



KID'S TRIBUNE

October 2013

Bright Beginnings Child Development Center

Notable Dates:

October 1 - 11

Cookie Sales

October 15–16

School Picture Pickup &
Purchase

October 23

Plentiful Pumpkin Party

November 11

Teacher Workday
School Closed

November 22

International Friendship
Feast

November 28-29

Thanksgiving Holiday
School Closed

Reminder:

Please Do Not
Use Your
Cellphones
during Dropoff
& Pickup



FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Dear Parents,

The "New" School year has begun! Hurray!! While Bright Beginnings is open year round, in late August and September, we enthusiastically welcome lots of new, smiling faces to our school! This year, unlike most years, we have the added thrill of welcoming three (we normally have two) new NC Pre-K classrooms to our campus! So, with the addition of so many new students and families, it's only natural that we consider this time of year the unofficial start of the New Year!

Welcome New Students!

On August 23rd, 36 new NC Pre-K students in two classrooms joined the Bright Beginnings family for the first time! A month later, on September 27th, 9 additional students moved in. During that same period of time, 5 other students in a number of our classrooms joined us as well! We could not be more excited! So far, we've enjoyed getting to know our new students and their families, and we look forward to getting to know all of you even better over the next few months!

Staff Changes

The newest NC Pre-K classroom started one week later than the other two. The addition of the new classroom has required that we make a staff change. The new teacher for the

third NC Pre-K classroom is our 2012 Teacher of the Year Ms. Shannon! Ms. Shannon has been our 3 year old teacher for some time, but had previously taught an NC Pre-K classroom for us in 2011. Based on her prior NC Pre-K experience and her excellent teaching abilities, we thought she would be the best fit for the new classroom.

With Ms. Shannon's move, we had to find a new, equally productive teacher to step into the three year old classroom. Fortunately, not only were we able to find a new teacher in a very short period of time, but also someone who's credentials are exemplary and who came highly recommended from a former Bright Beginnings parent! Her name is Ms. Elizabeth, and she is a mother and N.C. State graduate with greater than 10 years of early childcare experience.

Please join us in congratulating Ms. Shannon on her move and welcoming Ms. Elizabeth to the Bright Beginnings family!

Cookie Sale Extended

As most of you know, our annual Cookie sale kicked off during the first week of October. For those of you who have not already turned in your orders, we have great news! The deadline has been

extended to Friday, October 11th! So, feel free to let all of your co-workers, family and friends know that they still have time to support your child's school!

Pictures

Picture Day, held on October 3rd, went very well! We used a new photographer this year who was really patient and child-friendly. Based on the constant smiles we saw on the children's faces, we are certain you will be pleased with the photos! To purchase your child's pictures, make sure you are able to come to Bright Beginnings on either October 15th or 16th. Online purchases will not be available this year.

Fun Fall!!!

In addition to Cookies and Pictures, Fall tends to be one of the busiest times of the year for us. Later this month, we invite all of our students to bring their favorite costumes to school for our Plentiful Pumpkin Parade and Party. In November, we host our popular International Friendship Feast prior to Thanksgiving. Both are a lot of fun for the students and their families. Stay tuned for more details soon!

Classroom: Infant/“Transportation”				
Key Activities	Objectives	Area	Birthdays	New Students
Rattle Collection	Use rattles to make noise	Cognitive	Ava	Caleb
Read books	Engage in reading books to babies	Language		
Classroom/Theme: Toddler/ “Colors of Fall”, “Signs of Fall”, “Pumpkins”, “Friends”				
Key Activities	Objectives	Area	Birthdays	New Students
Painting	Demonstrates fine motor strength and coordination	Physical	None	Jamin Ayden Ava
Sorting	Uses classification skills	Cognitive		
Counting	Uses number concepts and operations	Mathematics		
Classroom/Themes: Preschool 1 / “Leaves”, “Apples”, “Pumpkins”, “Halloween”				
Key Activities	Objectives	Area	Birthdays	New Students
Sorting red, yellow and green apples	Uses classification skills	Cognitive	None	None
Putting off and on our jackets	Regulates own emotions and behaviors	Social-Emotional		
Saying S & K sounds clearly	Uses language to express thoughts and needs	Language		
Classroom/Themes: Preschool 2 / “Fall Colors”, “Pumpkins”, “Fall Holidays”				
Key Activities	Objectives	Area	Birthdays	New Students
Observing and recording sounds around school	Using scientific inquiry skills	Science & Technology	None	McKenzie
Using, exploring, mixing various Fall colors	To increase awareness and appreciation for Visual Arts	The Arts		
Fall festivals in celebration of harvest time	Awareness and understanding of people and how they live	Social-Emotional		
Classroom/Themes: KinderPrep 1/ “Beginning of the Year”, “Pumpkins”, “Apples”				
Key Activities	Objectives	Area	Birthdays	New Students
Simon Says	Listens to and understands increasingly complex language	Language	Sammy Adrianna	None
Exploring pumpkins	Demonstrate knowledge of Earth’s environment	Science		
Echo clapping	Demonstrates knowledge of patterns	Mathematics		

Classrooms (cont'd)

Classroom/Themes: KinderPrep 2 / "Fall"				
Key Activities	Objectives	Area	Birthdays	New Students
Mixing red and yellow paint	Demonstrates knowledge of physical properties of materials	Science	Josiah Jarin Kaleb	None
Compare apples and pumpkins	Compares and measures	Mathematics		
"5 Little Acorns" poem	Uses number concepts and operations; demonstrates phonological awareness	Mathematics Literacy		
Classroom/Themes: KinderPrep 3 / "Fall", "Pumpkins", "Apples"				
Key Activities	Objectives	Area	Birthdays	New Students
Nature walk to look at trees	Remembers and connects experiences	Cognitive	LJ Ethan	LJ Daniel
Sort and taste apples	Uses language to express thoughts and needs.	Language		
Pumpkin carving and life cycle of a pumpkin	Demonstrates knowledge of the characteristics of living things	Science & Technology		
Classroom/Themes: KinderPrep 4 / "Beginning of the Year"				
Key Activities	Objectives	Area	Birthdays	New Students
Self portraits	Demonstrates knowledge about self	Social Studies	None	All!!
Counting friends	Uses number concepts and operations	Mathematics		
Read "The Kissing Name"	Comprehends and responds to books and other texts	Literacy		

Feature Article

We are occasionally asked why toys and games are used in our curriculum. In this month's feature article, we explore why they are used and what you can do to reinforce what your child is learning in school.

Toys and games include puzzles; various table blocks; small construction materials such as LEGO® pieces; board games; and collections of objects (including shells, bottle caps, and buttons). When children use toys and games, they explore how things work, use their imaginations, strengthen and control the muscles in their hands, work cooperatively, solve problems, and learn content area concepts.

When children use toys and games in the classroom, we encourage them to talk about what they are doing. For example, we might say,

“Tell me about the design you made.”

“How did you get those rings to fit together?”

“Can you tell me how the blocks you picked out are the same?”

Such questions and comments help children develop thinking skills.

What You Can Do At Home

You play an important role by selecting toys and games that are safe, interesting, and appropriate for your child. More importantly, research shows that the most creative children are those who have had adults involved in their play. Here are a few ways that you can be involved in your child’s play with toys and games:

Observe. Watch as your child plays and notice his or her abilities and interests.

Play. Follow your child’s lead and join his or her play.

Imagine. Keep in mind that there is more than one way to play with a toy. Be creative!

Enjoy. This isn’t a time to drill your child or test what he or she knows. Just have fun being together, talking, and playing.

Good toys do not have to be expensive. You might collect various small objects such as buttons, seashells, rocks, and plastic bottle tops. Make suggestions, such as “Put all of the buttons that are the same color in a pile,” or “Group all of the beads that are the same size.” Encourage your child to tell you about the design he or she is making or to explain why things belong together.



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