxiety, extreme excitement, sadness and frustration. We desire that all children feel secure and supported and we will accomplish that by creating a nurturing environment (community). This new group of individuals bring with them a diversity of interests, abilities, cultures and family dynamics. We will be going on community walks, planning our community by making rough drawings, collaborating and working as a group, creating a family tree & self-portraits and introducing new vocabulary words (respect, fairness, friendship, citizenship.).

It is our hope to build a community through identity, familiarity, trust, predictability and family involvement. We also aim to initiate social interactions, problem solving and making good choices. In relation to building cognitive skills we will have the children engaged in classifying, sorting, similarities and differences, time anticipation, starting/stopping/sequencing. To focus on physical development we will engage in music and movement and incorporate dance. Language and literacy skills will be enhanced with stories, poems and rhymes. We look forward to building a positive partnership for the new school year.

BEFORE & AFTERSCHOOL NEWSLETTER – Ms. Dorothy

Welcome September!! As we say goodbye to a fantastic summer, now we are ready to start a new school year. We will be welcoming back our old friends and getting excited to know our new friends. For this month the before & afterschool program will be engaging in activities that help us to get to know each other better. We will be talking about our similarities and differences, this will help the children to understand that everyone is equal and that we are all working together to have a successful year. We also will be reviewing rules and responsibilities in our classroom. In addition to that, we have planned a lot of indoor and outdoor activities. We look forward to a wonderful year.

