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CHIT CHAT

Newsletter for families of NDNCC

September/October 2014

UPCOMING EVENTS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4th
Time: 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
Place: Multipurpose Room

Join us for the 2014 Fall Fun Fest! Like last year, we will have fun games and activities for you and your child. Please bring a peanut-free snack to share. Sign-up in your child's classroom.



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9TH
Time: 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM
Place: Multipurpose Room

Join us for an interactive workshop and get strategies and resources to turn everyday experiences into learning moments that build the basics of financial skills. Children are welcome, but parents/guardians are asked to assume full responsibility for them.

TRAINING TOPICS: TOXIC STRESS

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24TH
Time: 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM
Place: Multipurpose Room.

A free training workshop is being offered to Staff and parents/guardians. Professional clinicians/social workers will discuss sources

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of stress for children and how we, as the adults in their lives, can provide assistance. We will have the training here on Wednesday September 24 6:00 – 7:30. NDNCC will not be offering care for children as we would like as many staff as possible to attend.

ECE UPDATES

Another summer filled with camp activities has come to a close and the new school year for 2014-2015 has begun! Head Start joined us on September 15th to kick off their school year. Newark Day ECE has a lot of ongoing events that we are very excited to be a part of.

Monday mornings - Aimee with UD Community Music School joins the Tweenie and Toddler classes for about 30 minutes each to sing and play instruments. Aimee uses puppets and props to encourage the children to sing with her. Some times she even visits the infant room.

Wednesday mornings - Aimee comes back to spend time in our Pre-School and Pre-K classrooms. You can hear the beautiful songs when you enter the building on Wednesdays!

Tuesday Afternoon - We're excited to be moving on to week three of our partnership with Mid-Atlantic Ballet! Pre-S and Pre-K parent/guardian and students were given the opportunity to sign up for a free ballet session once a week for 10 weeks. The children seem to really like it, including one who said it was "good and tricky". Our initial class limit of 15 expanded to 22 and we hope to expand even further!

Friday mornings - Chinese Culture Classes with Liu from the Confucious Institute. Liu will share all aspects of Chinese Culture throughout the semester with Toddlers, Pre-S, and Pre-K.

Meet the Teachers Night was held on August 19th. We received positive feedback from parents/guardians who



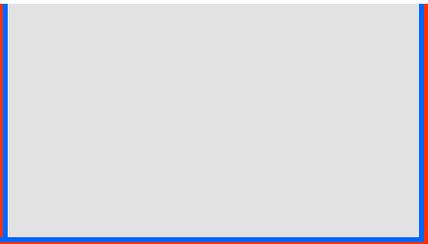
Helpful Links

[NDNCC on the Web](#)

[NDNCC on Facebook](#)

[Delaware Office of Early Learning newsletters](#)

were able to attend. We're looking forward to our Open House. Stay tuned for details on the date of that event!



IMPORTANCE OF MUSIC EDUCATION

Many people think about learning the alphabet, counting and recognizing shapes when envisioning early childhood education. While those are all very important for children to learn, music and dance can be helpful as well. Incorporating music and movement into early childhood education can help young children with development, social interaction and language growth.

Early Childhood

Early childhood education, for children 8 years of age and younger, is the beginning of a student's academic experience. This is an important time of learning and brain development for children in preparation for the rest of their education. Playing music and moving to a beat provides stimulating experiences for young children and fosters learning at home or in the classroom. Parents and early childhood teachers can incorporate music and movement into daily routines.

Brain Development

According to the Early Childhood Music and Movement Association, 85 percent of brain development occurs by the time a child reaches 3 years. As children grow, they need to learn specific activities that are important for development. For example, very young children begin to scoot and crawl for movement and while these activities are part of eventually learning to walk, they are also essential for brain development. Additionally, patterned activities at home or in the preschool classroom, such as clapping to music or jumping in time to a beat stimulate brain function and help the brain to organize thoughts and behaviors.

Language

Language has its own tempo; speaking a language fluently involves regular pauses, stops and starts in appropriate places. For example, most people do not speak in a constant, running diatribe of words; rather they insert pauses between phrases, they use accents and they increase or decrease the overall speed of speech. Music has a tempo and teaching young children songs that have rhythms and beats or learning to march in time to a tune can help students to learn the rhythm of speaking and improve their communication skills.

Types

Several different types of music and movement activities can be incorporated into early childhood education. Teaching songs, such as the "ABCs" or "If You're Happy and You Know It" while clapping or tapping along can teach rhythm and cadence while learning new words. Songs that involve action and hand gestures that follow the music teach children not only the meaning of some new words, but also to move and sing at the same time. Other types of activities for use in the classroom could be dancing with streamers or scarves, playing small musical instruments, singing songs in rounds, singing while cleaning up, marching to the beat or imitating animals. Not only can this be beneficial academically, it also keeps children moving, which is good for their little bodies.

For more articles, including this one, visit:

<http://www.livestrong.com/article/527778-importance-of-music-movement-in-the-education-of-young-children/>

VOLUNTEERS AT NDNCC

Gore Volunteers visited on Tuesday, August 5 for United Way of Delaware's Day of Giving. Some of the volunteers spent their time prepping and painting the cafeteria while others straightened up our parking lots and gardens. We appreciate their hard work and time very much!

CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

Ms. Lee sends words of encouragement to all parents/guardians, followed by fall happenings in the Infant room.

September rivals only January with the hope of new beginnings and fresh starts. Getting into new routines and family rhythms take positive energy, diligence and time. Keep moving forward but, please don't put too much pressure on yourself. Everyday we let our children know how fabulous they are. At this busy time of year, please don't forget about, "YOUR FABULOUSNESS TOO!" After all, the apple doesn't fall to far from the tree.



"Fun Fall": in the next few months we will be introducing the infant classroom to nature's wonders, exploring acorns, colorful fall leaves, pumpkins and gourds.

We will continue to have variety of music and story time daily, as both are popular

experiences with our infants. Music and signing specifically will continue to be the highlight inside and outside the classroom. For very young children music has the power and meaning that go beyond words.

REMINDERS



As always, the safety of NDNCC families is of the utmost importance. Please be careful in our parking lot. Drive slowly, follow directional signs, avoid parking in the fire lane, and leave handicap-accessible spaces open for those with proper authorization to use them.

Parents/Guardians, to ensure the safety of the children please remember to call to let us know if your child will not be at NDNCC for the day. This is particularly important for children in the After School program.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Early Child Ed. (ECE) Ongoing:

Day

Mon - Thurs Read Aloud DE one-on-one readings

Mon Music Class, Toddlers & Tweenies

Wed Music Class, Pre-S & Pre-K

Fri Chinese Culture and Language Lessons with the Confucius Institute

September:

1 **NDNCC CLOSED**

9 CSD Closed

16 Walgreens Flu Shot Clinic

21 Community Day - Newark on The Green, 11:00 am - 4:00 pm

24 Toxic Stress Training - NDNCC in the MPR, 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

25 CSD/NCS Closed

28 Community Day (Rain Date)

October:

3 CSD/NCS Closed

4 Fall Fun Fest - NDNCC MPR, 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

9 Stand by Me Sesame Street - MPR, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

10 School Pictures - Cafeteria, starting at 8:00 am

31 NCS Early Dismissal - 7th-10th: 11:30 am & K-6th: 12:30 pm

WELCOME NEW STAFF

Welcome our new Head Teacher in ECE!

Lauren joined us in July as the new Head Teacher in the tweenie room. She has many years experience in the early childhood field along with a Masters Degree in Education from Wilmington University. One of Lauren's favorite things to do in class is create art with unique tools like broccoli or celery. Say hi to her when you see her!



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