

september 2014



school wide events

Curriculum Night

9/24 @ 6 PM

School Picture Day

10/10 @ 8:30 AM

Harvest Lunch

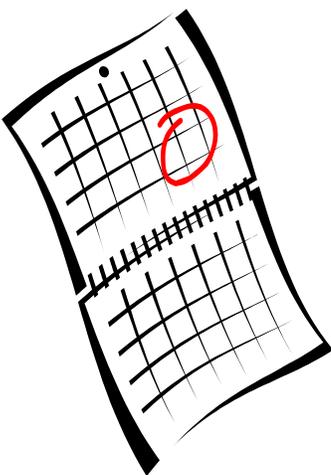
11/5 @ 12 PM

Fall Progress Reports

11/6 *Watch for conference sign-up sheets in the classrooms*

Art Night

12/2 @ 6 PM



Welcome to the School Year

It's hard to believe that another summer program has come and gone. Alas it has, which means the start of a new school year! Most of you are in the process of getting settled into new classrooms. Each member of the teaching team is so grateful that you have chosen to share your children's earliest years with us. We look forward to providing each of you with the highest standard of care and education possible.

Here are some helpful tips, which may be reminders for new families.

Please call or email TBDC if your child will not be attending. This is *especially* important for students the Before-After School Care.

Tuition payments are due the first day that a child attends for the week. For example, if Tuesday is the first day of the week your child attends, tuition is due Tuesday morning. Many families opt to pay

bi-weekly, or even monthly. This is acceptable, as long as tuition is being paid in advance. On Fridays, any unpaid accounts will be assessed a late payment fee.

Each family receives vacation time throughout the school year. Please notify Leslie via email when you would like to use this time. You must make this request at least two weeks in advance.

Research has shown us that the most successful individuals come from families who are involved in their education. We encourage all family members to be a part of the classroom. This looks anything like spending some time at pick-up to read a story or play with the students to chaperoning field trips! Also, please make sure that your child's classroom has a family picture.

Our school's lost and found can be found opposite of the water fountain. Any unlabeled items found at the end of the day are placed here. If we find items that are labeled, we put them with your child's belongings. **Please make sure that all of your child's belongings are labeled with her/his name.**

School picture day is Friday, October 10. Order forms will go home on September 19. This year we are using a company called Lifetouch.

Each Friday students have the opportunity to participate in "Pizza Friday". We order cheese pizza from Cottage Inn, and offer fruit &/or vegetable side dishes. Wobblers & Pre-Toddlers can participate for \$1, and Toddlers-Pre-K can participate for \$2. Please help us keep these funds separate from tuition. Each classroom has an envelop and sign-up sheet for this purpose.

National Accreditation

Congratulations! You have chosen a school that is accredited by the **National Association for the Education of Young Children**. NAEYC administers the largest and most widely recognized accreditation system for all types of early childhood schools. NAEYC is also the nation's largest organization of early childhood educators. TBDC has voluntarily undergone a comprehensive process of internal self-study, invited external professional review to verify compliance with the criteria for high-

quality early childhood programs. The criteria can be found on NAEYC's website at www.naeyc.org/accreditation

Our program provides a safe and nurturing environment while promoting the physical, social, emotional, and intellectual development of young children. In accredited programs you should see:

- Frequent & positive interactions among teachers & children
- Planned learning activities

appropriate to children's age & development

- Specially trained teachers & administrators
- Ongoing professional development
- Enough adults to respond to individual children
- Many varied age-appropriate materials
- Respect for cultural diversity
- A healthy & safe environment for adults & children
- Inclusive environments
- Nutritious snacks
- Regular, two-way

communication with families who are welcome visitors at all times

- Effective administration
- Ongoing, systematic evaluation

Accreditation is valid for three years. During that period, programs should maintain compliance with accreditation standards, document program improvements, and provide notification about major changes.



Assessing Children's Learning

Assessment is the process of gathering information about children in order to make pedagogical decisions. Our curriculum identifies four purposes to the assessment of our students:

- 1.) To support learning
- 2.) To identify unique needs
- 3.) For program evaluation and monitoring trends

4.) For program/school accountability

Through assessment teachers obtain useful information about children's knowledge, skills, and progress by observing, documenting, analyzing, and reviewing their students' work over time. At each step of the way, we are systematic to ensure that we are meeting the needs of

every child.

We objectively collect facts on students through ongoing observation. In order to use observation notes for later analysis and evaluation, teachers need multiple observations that apply to all of the objectives. A portfolio system is used for organizing samples of a child's work in order to document progress over

time. It is a purposeful collection containing items such as dated samples of art and writing, photographs of completed work. These items are concrete and representative examples of a student's efforts, achievements, and approaches to learning. Taken together, these materials provide a picture of each child's progress over time.