



PCHC Spotlight

January, 2009

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HAPPY NEW YEAR!

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday and I wish everyone a happy new year. I especially want to say that I appreciate your [warm welcome](#). It has been a pleasure getting to know you and your wonderful children. I love getting hugs everyday when I arrive.

Brrr. It's Cold

January has arrived and the cold weather is here, also. Please make sure your children have warm coats, hats and mittens, because we try to take the children outside everyday.

New Children in our Classrooms

We are very happy to welcome new children to our classrooms. Jacey, Maxwell and Christine have joined our toddler room. Connor, Kalise, Ethan, Kathryn and Presley have joined our twos room. We welcome Taylor, Brennan, Justin and Riley to the threes class. Hannah has been added to our class of four-year olds and Adonis is back with us in the school-age area.

Referral Program

Beginning in December, We will offer a \$50 credit to current families who refer new families to the Center. Please do not hesitate to contact me for more detailed information about the program.

Advance Tuition Payment

As of January 1, 2009, you may pay 6 months tuition and receive a 5% discount or 12 months tuition and receive 10% discount. Please see us at the office for more information.

Ms. Pat
 Director
pseiple@homeworkcenters.com

End of Year Receipts

If you need a receipt for your tuition payments for 2008, please see Mia or Pat in the office. We will be happy to print one for you to use when filing your taxes.

PCHC accepts credit card payments for tuition. You may pay by Visa, MasterCard, or Discover. Credit card payments are processed on Mondays each week.

January Birthdays!

Congratulations to:

Kalise – 2nd
 Jocelyn – 3rd
 Cadence – 11th
 Karif – 11th
 Ms. Kim – 11th
 Carly – 12th

Brennan – 15th
 Megan – 16th
 Presley – 20th
 Shayla – 21st
 Kristen – 22nd
 Cameron – 30th



Classroom Updates

Incredible Infants

Welcome to a new year. Our babies are growing **So Big!** Tatiana loves to roll and roll and roll. She will probably soon be crawling. Skylar is such a happy baby and will soon be sitting up by herself. This month we did some hand and foot painting! Come see our beautiful artwork in our room. We look forward to a new baby starting in February.

Ms. Pamela– Infant Teacher

Tiny Toddlers

Winter time is moving along and there have been lots of changes in our room. We have joined with the infants and we are having lots of fun. We have many activities planned for January to help our new toddlers develop new skills. Our friends, Ethan, Kathryn and Presley have graduated to the twos room and Maxwell, Jacey and Christine have joined the tiny toddlers.

Ms. Paula– Toddler Teacher

Terrific Twos

Happy New Year! Here are a few topics that we will be learning about in the two year old room. During the month of January, we will talk about our body parts and what they are used for, healthy foods and ways to exercise to keep healthy. We will be running, jumping, roping and bicycle riding. We are learning about opposites – **Up, Down, Over, and Under** We wish a happy birthday to Kalise who just turned two.

Ms. Robin – Twos Teacher

Cosmic Threes

The Cosmic Kids want to wish everyone a Happy New Year. Parents get ready! The year is beginning and, in addition to having lots of fun, we will be doing lots of learning while participating in many hands-on activities. We will be working on the following themes from our Saxon Curriculum in January: **People, Places, and Neighborhood Animals**. In addition, we will be working on "Let it Snow", "Zip Up", "Hickory Dickory Dock" and "Knock! Knock!".

I appreciate all the parents that have brought in some needed items for our classroom. I may be asking for some additional items from around the house to add to our classroom centers.

The Cosmic Kids would like to send a special Thank-you to Jessica Miller (Bradley's mom), for being our December Guest Reader. The children really enjoyed it and don't forget to sign up to be a guest reader during the New Year.

Ms. Kim - Threes Teacher

Fabulous Fours

During the month of January, the Fabulous Fours will be working on the theme of "My Neighborhood". We will be learning about places, people and animals, as well as the machines and tools that are in our neighborhoods. The Fabulous Fours want to make snow globes during art and it we would greatly appreciate if you could donate baby food jars for us to use. We will continue learning our letters and our numbers up to 20. We will continue to work on the concept of time by using our clocks. We will start teaching about the value of money by identifying the different coins.

As always, it is a pleasure to be with your children everyday.

Ms. Randi and Ms. Alicia

Sensational School- agers

As we ring in the New Year, the children's school work load gets harder. We are asking you to remind your child to give us a copy of their weekly assignment sheet so we can help your child complete their homework and achieve their goals. We welcome Ms. Danielle as our new teacher and Adonis has joined us as a returning student. Please remember that winter is here and that we go outside sometimes in the afternoon. Please send the proper clothing to keep your child warm outside.

There are several days this month that the area schools are closed. Please remember that there is an additional charge if you need to bring your child on those days.

Thank- you, Ms. Mac and Ms. Danielle



Parent Education Tidbits

It's Important to Help your child build a positive self-esteem and image

When your child knows that you accept him, just as he is, it is possible for him to grow, to change, and to feel good about himself. When a child feels good about himself, he is likely to get along well with others. Accepting the child just as he is makes it easy to communicate with him. The child who feels accepted will be more likely to share his feelings and problems.

When Adults:

Threaten
Command
Preach
Lecture

The Child Feels:

I'm no count
I'm bad
You don't like me
I can't do anything right

Accepting a child for who he is does not mean accepting bad behavior.

Don't use unkind words which tear the child down ...

Unkind words have unhappy results and they cut off communication. Avoid unkind words that are **ridiculing** – “you're acting like a big baby”; **shaming** – “I'm ashamed of you”; name-calling – “you're a bad boy”. Unkind words makes a child feel that he is disliked and they discourage the child and give him a poor concept of himself.

Use more Dos than don'ts ...

Tell the child what to do rather than what not to do. Using dos rather than don'ts is very difficult especially if adults already have the “don't” habit. Breaking this habit requires much practice and thought and the results are worth the effort.

The Don't

Don't drag your coat on the ground.
drag.
Don't slam the door.
Don't draw on the table.

The Dos

Hold your coat so it doesn't
drag.
Close the door softly, please.
You can color on this page.

Always try to build positive skills ...

<u>DO</u>	<u>DON'T</u>
Help the child develop an I-can-do-it attitude.	Don't destroy the child's self-confidence by doing everything for him or her.
Use as few words as possible when giving verbal directions.	Don't use too many words and confuse the child.
Reinforce words with actions. Body gestures are another form of guidance.	Don't be inconsistent. Model the behavior you expect from the children.
Use simple words to communicate clearly.	Don't use vocabulary that is beyond the children's level of understanding.
Speak in a calm, quiet, relaxed tone of voice.	Don't raise your voice. Save that for an emergency.
Encourage independence and cooperation.	Don't do for children what they are able to do for themselves.
Provide the children time to change activities.	Don't deprive the children of an adjustment time.
Accept children's sad or angry feelings.	Don't deprive the children of recognizing, understanding, and learning to express their feelings.
Do model good behavior in front of your children.	Don't use obscene words or behave badly in front of your children.
Always treat children with respect.	Never demean children or use unkind words which tear them down.

References: Anne Arundel County Dept of Health and the University of Maryland
 Florence Freeman, MBA

Upcoming Events

January 2009

- 19th AACPS closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday/School-age children can attend PCHC
- 21st-23rd AACPS (2 hour early dismissal)
- 26th AACPS (2 hour early dismissal)
- 27th-28th AACPS Closed/ School age children can attend PCHC

Administration

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