



PCHC Spotlight

March 2010

MARCH NEWS

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Referral Program

PCHC offers a \$50 credit to current families who refer new families to the Center. Contact Ms. Pat for detailed information about the program

Spring... and then comes Summer!

We are ready to welcome Spring and warm weather. Hopefully the snow is gone for the season. Please watch for details of our Summer Program. We are planning lots of fun and educational activities for your child. Activity fees will be due prior to summer - A deposit of \$75.00 will be due by April 16th and the balance will be due by May 28th. School age children who plan to participate in our summer program should turn in their registration forms so that their spots can be held. Spaces are limited and interest is high. Help us plan for a fantastic summer program!

New Curriculum

Our new curriculum is here and we will begin using it in Mid-March. See page 4 for details.

Spring Fundraiser

We are planning to have a spring fundraiser to raise money for our infant/toddler playground and to build a sandbox for the pre-school and school-age playground. Details will be available soon. Thanks in advance for your participation.

Staff Profiles

We have had several new staff members join us recently. Please see a brief staff profile on page 6.

New Staff Baby

Congratulations to Ms. Tia! She gave birth to a bouncing baby boy, Justin. Mom and baby are doing fine! Ms. Tia will be back in May.

Ms. Pat, Director
pseiple@homeworkcenters.com

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

March Birthdays

Congratulations to:

Tanner – 6th Alexis Curry – 12th Elena Betro – 30th



Classroom Updates

Incredible Infants

This month, the infant room is working on cause and effect, rhythm, and vocalizing new sounds. We will practice cause and effect by building towers with the textured blocks and rolling the ball. We also have lots of new rhymes and songs such as "The Rabbit and the Snowman". Our special activity this month is shamrock footprints.

The Rabbit and the Snowman

A chubby little snowman, had a carrot nose.

Along came a bunny and what do you suppose?

That hungry little bunny, looking for his lunch

Ate the snowman's nose, Nibble, Nibble, CRUNCH!

Ms. Kristy and Ms. Dar

Tiny Toddlers

This month we will be looking for signs of Spring and hopefully we will be able to get outside for walks in the stroller. Please make sure your child has a coat, hat and mittens. We will work on fine motor and gross motor development with each of the toddlers. The toddlers love to look at books and we will continue to read stories and sing songs to promote language development.

Playing "gently" with our friends is sometimes a challenge. This is something we can work on together and keep reinforcing.

Ms. Amber

Terrific Twos

This month our unit will focus on "Having Fun on the Farm". The twos will have a great time diving into this unit. This theme provides the children with the opportunity to learn more about what farms are and why they are important. Some of our farm projects will include muddy pigs and tractor prints. Also, the weather will be getting nicer and we will hopefully get outside. We will be making kites and rainbows.

We will be having a St. Patrick's Day party. It would be appreciated if you could donate an item for our party. Please watch for the sign up sheet.

Ms. Sarah

Threes

We have a lot to look forward to this month. We will work on the following themes: Farm Animals, Music, St. Patrick's Day, Dr. Seuss and Easter.

We will be working on tracing and writing the letters "H, J, K, L, M, N, O" and the numbers 4 and 5. We will continue to work on writing the letters in our name on the back of our worksheets and on our dry erase boards every Friday as a review of what we learned for the week.

We are hoping for a nice day during music week, so we can have a marching band outside on the black top. Be sure to look for information about our Easter Party at the end of the month. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to ask.

Thank-you, Ms. Mandi and Ms. Jackie

Fabulous Fours

This month our weekly themes will be centered on expanding our knowledge of how people and other living things grow and change. We will be introducing concepts such as nutrition, human growth and development. Later in the month we will be introducing the plant life cycle. We have planned to make a lima bean Ziploc bag garden to see how plants sprout roots. Following this activity we will be experimenting with celery placed in colored water. This experiment will help us understand how the root system works to give plants water and vital nutrients needed for plant growth. Paired with our weekly themes we will continue focusing on the number and letter of the week as well. As always, we hope to be as helpful as possible. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to share. Thanks so much!

Ms. Alicia and Ms. Robyn

Sensational School- agers

March is here and hopefully our snow will soon melt away. The children are "thrilled" to be back at school. They are all working hard to continue making progress. Please let us know if your child needs any special help.

We had to cancel our movie day on Feb. 15 because of snow. We are now planning to go bowling on March 30th during spring break. We will also be planning to have a Spring Break Party. Watch for details!

Thank- you, Ms. Mac

PARENT EDUCATION TIDBITS

NEW CURRICULUM TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN MID MARCH 2010

Our new curriculum, *The Creative Curriculum* by Teaching Strategies, is here and Ms. Pat, Ms. Mia and I have been reviewing and learning about the curriculum over the past three weeks. As we go through the process, we are preparing training materials for our teachers. Teachers have received the curriculum and will begin receiving training prior to our anticipated launch in Mid-March. We are excited about what we have learned so far and can't wait for the teachers to begin using it and for the children to start benefiting from it. This curriculum is a recommended curriculum from the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) for Centers seeking MSDE Accreditation. The curriculum is divided into two – one for infants, toddlers, and twos and the other for preschoolers (threes through fives). Please review the excerpts below about both curriculums. For the next few months, our Parent Education Tidbits section will be dedicated to sharing the learning methodologies in *The Creative Curriculum*:

The Creative Curriculum for Infants, Toddlers, and Two

The research-based resources for programs serving children from birth to age 3 will provide the consistent and responsive care environment that will start them on the path to a lifetime of engaged learning.

The Creative Curriculum® for Infants, Toddlers & Twos forms the basis of our fully integrated program for this age group. It helps build relationships with children by showing teachers how to create meaningful daily routines and experiences that respond to individual children's strengths and interests.

These early, positive interactions with caring adults can give young children the confidence they need to explore their surroundings and take delight in their day-to-day discoveries.

The Creative Curriculum® for Infants, Toddlers & Twos helps teachers plan and implement every aspect of caring for the children in their program, from managing daily routines, to creating a responsive environment, to building partnerships with families.

The Creative Curriculum for Preschool

Educators working with preschoolers, have the opportunity to set the stage for children's success in school and in life. Teachers' ongoing efforts to value children as individuals and embrace their unique contributions to the classroom community can inspire in them a love of learning that will last a lifetime.

At Teaching Strategies we believe that children learn best when they are actively involved with materials and with others. That's why our resources for preschool programs place so much emphasis on setting up the proper learning environment and building positive, meaningful relationships with children and their families.

The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool forms the basis of our fully integrated program for 3- to 5-year-old children. Nationally known for its forward-thinking, comprehensive, and rigorously researched model, our unique approach helps teachers successfully plan and implement a content-rich, developmentally appropriate program that supports active learning and promotes children's progress in all developmental areas.

Whatever the level of experience, teachers will find the support they need to plan appropriate learning experiences for all the children in their classroom, including children who are English-language learners, children with disabilities, and children who are gifted.

References:

www.teachingstrategies.com

Florence Freeman, MBA
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PCHC EMPLOYEE PROFILES

Kristy Curry, Lead Teacher, Infant
Experience-9 yrs.

Family-Married for seven years with two children, Josiah and Alexis. Kristy moved here from Michigan last September with her husband who serves in the army.

Interests/Hobbies – Running, photography and scrapbooking

Professional Qualifications – Associate Degree in Early Childhood, Associate Degree in Education, Paraprofessional and currently working on a Bachelor's Degree in Early Education/Special Needs.

Darlene Kadron, Infant Teacher
Experience – 24 yrs.

Family – Husband, John, one son, David, one daughter-in-law, Lori, two grandchildren, Justin and Alexa (the princess)

Interests/Hobbies – Reading, cooking, and spending time with family and friends

Professional Qualifications – 90 hour child development and curriculum certificate, CPR/First Aid, 18 yrs. as a licensed home day care

Sarah King, Lead Teacher, Twos
Experience – 10 yrs.

Family – Has four year old daughter that attends PCHC. She lives with Kaylee and her dad.

Interests/Hobbies – Spending time with Kaylee, enjoys music, shopping, collecting candles and lotions

Professional Qualifications – 90 hr. early childhood certificate, 45 hr. school-age certificate, CPR/First Aid, currently working on associate degree in early childhood.

Amber Keller, Lead Toddler Teacher
Experience – 4 yrs.

Family – Live at home with parents. Has one sister, Alicia, who is married.

Interests/Hobbies – Spending time with friends and trying new experiences

Professional Qualifications – 90 hour early childhood certificate, 45 hr. school-age certificate, 45 hr. infant/toddler certificate and currently working on an associate degree in early childhood. CPR/First Aid

Tia Osborne, Twos Teacher
Experience – 6 yrs.

Family – Lives at home with mom and her new son, Justin

Interests/Hobbies – Likes to spend time with family, enjoys shopping, swimming and bowling

Professional Qualifications – 90 hr. early childhood certificate, CPR/First Aid Certified

Mandi Walker, Lead Teacher, Threes

Experience – 5 yrs.

Family – All of her family is from Maryland. She has two brothers, 19 and 33.

Interests/Hobbies – Loves to dance (dancing since she was two). Performed in a Broadway Show in New York City “Nothing Like a Dane” in 2007

Professional Qualifications – 90 hr. early childhood certificate and working on associate degree in early childhood

Jackie Heiland, Threes Teacher

Experience – 3 yrs.

Family – Getting married in June.

Has one son, Brayden

Interests/Hobbies – Enjoys playing sports and going to baseball games.

Professional Qualifications – 90 hr. early childhood certificate and CPR/First Aid

Alicia Rader, Lead Teacher, Fours

Experience – 9 yrs.

Family – Married for two years

Interests/Hobbies – Currently re-modeling their home.

Professional Qualifications – 90 hr. early childhood certificate, 45 hour school-age certificate and school-age director qualified, 45 hr. infant-toddler certificate, CPR/First Aid Certified

Robyn Strauss, Fours Teacher

Experience – 10 years home child care

Family – Married with three daughters, Emma, Molly and Lucy

Interests/Hobbies – Favorite pastime is reading. Enjoys baking and decorating cakes

Professional Qualifications – 90 hr. early childhood certificate

McGlinda(Mac) Plummer, Homework Center, Lead Teacher

Experience – 12 yrs.

Family – Married with three children, ages 22, 29. and 34

Interests/Hobbies – Enjoys gardening, quilting, reading and bowling

Professional Qualifications – 90 hr. early childhood certificate, 45 hr. school-age certificate, 45 hr. infant-toddler certificate and CPR/First Aid.

Kathy Herrmann, Cook/Bus Driver

Experience – 6 yrs.

Family – Married 26 yrs. Has two children, John and Christina

Interests/Hobbies – Enjoys tennis and running

Professional Qualifications – 25 yrs. experience cooking, CPR/First Aid

Tamerah(Mia) Lane, is the Assistant Director at PCHC and has 10 years experience in early childhood education. She lives with her spouse Greg and two sons, Dashawn and Gregory in Severna Park. She enjoys spending time with family and friends and loves shopping and taking walks. She hopes to travel and take more road trips. Mia has her 90 hr. early childhood certificate, 45 hr. school-age certificate and CPR/First Aid.

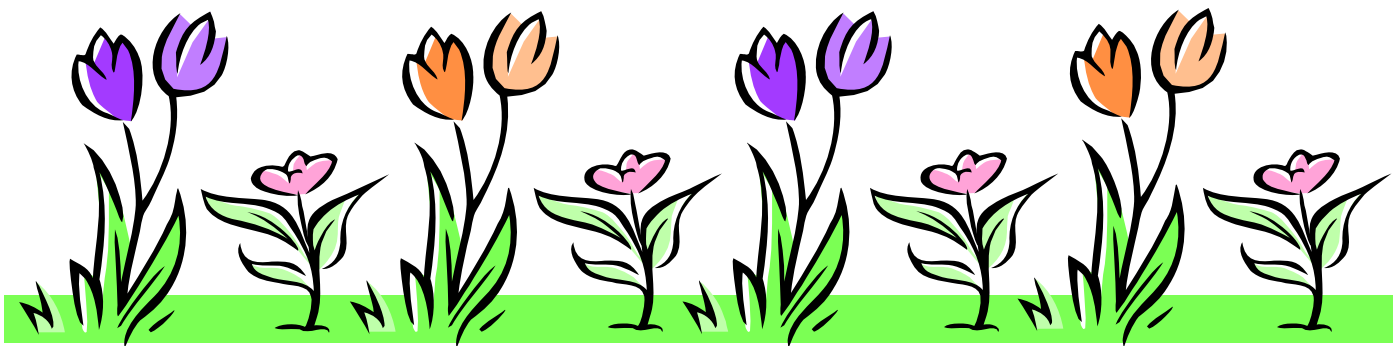
Pat Seiple is director at PCHC and has 32 years experience in early childhood education. She has been married for 27 years with two sons, Scott and Andrew and one grandson, Owen, who is three years old. Pat loves to spend free time knitting and reading and enjoys hiking, kayaking and taking photos of birds and wildlife. Pat has a B.S. Elem. Education, 45 hr. Administration Certificate, 45 hr. Infant-Toddler Certificate and CPR/First Aid.

Florence is the President/CEO of PCHC and Starmaker Learning Center, LLC, a Montessori-based Private School in Maryland that serves infants through third grade. She is married with two children and is a lifelong learner. She has lived and studied in three continents – obtained her undergraduate degree in West Africa, Postgraduate Diploma in the United Kingdom and her Masters in Business Administration (MBA) from the University of Maryland (UMUC) in the US. She spent over 16 years as an association executive for medical professional associations and has spent the last five years in early childhood education leadership. She has also earned the 90 hour early childhood certificate, 45 hour infant/toddler certificate, 45 hour administration certificate and is first aid and CPR certified. Florence loves spending time with her family, traveling, and learning.

Upcoming Events

March/April, 2010

March 17	St. Patrick's Day (wear green)
March 29-31	Schools closed – school-age children may attend PCHC
April 1-2	Schools closed – school-age children may attend PCHC
April 15	Spring Picture Day
April	Watch for details for a spring fundraiser to raise money for both of our playgrounds



Administration

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