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CHIT CHAT

Newsletter for Families of NDNCC

January/February 2016

UPCOMING EVENTS



NDNCC's Annual Highmark Walk

We are thrilled to announce our participation in the 3rd Annual Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community! We will be one of [25 health and human service organizations](#) meeting at Bellevue State Park, Figure 8 Barn in Wilmington on Saturday, June 4th.

Highmark Inc. underwrites the cost of the walk so that 100% of the proceeds goes to each participating organization. Registration for the 2016 events will open on Wednesday, February 1st. More information will be available soon!

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THANK YOU!



Attention Shoppers



Do you shop at Amazon.com? By clicking here when you're ready to shop, a portion of your purchases will benefit NDNCC!



Thank you to everyone who supported us through the Holiday Food Drive! Thanks to your contributions, we were able to provide for many families for the holiday season!

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Tuition Payment Policy

The weekly tuition payment is due Monday of every week. A \$10 late fee will be added to your account for payments received after 10:00 AM Tuesday. We accept cash, checks and money orders at the front desk. Payments can be made by credit or debit cards at newarkdaynursery.org. Some banks offer an auto-pay feature. Contact your bank for that option.

Please write your child's name on the check or money order, and stamp the back of your check with the Newark Day Nursery and Children's Center's (NDNCC) "for deposit only" stamp, located at the front desk. Place your check or money order in the payment slot in the front hallway. Receipts are given for cash payments. If anyone would like a receipt for non-cash payments, it is available upon request.

Building Safety Protocol

We would like to show our appreciation to all of our families for being courteous and considerate to each other when arriving and leaving our facility. In order to provide the most safe and secure environment for our children and families, we would like to ask that, unless you are familiar with the person behind you, please allow our Front Desk staff to grant access to any and all guests. This is the best way that we can guarantee that only authorized guests enter our facility. We thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Helpful Links

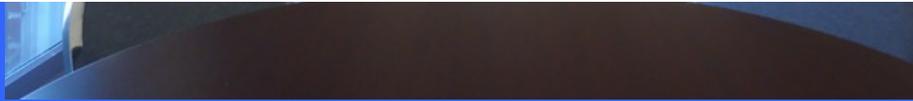
[NDNCC on the Web](#)

[NDNCC on Facebook](#)

[Delaware Office of
Early Learning
Newsletters](#)

FAMILY RESOURCE ROOM PANTRY





Thank you to all those who have stopped by to see and use our new Family Resource Room! We have a pantry that will be available year round, so we will be asking for help in keeping in stocked. There is also a bulletin board in the hallway to the right of the main entrance that we will use to give helpful suggestions for what the Family Resource Pantry needs throughout the year. Don't forget we also have a library of children's books available! Just sign out the books you wish to read on the clipboard by the door, and return them when you're finished. For those that haven't, make sure you take a moment to stop by and see what we have to offer!

DID YOU KNOW?:

Have you forgotten your car seat? No worries; we can lend you one!
Stop by the Front Desk for more information.

NEW ACTIVITIES

Door Decoration Contest

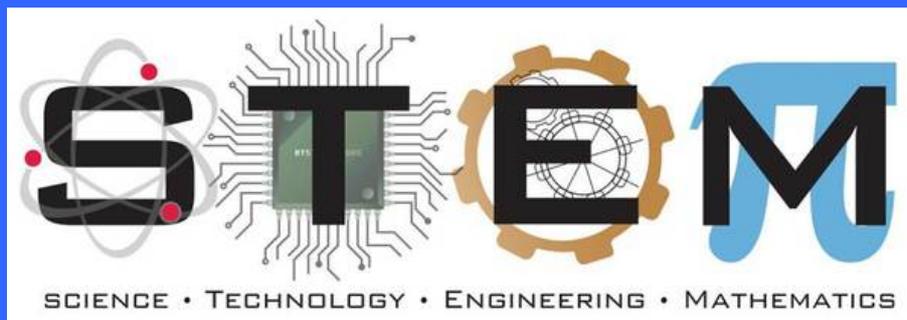


Toddlers
1st Place

SAC 3
2nd Place

Infants
3rd Place

S.T.E.M. Club



S.T.E.M. Club has officially begun! Our School Age Program recently started its third session of the popular STEM Club. STEM stands for science, technology, engineering, and math. This year we are running things a bit differently and offering the club as an extended session. Students will be spending the school year learning from an award-winning curriculum cart designed

to make the subject matter accessible and fun for students.
Join Mr. Dan for an exciting adventure!

Cooking Club



We are excited that our always popular Cooking Club will be making a comeback for our oldest School Age students. This session will be reinforcing healthy eating and techniques to prepare a variety of foods. The club has been revamped using a nationally recognized curriculum reinforcing health, nutrition, teamwork, and math concepts.

RECIPES KIDS CAN MAKE



Here is a delicious and nutritious recipe you and the kids can make together!:

Simply Delicious Shepard's Pie

Ingredients:

1½ pounds lean Ground Beef (90% lean or higher)
2 large Carrots, peeled and shredded (about 2 cups)
1 teaspoon Garlic Powder
1 teaspoon Onion Powder
One 15-ounce can Pinto Beans, drained and rinsed
One 14½-ounce can ready-to-serve all-natural Tomato Soup
1½ cups shredded reduced-fat Cheddar Cheese
1 cup frozen Corn Kernels, thawed
Kosher Salt and freshly ground Black Pepper
4 cups mashed Potatoes
2 tablespoons grated Parmesan Cheese

Directions

Preheat the oven to 375° F. Lightly oil or coat a 9 x 13-inch baking pan or dish with nonstick cooking spray and set aside.

Place a large Dutch oven or nonstick skillet over medium-high heat. Add the beef, carrots, garlic powder, and onion powder and cook, breaking up the large pieces, until the meat is no longer pink and the carrots are tender, about 5 minutes. Drain excess fat.

Stir in the beans, tomato soup, cheese, and corn. Simmer until heated through, 2 to 3 minutes. Season with salt and pepper to taste.

Arrange the meat mixture evenly in the prepared pan. Spread the mashed potatoes evenly on top, and sprinkle with the Parmesan cheese.

Bake until the meat mixture starts to bubble and the potatoes are heated through, about 15 minutes. Turn the oven to broil and broil until the top turns golden brown, 2 to 4 minutes.

Kids Warning: Note to parents: Never leave a child unattended in the kitchen. These recipes are appropriate for children of various ages, 4 to 10. When a recipe calls for cooking on the stove or using a paring knife, an adult should do those activities and let the child assist, if age appropriate.

Recipe courtesy of **Meal Makeover Moms** at <http://mealmakeovermoms.com/recipes/comfort-food/simply-delicious-shepherd%E2%80%99s-pie/>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Early Child Ed. (ECE) Ongoing:

Day

M-R: Read Aloud DE One-on-One Readings
Mon: UD Music (Infants, Tweenies, Toddlers) Resumes Feb. 8th
Tues: Mid-Atlantic Ballet (PS, PK) Resumes first week of January
Wed: UD Music (PS, PK) Resumes Feb. 10th
Fri.: Chinese Culture Class (PS, PK) Resumes Feb. 12th

January:

1 **NDNCC CLOSED**

15 NCS Closed

18 **NDNCC CLOSED**

18 NDNCC CLOSED

29 CSD Closed

February:

12 CSD & NCS Closed

15 **IN-SERVICE DAY - NDNCC CLOSED**

EXCITING ANNOUNCEMENTS



Mr. Tom

Tom Gamel-McCormick is the morning Assistant Teacher in the Tweenie room. Tom is a recent UD graduate with a major in Music Education. Tom makes a great addition to our team of excellent educators. Please feel free to stop by and welcome him. His hours are Monday – Friday, 7:00-10:00.

The Board of Directors has contracted with an Interim Executive Director. **Donna Melton** began in December, and will be available on a part-time basis to support NDNCC until the Board has found a replacement. Please help make Donna feel welcome as she effectively supports our amazing program!

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