

BUILDING BLOCKS CHRONICLE



www.BuildingBlocksSchool.com

Volume 4, Issue 3

****Dates To Remember****

October 26 ~ Fall Festival

October 29 ~ Lifetouch Portraits

October 31 ~ 5:00 p.m.
Early Dismissal for Halloween

****Dates To Remember****



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Emily's Corner Message From The Director



Of all the seasons, fall is my favorite!

It reminds me each year just as nature signals the leaves to change to bold and beautiful hues of red, brown and yellow that we should embrace change as a naturally occurring event as a way to improve and enhance our lives.

I am celebrating my one-year anniversary with Building Blocks this October! As I reflect back on the past year there has been "change" at Building Blocks but I feel we all have embraced these changes as they continue to improve and enhance not only our center but the lives of the families and the children we care for.

When I assumed the role of director there were numerous goals that I looked forward to accomplishing in my first year as director. My first goal is to establish open two-way communication between the children, families, and staff. I have truly enjoyed getting to know all of our families and I will continue to offer support and resources to our Building Blocks Family!

Another goal of mine was to aid in helping children respect others, develop social skills, creativity, language, and self-help skills while promoting their cognitive development. Everything we implement and every decision we make is in the best interest of the fami-

lies and children at Building Blocks.

As I look forward to the year ahead I still feel that same excitement about this journey and the positive impact our center continues to make on lives of the children we care for.

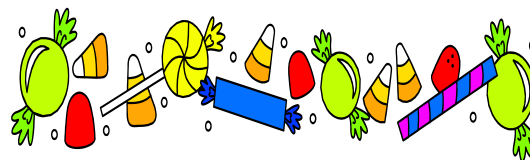
Please feel free to approach me anytime with your questions or concerns. I want to work with you to make sure we do our best to meet your child's needs and ensure that he/she has a positive experience at Building Blocks.

Join us for our Fall Festival and lets celebrate together as we embrace the season of change!
Ms. Emily



Fall Festival

Friday, October 26 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.



We are very excited to host a night of Family Fun on Friday, October 26, 2007 from 6:30 pm to 8:00.

This event was intended to be a, "Trunk or Treating" party last year but due to some cool weather and rain we moved it inside. Despite the change in plans the event was an amaz-

ing success with so many of families participating.

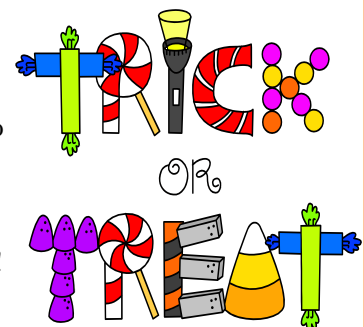
This year will plan on providing the children with the opportunity to safely go trick or treating in our parking lot at each of the teachers Halloween inspired trunks. Just as last year we will have games and activities inside the center along with lots of yummy seasonal

treats!

We are asking our families to sign up to bring a dish to pass.

This is a wonderful opportunity for our families to get to know each other! Please feel free to extend the invitation to your extended family as well!

Hope to see you there!!!



General House Keeping Items

Tuition

Tuition is due Fridays by 6:00 p.m. A \$20.00 late fee will be posted on Monday to your account if tuition is not received on time. Notices will be placed in your child's folder when a late fee has been applied to your account. If something comes up and your unable to make a payment on time please notify us. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Checking In and Checking Out

Please remember to use your four digit code to check-in and check-out your child each and everyday. If you have someone else who routinely picks-up or drops-off we can assign them a code as well.

Monthly Snacks

Just a friendly reminder that the \$10.00 snack fee will be applied to your account after the 1st of the month.

Absences

If your child will be absent from the center on a regularly scheduled day please call the center by 9:00 a.m. to notify staff.

Emergency Cards

Each family will need complete an updated Child Emergency Card. This is a State Licensing Requirement and

it will ensure that we have the most current and up to date information on your child.

Health Physicals

Children under the age of 30 months are required to update health physicals yearly. Children over the age of 30 months are required to update health physicals every two years. Immunization records are also required to be updated yearly. If your child is in need of a current physical or shot record please submit them as soon as possible.

Vacation Time

Building Blocks vacation time for families renewed itself starting September 1, 2007. If your child is full time Monday through Friday you will receive 1 week vacation time. All vacation time must be in writing. Please remember if your child is scheduled on a holiday, you are still responsible for paying for that day. Refer to the updated Parent Handbook.

Your Child's Supplies

Parents, with the changing weather please make sure your child has a jacket for those cooler days. Please make sure to routinely check the status of your child's diapers, wipes, cereal, and extra changes of clothes. Please bring in any necessary items promptly. We also need all parents to bring in 2 changes of size and weather

appropriate clothing. Label your child's items with their name.

Infant/Toddler Room Entrance

Please keep in mind that the infant/toddler room entrance should not be used by our families as an entrance or exit to the playground. This is for safety reasons only. Wood chips, snow, salt, and other hazards are being tracked through the room and present a choking or safety concern for our infants and toddlers. We often have sleeping infants at drop off and pick up times as well. Thank you in advance for complying with this issue.

Holiday Closings

Please make a note on your upcoming calendars. Building Blocks will close on Thursday November 22 and Friday, November 23 for the Thanksgiving holiday. We will be closed December 24, 25 and 26 for the Christmas holiday. We will close at noon on Monday, December 31 be closed on January 1, 2008 for New Years. If you have any questions please see Ms. Emily.



WASH HANDS

Hand Washing Upon Arrival

In order to cut down on the amount of germs in the center we are asking that all children wash their hands upon arrival at the center everyday. Please help us in this effort to stop the spread to germs from outside the center by encouraging your child wash there hands after their arrival each and every morning. Staff will be available to assist!



WASH HANDS



So fall is here! Unfortunately the weather changes won't allow us to get outside as often as we did during the summer months but when we do get outside, we love watching the leaves fall and feeling the cool breeze.

Lucas has made a lot of changes this month. He has officially become a walker! It's so exciting to watch him walk around the room. He is so confident and proud of himself. The other teachers and I

are very proud of him too.

Amelia has become a part-time addition to the toddler group. We hate to see her leave our group but happy she is growing and learning so much everyday. Amelia loves to give other children hugs and we are working on sharing toys with friends. She is putting words into small sentences, which is very exciting to hear.

Madelyn has also been asses to the younger toddler group part-

time. She has been speaking her own language for some time now and I've even heard her say, "Laura" a few times, which is very exciting for me. She has started climbing the big yellow slide outside. She gets to the top but I hold her hand and she gets a smile on the way down.

We are looking forward to meeting Evan soon!

Ms. Laura



Ms. Janet and Ms. Wendy's Toddlers

A big welcome to new friends Evangeline and Markey we are so glad to see your smiling faces.

Kitty, Madison, Kennedy, and Megan you are all doing a great job practicing going on the potty!

We've been working with the primary colors; red, yellow, and blue and discovering what colors they make together.

We spent time this month talking and learning about our bodies. The children really enjoyed the body tracing activity but not as much as learning about our eye color. The children spent time looking in mirrors and ob-

serving their eyes and there color. We completed an eye chart of everyone's eyes and even included the baby dolls eyes.

A little sign language has been added into our day starting with some very simple signs like baby, apple, cookie, and even a few letters.

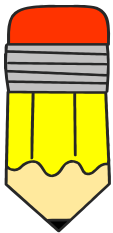
Everyone is doing very well at lunch time eating family style meals. Learning to pass a bowl to the next friend and using a large spoon and tongs to serve themselves their food. At snack time the children have just started learning how to pour their own drink from a small pitcher.

We're glad to have Amelia and Madelyn joining us for some more structured activities in the morning! Our individual books all about ourselves are coming along and will be a work in progress these next few months. Thank you to parents who brought in families photos. If you have not yet brought one into share please do.

We hope all of our parents are enjoying receiving our weekly lesson plans! Please feel free to speak with us about and concerns or developmental questions.

Ms. Janet and Ms. Wendy

Ms. Lesley and Ms. Kelly's Preschoolers



Now that your child has settled into our preschool program we want to take this opportunity to share with you some of our goals, objectives, and teaching strategies for this school year.

We believe children are to be regarded with respect and valued as unique, competent, capable individuals, full of incredible potential. They have the right to outstanding care and education. They also need time and knowledge to make sense of their experiences as they investigate their world, learn about themselves, learn to care about others and adapt to their physical and cultural environments. We, the teachers, need to be attuned to the children's abilities and viewpoints and thus can better understand and provide for them at their current and emergent stages of development.

We believe that education is not merely the transmission of information from us to our students. We would like to identify what the children know, what they question, and what they imagine and then support them as we facilitate their learning. We observe, listen to and participate in children's questions,

plans and predications. We mediate between their current understanding and abilities, and what they are on the threshold of learning.

Our goal is to create an environment that serves as an invitation to enter, explore, and participate to become engaged in the activities available. We are creating efficient and rich learning centers that are organized and labeled. We will make your child aware of the expectation in each center and the system they will be using to manage each center. Their areas will be designed in such a way that the children can direct their own play.

We also believe in aiding the children to become an independent, caring, person who is aware of others around them and is excited to help out when others need it. We will help them learn what is socially acceptable and show them how to take responsibility for their behavior whether good or bad. Our hope is to see our students thrive in a group setting.

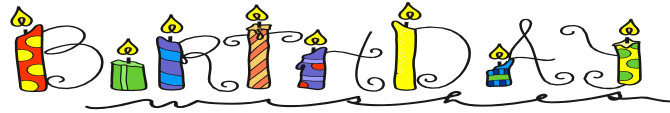
We start our mornings together as a larger group. This allows learning to take place visually and verbally through routines and spontaneous events alike. Part of our routine will be the calendar (months, days of the week, counting, number recognition, weather (observation) and the pledge of

allegiance). We also will have open discussion in which we plan on taking children's current interests and exploring them in areas of math, science, literacy and other creative experiences. We will continue to have bi-weekly themes each week and encourage children's participation with stories (visual) and songs (verbal). A general schedule or routine is posted, however for the benefit of the children there is flexibility built in so that children are not rushed out of their learning experience simply because it's time to clean up.

We would like to take this opportunity to make the request that your child arrive here before 9:00 a.m. We understand that this is asking a lot and we would not make the request if we didn't think it was going to make a significant difference in the overall learning experience we provide for your child. Research has proven that children need 20-30 minutes of play before they are able to settle down and take in any kind of learning experience.

We are looking forward to having a parent night in early November where we will have the opportunity to speak with each and every parent individually!

Ms. Lesley and Ms. Kelly



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Alexandrea ~ October 8

Abbigayle ~ October 11

Kailee ~ October 20

Song of the Month

5 Little Pumpkins

5 Little pumpkins sitting on a gate
 The 1st one said, Oh my it's getting late
 The second one said, There are Witches in the air
 The 3rd one said, But we don't care
 The 4th one said, Let's run, run, run
 The 5th one said, I'm ready for some fun
 The OOOhhh when the lights
 And five little pumpkins rolled out of sight.



Tell Your Friends About Us!

We offer children the opportunity to explore new ideas, practice making choices, feel competent and in control, interact with others, and fine tune new skills.



We are very excited about all the great things the children are doing here and we are looking for friends to share it with.

We have enrollment spaces available and if you know of anyone looking for care, please recommend us.

We will be more than happy to give you \$50 off one weeks tuition for every referral that signs up for a minimum of 3 part time days. This is a special offer for October.

Please tell your friends about us!!!!

In the Spotlight



Curriculum Corner

OCTOBER

10/1 – 10/12	Corduroy	Ee	Ff
10/15 – 10/26	Fall Harvest	Gg	Hh

Please join us in welcoming Ms. Courtney to our center. Ms. Courtney is a high school senior at Lakeland High School and completing an internship requirement at our center! She will be spending time with each of our age groups this school year to gain a better understanding of child care and early childhood education. Ms. Courtney will be here on Tuesday's from 1:30 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. Make sure to introduce yourself!