PROGRAM NOTES

REVISED FAMILY HANDBOOK

We recently made some revisions to our Family Handbook and all enrolled families will receive a new hard copy of the handbook the week of March 14. The most notable revisions to our handbook are the announcement of a new accreditation at both program facilities by Praesidium, a national firm that focuses on child safety and a new Conflict of Interest policy. Other updates to the Family Handbook include a new welcome letter from The Ohio State University Senior Vice President for Talent, Culture and Human Resources AJ Douglass and a new section on Child Safety.

We encourage all of you to thoroughly review the Family Handbook to become familiar with the updates and should you have any questions, please feel free to speak with an administrator.

Classroom staff will distribute a copy of the Family Handbook to your family the week of March 14.

SPRING SEMESTER WITHDRAWALS

Are you planning to withdraw at the end of spring semester or over the summer? We ask that all families, including those whose children are moving on to elementary school and those enrolled in our Summer School Age Program, complete and submit a Withdrawal form.

Knowing which families are leaving is critical to planning our summer and fall rosters. While a four week notice is required, earlier notification is welcomed! To provide official notification, stop in either facility office and ask for a withdrawal form. In addition, if your family was issued a guest card to access one of our facilities during your enrollment period, please remember to return your card prior to withdrawing so we can reissue it to another family. Thank you!

AGE-LEVEL TRANSITIONS

While children may transition to the next age group or a different classroom at various times of the year, most children transition during the summer and fall when the largest number of enrollments become available. It is an exciting time for children and families and we want to provide you with information to help you understand our process. Children who will transition include:

*All toddlers (Ackerman and BV) who are 3 by September 30 transition to preschool.
*Ackerman Road infants who are 16 months by September 30 typically move to toddlers.
*Buckeye Village infants and older infants move to a different physical space but stay with the same children and teachers.
*Some older preschoolers may transition to a different preschool classroom in order to continue to have a peer group.

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Program Notes

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Family Survey

As mentioned in our January newsletter, we will be conducting a Family Survey later this month to gather feedback and input from enrolled families at both facilities. The primary focus of the survey will be program communication, recognition and support of diversity and increasing opportunities for parent involvement in our program. A link to our survey will be emailed to families when it becomes available and we welcome and encourage your participation!

Week of the Young Child (WOYC)

The Week of the Young Child, April 11-15, is an annual celebration sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) to recognize and honor early learning, young children, their families, and teachers. First established in 1971, WOYC is a time to focus on the importance of the early childhood years in laying the foundation for children’s success in school and later life.

Join us as we celebrate our youngest learners each day during the week of April 11-15 with activities designed to emphasize learning using a different approach, such as through a focus on art or collaboration (see box at right). Parent resource articles will be available relating to each day’s topic and we will document the week’s activities for display later in the month!

There is so much children learn as they enjoy music, explore food and cooking, build together, create art, and celebrate their families! We hope you will join us in finding out!

WOYC Activities April 11-15

naeyc

Week of the Young Child

Music Monday: Through music children develop math, language and literacy skills while having fun and being active.

Taco Tuesday: Tacos will be on the lunch menu! Classrooms will add a related cooking activity, such as making salsa, tortillas or guacamole, which will be added to their lunch!

Working Together Wednesday: When children work together to build something they explore math and science concepts and develop social and early literacy skills.

Artsy Thursday: Children develop creativity, social skills and fine muscles with open-ended art projects where they can make choices, use their imaginations and create with their hands.

Family Friday: Engaging with families is at the heart of supporting our youngest learners. Watch for information from your child’s classroom on how they are celebrating families.

2016 Celebrating Our Youngest Learners!
NEW ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM MEMBERS KATIE PAPPAS AND SARAH FELTER

Ackerman Road Program Coordinator Katie Pappas holds bachelor’s and master’s degrees from OSU with a focus in early childhood development. Katie began working at Ohio State in 2012 as a Master Teacher at the A. Sophie Rogers School for Early Learning and is looking forward to helping provide the highest quality educational experience for all our children and families. Welcome Katie!

Buckeye Village Education Coordinator Sarah Felter, former lead teacher in BV Room 105, holds a bachelor’s in elementary education and master’s in education with a focus on language, reading, drama and children’s literature. Prior to working at the Child Care Program Sarah taught preschool for seven years in Seattle Washington in a one room school house. Welcome Sarah!

CAMPUS COMMUNITY NEWS

DIAPER DRIVE

Did you know...
- More than 16 million children in the United States live in poverty?
- Some families struggle between putting food on the table and buying diapers for their young children?
- On average, children go through nearly 6,500 diapers before they are fully potty trained, costing over $1,625?

Throughout the month of March, the Child Care Program is partnering with OSU student Megan Vance in the College of Social Work to collect diapers for families in need. Donations of your child’s outgrown or no longer needed (yay!) diapers are being collected at both facilities. Any diaper brand or size will be accepted and packages may be opened or unopened. All the diapers collected will be donated to the Columbus Diaper Bank http://www.columbusdiaperbank.org/#about.

Campus Campaign is the university’s faculty and staff fundraising campaign through which contributions support Ohio State’s individual programs, projects and endowments. Donors choose where they want their gifts to be used according to their interest areas within the university. There are thousands of funds within Ohio State and the Ohio State Medical Center that range from research, scholarships, patient assistance, athletics, and the Child Care Program’s Staff Development Fund #309083.

PROGRAM DIRECTORY

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