

Chapel Hill Day Care Center Newsletter

Spring 2009



In This Issue:

- [From the Director](#)
- [Tile Sales](#)
- [Parent Work Day](#)
- [The Peanut-Allergy Myth](#)
- [Classroom News](#)
- [Classroom Parent Representatives](#)
- [CACFP, Re-enrollment, Off-Premise, & Adult/Child Food Program Forms](#)



From the Director...

For those families who are new to the Center let me explain how we make the transition from one school year to the next. Our current school year will end at 12:30 on Thursday August 20th. That will be the last day at Chapel Hill Day Care Center for kindergarten bound children and those who did not re-enroll for the new school year.

The teachers will continue to work the rest of that Thursday, Friday and the following Monday to close out their old classrooms and prepare their new rooms to welcome children and families to a new school year. When the children return on Tuesday, August 25th, they will be in their new classrooms.

It would be wonderful if the logistics of the center (square footage and number of children allowed in each room) allowed for all children to predictably move from one classroom to the next; however, that is not the case. No matter how many times I add 12 and 10 it does not equal sixteen. The move from infants to toddlers, and from toddlers to two's is pretty predictable with groups generally moving together, unless there is an individual reason to do otherwise. After the two's rooms it gets a little tricky because groups of children must combine.

Each year the move varies slightly depending on the development of the children currently enrolled, the number of children leaving to go to kindergarten or other adventures, and the ages of the children on the waiting list. I really cannot determine all the details until I know which of the older children (3 & up) are re-enrolling.

Some children will move from their current group to another group. Changes for these individual children are made based on the needs of those children, recommendations from the teachers, Kate and me, along with input from the parents of those children. If you have questions about your child's transition please talk to your child's teacher or me or Kate.

The teachers and I are still discussing room placements for teachers next year. Historically our teacher turnover has occurred primarily during the summer. In determining teacher placements the number one priority is meeting the children's needs. Other things that are taken into account include: 1. each teacher's strengths and challenges, 2. how the current teaching team has been working, 3. teachers' 1st and 2nd preferences if they have been shared, and 4. NAEYC and licensing education requirements. Most children will have at least one teacher remain the same. Final decisions will be made and shared in July.

Some Reminders...

*You should have received a reenrollment form for your child for next year. If you for some reason have not, or have misplaced it, you can get one up front at the office! These forms will be due Friday, May 29th. There are envelopes outside each classroom to drop off the forms.

*The center will be closed Monday, May 25th for Memorial Day. The center will also be closed for Summer Vacation Monday, June 29th through Friday, July 3rd.

CHDCC Website

We have a new committee working on our website. We will be reviewing the site for what is working, what is not, and what will be added to it! Be sure to keep an eye out for changes to our website!



Pam's Evaluation

The Personnel Committee of the CHDCC's Board of Directors is collecting information for Pam Anderson's one-year evaluation (June 1, 2008-May 31, 2009). It will take you approximately 5-10 minutes to complete a questionnaire that can be found on the web using the following link:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=5NU8QHcGr6ZVWFjDFLPdGQ_3d_3d

Please be as honest and candid as possible. To encourage this, you do not have to sign your name. The survey needs to be completed by May 22, 2009.

If you have questions or comments, please feel free to contact any of the following members of the Personnel Committee:

Priscilla Guild priscilla_guild@unc.edu
Diane Butcher butchershop4@nc.rr.com
Erin Malloy erin_malloy@med.unc.edu

Classroom Parent Representatives

Bumblebees – Melissa Brumback, Melissa Troester

Chipmunks – Gabriella Steinmetz, Bronwyn Thornburg

Penguins – Tricia Billy, Janet Walters, Jenny & Bob Goldstein

Bunnies – Julie Hammer

Starfish – Stephanie Adams, Kristen Malzahn

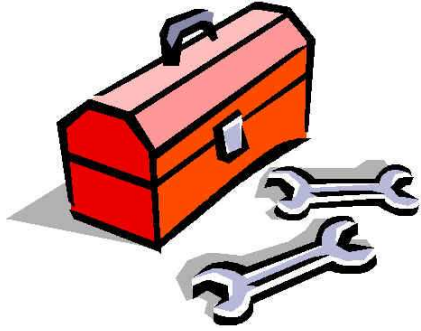
Butterflies – Jennifer Williams

Seahorses – Caitlin Hirschman

Grasshoppers – Margaret Barrett, Helena Ferburg-Barnes

Parent Work Day

Parent Work Day will be held on Saturday, June 20th. Lists will be posted in the classroom the week before Parent Work Day to sign up. This year, we'd really like to focus on outside projects around the premises! A mandatory of three volunteer hours is required each year per family. The Work Day should run from about 9-12pm.



Kindergarten Bound Children



Purchase a tile to leave your child's mark at CHDCC!

You have probably noticed the tiles surrounding the inside of our building. We are selling 4x4 tiles to those students who will be leaving for kindergarten next year. You should have received a form in your mailbox. The tiles are \$50 each.

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



What to do with all these forms?

You should have received a few forms. The CACFP Participant Enrollment Form, The Child and Adult Food Program Adult Eligibility Application, and the Authorization for off Premise Activities.

The CACFP Participant Enrollment Form is required!! This form is required in order the center to participate in the USDA food program. We have to have one on every single child. The center receives about \$1,400 monthly from the federal government.

The Child and Adult Food Program Adult Eligibility Application is optional.

The authorization for off premise activities is required for each child for any activities that might require a child to go outside of the fenced playground area. Such activities include a walk to Weaver Street, planting a garden on Center property, or taking a walk.



The Peanut Allergy Myth

“Early consumption of peanuts in infancy is associated with a low prevalence of peanut allergy.”



A study was conducted to determine the prevalence of peanut allergy in Jewish children in Israel compared to Jewish children in the United Kingdom due to their genetic similarities. Investigators also studied the possible relationship of infants and their mothers eating peanut to the development of peanut allergy in children.

The number of patients with peanut allergy in the U.K. and North America has increased, in spite of warning given to mothers to eliminate peanut during pregnancy and breast-feeding and to avoid giving peanut to their young children.

However, peanut allergy is rare in the Middle East, though peanut is eaten there in much higher amounts during infancy. The authors sought to determine if early exposure to peanut might actually create peanut tolerance in infants.

The study data came from two questionnaires, one about food allergy symptoms for children 4 to 19 years old was distributed to 24 schools in the U.K. and Israel. The other questionnaire focused on how frequently allergy-causing foods were eaten by the infant and by the mother during pregnancy and breastfeeding. In all, 8,600 children were analyzed and 176 mothers of infants, ages 4 to 24 months. The researchers found that peanut allergy was 10 times more common in U.K. children than Israeli children ages 4 to 12.

By 9 months of age, 69 percent of Israeli children were eating peanut, and they ate it frequently and in larger quantities, whereas only 10 percent of Jewish infants in the U.K. are given peanut by 9 months.

The study raises the question of whether early introduction of peanut may help prevent, rather than cause, peanut allergy.