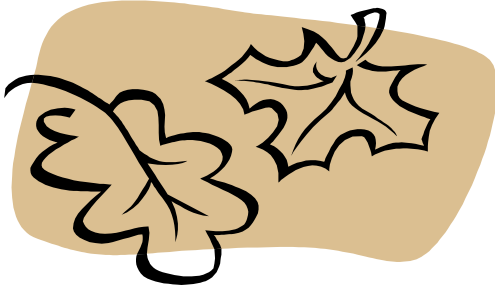


Chapel Hill Day Care Center Newsletter

Fall 2008



In This Issue:

- From the Director
- Upcoming Events
- Food Certificates
- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Helping your child adjust to Daycare
- Classroom News

UPCOMING EVENTS!!

- Picture Day!!
September 29th and
September 30th!
- Family
Picnic/Potluck!
October 2nd, 5:30
p.m. - 8:30 p.m. at
Wilson Park!
- Annual Costume
Parade! October 31st
at 10:00 a.m.!

From the Director...

Welcome to a new school year! Most of our new children have started by now and the remaining few will be here within the next couple of weeks. All of our infants are siblings of children who were already at the center. In our young toddler room most of the children are completely new to child care. You may notice that those two rooms frequently have their classroom doors closed. This is because those children are making a big transition at an age when it is not so easy to trust new adults, so the fewer new faces they encounter the better it is for them. Once they are feeling a bit more comfortable I am sure the doors will be open again.

We do still have a couple of vacancies due to some last minute changes in family plans. There is a vacancy in the oldest classroom for a child who would be going to kindergarten in fall 2009. We also have two vacancies in the Seahorse room for children who turned three between fall 2004 and spring 2005. The Starfish also have one vacancy for a child born between September 2005 and March 2006; all of our children on waiting list are really a bit too young for the Starfish group. I will also tell you that our waiting list is very heavy on boys, so if your child's room has many boys, that's why.

Not only are there a lot of new children and parent faces, but there are also a number of new and returning staff faces. Stephanie Burgess joined us in August as the new Penguin teacher and Aurelia Belfield is a new afternoon assistant working frequently with the Penguins. I am still interviewing for at least one more afternoon assistant. Jordan Rosado, who was working here before I came in 1999, has returned and is the co-teacher in the Grasshopper Room. Grace Garcia has also returned to our baby room after a year at another child care program. Valerie has left the center, so I am interviewing for a new cook. Lalanii Sangode is the new Butterfly teacher working with Jalanda. Angela has taken on the new role of Resource Teacher, which will allow her to spend time with all the age groups and learn some about the administrative end as well.

The Food Certificate Fundraising Program helps our Center

By Kate Sanford, Asst. Director and Coordinator of the Food Certificate Program

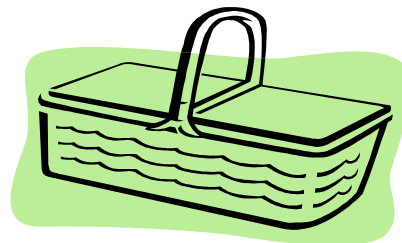
Does your family shop at Whole Food Market, Food Lion, or Lowe's grocery store? On a monthly basis how much do you spend for your groceries at these stores? You can buy a certificate for that amount to use to purchase your groceries. Chapel Hill Day Care Center will place your order for your monthly expenses of groceries so that by the first Friday of each month you will have the certificates to buy your groceries. CHDCC registers with these grocery stores to participate in this program. The center then earns 5-6% of the total costs of your food certificates. This program does not cost you any extra money!! You just have to budget for your monthly grocery expenses at the first of the month rather than throughout the month to support this program. If everybody does this, you will not have to take on burdensome fundraisers! This will do it!

If you shop at Harris Teeter, ask the cashier to register your VIC card under Chapel Hill Day Care Center (number: 3997) so the center can earn a percentage from your grocery expenses!

If you shop at Weaver Street Market, you can purchase a Rechargeable Gift Card, and ask them to register the card with the Chapel Hill Day Care Center (number: 305). We will also be selling these at the center soon - keep an eye out for future announcements about this!

Taking time to know each other. Thursday October 2nd Family Picnic, Wilson Park from 5:30-7:30

One of our newest traditions is a fall family picnic/potluck at Wilson Park. I hope you will join us in getting to know each other in a relaxing way that we don't often get to do at drop-off and pick-up.



Friday, October 31st, Dress up Day and Parade!

On Halloween, parents are invited to our annual costume parade around Market Street at around 10:00a.m. (Remember, no really scary costumes and nothing resembling a weapon.) And if your child doesn't have a costume we can create one with our dress ups! All staff are welcome to dress up as well!

After the parade teachers will take small groups of children to each classroom and the office to trick-or-treat for non-candy goodies!



Picture Day! Monday September 29 and Tuesday September 30 will be picture day at CHDCC. David Gellatly, Photographer, will come to CHDCC taking individual pictures and he will come to the family picnic at Wilson Park to be available to take family photos. This is the third year David has made his services available to families at CHDCC!

These pictures can be easily viewed and purchased online at smugmug.com under David Gellatly's name.



Parent Teacher Conferences!

In October and November we will organize parent-teacher conferences. Conferences are an opportunity to talk with teachers about your child's development, and experience in group care, as well as a time to set goals for your child's progress over the upcoming months.



Chapel Hill Day Care Center

401 Kildaire Rd
Chapel Hill, NC
27516

Phone:
(919) 929-3585

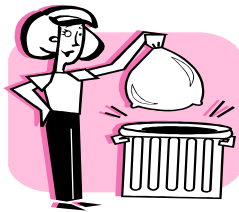
Fax:
(919) 967-7529

E-mail:
chdcc@bellsouth.net



Want to get Volunteer Hours?

- We are looking for a family or two to replace fluorescent light bulbs throughout the building!
- We are also looking for someone to tame the plants at the front of the building!
- Anytime you feel moved to help with center curb appeal by cleaning up/organizing/throwing away the odd items that seem to accumulate around the outside of the building, feel free!



NCAeyc Conference in Greensboro



Last Friday, September the 19th the staff attended an annual conference in Greensboro for the North Carolina Association for the Education of Young Children (NCAeyc). Staff were required to go to 4 workshops, which equaled 5 hours of training in topics ranging from different approaches to learning, to challenging behavior and guidance, to the Cognitive Development of a child!

Tips on Helping your Child Adjust to Daycare

When a child begins at a new day care center there is usually a period of adjustment to the new surroundings. The duration of this period and its intensity varies with each individual child but some adjustment time should be expected. The age and stage of development of each child also plays a role. Children need time to become accustomed to and trust the new adults and to learn the routine and limits. There are several things that parents and teachers can do to help calm a child who may be frightened and upset.

- Every family is encouraged to visit with your child prior to leaving your child in our care for the first time.
- Talk about school positively with your child, using the teachers' names and the names of some of the other children in the classroom. Speculate on the activities that the children might do.
- When you arrive plan an extra time for settling your child into the room. Walk your child into the room, and greet the teachers. Look around the room and find an activity that seems to interest your child.
- When you have been in the room for a few minutes or more and need to leave, tell the child what is happening (i.e., "I need to go to work. Have fun and play today and I will see you before dinner.") be confident in the way you deliver the message; remember your child will take his cues from you. Then give your child a hug or kiss and leave. It is important at this point to leave quickly and not return to the classroom, as your return may prolong this difficult time for your child. The teachers are ready at this point to help with the separation and will hold and comfort a crying child or be ready to interest your child in an activity. They will reassure your child that you will be back. Teachers also reaffirm the internalized image that your child has of you by talking about you during the day, and suggesting something be saved to show you or give to you. Sometimes a picture of you or a special item may help to comfort your child.
- It is helpful to have a drop off routine. Arrive around the same time each morning and create a drop off routine. (For Example, read one book before going, or have a special "over the door" hug teach day.) Routines help young children feel safe and secure.
- Please feel free to call the center and check on your child whenever you need to. Visits during the day are encouraged providing they do not upset the child.

