



# TAKOMA PARK

## CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

310 Tulip Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912 | (310) 270-6824 | info@tpcdc.org

### Summer 2014 Newsletter

#### June 6th

Graduation Day and School Picnic

#### July 4th

TPCDC Closed  
Takoma Park Fourth of July Parade!

#### August 18th&19th

Transition Days - Students visit new classrooms

#### August 20th-22nd

TPCDC Closed for staff development

#### August 25th

First day of fall session



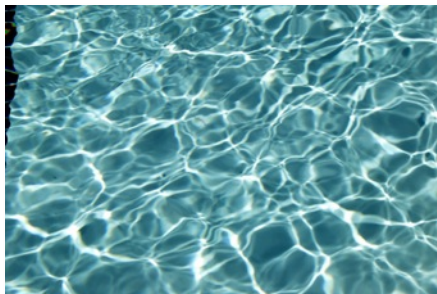
### From the Director:

The children are busy enjoying the great summer weather and the teachers are equally busy scheduling the fun-filled summer field trips. Don't forget to let us know if you have any vacations scheduled, so we can plan.

The staff would like to extend a heartfelt THANK YOU for the lovely breakfast, Lunch!, flowers, cards, goodies and other nice gifts given to them by all the parents in appreciation of their dedication and love during the Teacher Appreciation Week.

Graduation and Family Day Cookout: On Friday, June 6th, at 3:30, we will have a graduation ceremony to celebrate our Explorers anticipated entrance to Kindergarten, and this will be followed by a Family Day Cookout at 4 pm. All our parents are warmly invited to join us and socialize with our TPCDC community until 5:30 p.m.

Fourth of July Parade: TPCDC will be closed on Friday, July 4th for Independence Day. Please join us as we walk in the annual



## Our Staff

**Director:** Terry dela Santa

**Office Administrator:** Joan Byrd

**Teddy Bears:** Ana Rodriquez,  
Martha Talento, Reina Vasquez.,  
Dorothy Battle, Rosy Hill

**Munchkins:** Corina Powell, Yanira  
Salgado, Amanda Dullin-Jones,  
Elzmarie Eckert, Beatriz Perez,  
Brenda Roberts

**Rainbows:** Teresa Abanto, Dorys  
Ferman, Rosa Lopez, Indhira Hill,  
Ms. Beatriz Ramirez

**Explorers:** Sherri Smith, Arly  
Reyes and Ada Cruz, Selvi  
Vijayakumar

**Shining Stars (K and 1st):** Brenda  
Roberts, Rosa Lopez, Christine  
Bui

**School Agers (2nd and Up):**  
Dorothy Battle, Jonathan Berrios,  
Najwa Plunkett

## Board of Directors

### 2013-2014

Alice Weiss (Co-Chair)  
Karen Vossler (Co-Chair)  
Matt Hobbs (Secretary)  
Aaron Kofner (Treasurer)  
Todd Christiansen  
Steve Coleman  
Virginia Davis  
Jared Hughes  
Adam Hutton  
Cara Long

Takoma Park parade. More information will follow soon. Show your support by marching or riding your bike along with our group. Parade marchers can meet us at the starting point or just join us along the way when you see our group passing by.

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. If you wish to help in a less long term way, consider serving on a board committees, like the one current working on the family handbook.

Fall preparation: Monday Aug. 18th and Tuesday, August 19th will be Transition days. Those mornings, the current children will be able to visit their “new” classroom, and any new students will also come to visit and enjoy. There will also be a transition meeting for new parents, and returning parents, to help families learn more about TPCDC life, during the Monday transition visit. The center will be closed August 20, 21, and 22 for staff development (training) and preparation for the fall. The first day of fall session will begin Monday, August 25th.

Goodbye to our children who leave us this summer! We are happy that we were part of their growth and development. We will miss them very much, but hope they will come back in the future as they mature into young men and women. We wish them all the best!

Have a summer with lots of fun!

Terry!

## Classroom Updates

### *Teddy Bears*

Dear Parents, the teddy bears have had great time learning about animals, and we look forward to continue fostering vocabulary and social skills through the summer topics, which are the following:

For the month of June, we will talk about Transportation. This will include land and air transportation. We will focus on buses, trains, cars, bikes and scooters. To enhance our topic, we will take a field trip to the Greenbelt Air Museum where the children will be able to walk around and see airplanes, helicopters and other air vehicles, and we will take a metro ride from Takoma to Glenmont back and forth.

For the month of July, we will focus on indoors and outdoors activities. We will do art activities, such as finger painting, different kind of pictures using variety of tools such as paint brushes, roller painting, etc. We will also do cooking projects, such as caramel banana, choco-banana, pink lemonade, and strawberry milk shake. This month we will take a trip to Wheaton Regional Park, and Chuck & Cheese.

In August, We will work on reviewing colors, shapes, and alphabet, by doing art using different kind of colors, reading books about the alphabet, as well as naming and playing with different kind of shapes. This month field trip, will be to Heffner Park we will go on the center bus.

We will have outdoor splash every Monday and Friday starting Thursday June 19th. Please make sure to bring the following: swimming diapers, extra changing of clothes, a plastic bag for wet clothes, and a towel. Just to remind, make sure to do the first application of sunscreen to your child in the morning.

### *Munchkins*

IT'S A MUNCHKIN SUMMER!

SUM, SUM, SUM, SUM, SUM, SUM  
SUMMERTIME 2014

Excitement and anticipation fills the air as the MUNCHKINS' summer begins; we are ready to have lots of fun throughout this summer. Our theme for the summer months will be as follows: June "Community Helpers", July "Under the Sea" and August "Dinosaurs".

Splash days will be every other week on Tuesdays and Thursdays; please have your child ready to splash with sunscreen, bathing suits, towel and a change of clothes.

Fridays: bring a brown bag lunch for a picnic at a local park.

Field trips: each month, the MUNCHKINS will have two field trips, The date, time and place will be posted.

Pizza Party: on the last Friday in August we'll have a pizza party!

We will be busy doing cooking projects and creative outdoor art; in addition, we will visit the fire station, police station and donate produce from our MUNCHKIN GARDEN to a local soup kitchen.

THANK YOU MUNCHKINS PARENTS for all your help and support throughout this year.

Lastly, there will be no written daily reports for the summer.

MUNCHKINS, have fun in the Rainbow room!!  
We will miss you so much.

## *Rainbows*

Summer is the time when children build memories of all the fun activities that they have during outdoor adventures. To make these memories unforgettable, we have planned many excited fun activities and educational field trips. As the weather gets warmer, everyone is extremely elated waiting for water play, lunch at the park, swimming days, visit museums, theater performances, nature walks etc. We welcome parents to join us as a chaperone. By working together, we can make sure our field trips are fun and safe, so the children can explore, discover, and have a memorable experience on each field trip. Throughout this summer the children will discover what lives under water. They will also learn some facts about fish, octopus, sea horse, crab, starfish etc. To enhance fine motor skills, they will paint, trace, and color their favorite sea creatures. We will create a summer collage by drawing and gluing their study of sea life. To expand their vocabulary, we will talk about summer vacation that they like to go and sport they practice. Have a safe and fun summer.

## *Explorers*

Our plan is to have a lot fun this summer. We have several field trips planned that are both fun and educational, including swimming at MLK pool, visiting the Silver Spring fountain, water play at the center, shows at the Smithsonian, sailing on a pirate ship, a day at Cameron run water park, story time at the DC Library with summer reading activities and other events in Downtown Silver Spring.

More detailed information will be posted soon.

Parents, please remember to bring sunscreen for your child and sign the authorization form posted on the yellow board. Our days will be filled with many water activities, please make

sure your child has appropriate extra clothes in his/her cubby.

Have a Safe and Fun Summer!!

## **Important Reminders**

### *Remember*

Please update your emergency contact information. Make sure there is a full set of season appropriate extra clothes in your child's cubby. Please remember to bring a sheet and a blanket for nap time and take them home at the end of each week for cleaning.

### *Reminder to Part-Timers*

A special reminder to parents of children who are enrolled part-time at TPCDC. Please remember that your contract is for specific days of the week and not for a number of days per week. If TPCDC is closed on a day that your child normally attends, you may not bring your child on another day that week to make it up. If you wish to bring your child on a day that she or he is not contracted for, please check with the Director in advance to ensure there is space available in the classroom. We regret any inconvenience this may cause.

### *Late Pick-Up Policy*

Please come to pick-up your child early enough so that you have enough time to gather your child's belongings and exit by 6:00 pm (1 pm for morning attendees).

We appreciate your help in doing this so that our staff can leave at a reasonable time in the evening.

A \$15 late fee for each 15 minutes or portion thereof will be charged for children who are left at the center after 1 pm (morning program

attendees) or 6 pm (afternoon attendees or full day program attendees).

Fees:

6:00 - 6:15 = \$15 6:16 - 6:30 = \$30 6:31 - 6:45 = \$45  
6:46 - 7:00 = \$60

Chronic lateness will be assessed an extra surcharge of \$50 for each occurrence. (Please refer to our family handbook on page 17.)

### *Parental Assistance on the Playground*

At dismissal time, there is a lot of activity on the playground with all the adults, conversations, and playing occurring. There has been difficulty in defining when the teachers turn over responsibility of children when we are on the playground at dismissal time. We ask that when you come to pick up your child and he/she is already on the outdoor playground, that you officially take over responsibility of your child as soon as you enter the playground and your child becomes aware of your presence. We thank you for your assistance in this matter.

### *Clothing*

Children should wear comfortable clothes that they can remove easily. Children should not wear "dress" clothes as they are likely to get messy. Weather appropriate clothing should always be provided: hats, gloves, etc. in the winter months and shorts in the summer. Children must always wear shoes. Sturdy footwear is recommended. For their own safety, children may not wear shoes that expose their toes.

### *Toys from Home*

Because toys from home are often difficult to share, easy to lose, and breakable we ask that children do not bring toys from home to the center except for show and tell. If your child has

a special item he or she would like to share, please let your child's teacher know. The center does not allow toys that promote aggressive behavior such as guns, knives, or swords. Following are some appropriate and popular items: photographs, hand made toys and games, books, objects found in nature and art work.

### *Health Issues*

It is important to keep teachers and office staff informed of children's health issues. Please bring emergent health issues to our attention, particularly head lice, strep throat, and pink eye.

### *Health Insurance Card*

Licensing requires that each child in the center should have his/her insurance card in their file. Please bring a copy of the card and drop it in the office.

### *Center Closing Policy*

TPCDC follows the Federal Government's announcements for closing due to inclement weather. In the event the Federal Government has a delayed arrival, the Center will open one hour late at 8:00 a.m. If the Federal Government announces a two hour delayed opening, the Center will open two hours late at 9:00 a.m. In the event the federal government closes on any given day, the Center will also close. The Director may make an independent decision to close the Center, when the situation necessitates (i.e. loss of power at TPCDC). Closings for severe weather or emergencies will be announced on News Channel 7, and be sent electronically (by text or email) to parents whenever possible. In the event the Center must close early due to federal government shut down or Center emergency, parents will be given 2 hours notification to pick up the children.