

BUILDING BLOCKS CHRONICLE



www.buildingblocksschool.com

Emily's Corner Message from the Director

Fall happens to be my favorite season because if we look closely we can see the world around us change. During the course of each year nature signals the leaves to change to bold and beautiful hues of red, brown and yellow. If we view change as a naturally occurring event much like the change of seasons then we can embrace change as a way to improve and enhance our lives. Of all the seasons, fall is the one that reminds me that change is not only good and necessary, but sometimes we need this season of fall to realize that, even though change can be one of the scariest things in the world, it can also be the most

rewarding. During this time of change at Building Blocks, as I assume the role of director, there are numerous goals that I look forward to accomplishing. My first goal is to establish open two-way communication between the children, families, and staff. I look forward to working side by side with a dedicated staff that I already get a sense of the importance of teamwork from. Helping children respect others, develop social skills, creativity, language, and self-help skills while promoting their cognitive development. Offering support and resources to families who want the best there is to offer their children.

One of the most important aspects when caring for young children in a child-care setting is the continuity between home and school. 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. I hope to see everyone at the Open House on Tuesday, October 17 at 6:00 p.m. We are so looking forward to having all of our families at the center to show you what we have in store for the coming year. If you have any questions, please let me know!
Mrs. Emily

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****Dates to remember**

**Open House-
October 17 at 6:00 p.m.**

**Halloween Trunk or treating-Friday
October 27, 2006
from 6:30-8:00 p.m.**

**Tuesday, October 31, 2006
We will be closing at 5:00**

Lifetouch photography will be here for Holiday Pictures on Tuesday, Nov. 7



Halloween Trunk or Treating

We are very excited to announce that on Friday, October 27, 2006 from 6:30 pm to 8:00 we will be having a night of "Trunk or Treating" at Building Blocks. This will be a great family fun night for all of our students. The students will have the opportunity in the safety of our parking lot to go trick or treating at each of the teachers Halloween decorated cars. We will also have games and activities

inside the center. This will be an opportunity for all of the students to wear their Halloween costumes to this event and have a costume parade. We would like parents to sign up to bring a dish to pass. Please see the posted sign up sheet. Your help with this event is greatly appreciated. Happy Trunk or Treating. On Halloween Day -Tuesday, October 31, We will be having a fun day of Halloween activities. We ask that all stu-

dents wear pajamas instead of their costumes. This way we run less of a risk of costumes getting ruined. Please do not send your child in nightgowns unless they wear pants with them. The teachers are very excited because they get to come to school in their pajamas too! Any questions please see staff. Building Blocks will be closing at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 31, 2006 to give all staff an opportunity to celebrate Halloween with their families. Thank you.

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General House Keeping Items

Health Physicals

Parents, students are required to have yearly physicals. This is a State of Michigan mandated law. If a child does not have a current physical or is not updated on their shots they may not attend Building Blocks Preschool Daycare. If your child is need of current physical/shots please have them submitted as soon as possible. Mrs. Emily will inform any parents that may be affected by this.

Sick Days

Parents, if your child is running a fever and absent from school, they must be fever free before returning to the center for 24 hours. Also, they should not be showing a rash, vomiting, or diarrhea for 24 hours as well. It is very important that you follow this health policy. It greatly reduces illnesses within the center for staff and children.

Snack Menu

Parents, please don't forget to bring in snack on your child's day. The children really enjoy passing out their snack to their friends. It promotes our philosophy of sharing and is enjoyed by all. If you do not bring in snack your account will be charged a \$10.00 fee. You may bring in a gallon of milk or juice, and fresh fruit, crackers and juice, yogurt, or any healthy snack choice.

Bus Routes

Building Blocks currently has busing available for Spring Mills Elementary and for Highland Elementary. It is the parent's responsibility to confirm with transportation if your child will need bussing services from Building Blocks. This is extremely important for all students attending kindergarten this fall. The number for transportation is 248-684-8200.

Schedule changes

Scheduling- parents, we understand that sometimes you need to make occasional doctor's, dentist, and other appointments for your child during their day at the center. We ask that you please try to make their appointments in the morning before bringing your child to school. We schedule our classes by teacher to student ratio and we start breaking down our classes in the afternoon. If you need to pick up your child and bring them back to the center after their appointment, please let the staff know as soon as possible so that we can make sure your child stays on the list and the class is scheduled accordingly. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated and expected. A two week notice is required. All schedules must be in writing. Please let the staff know of your child's kindergarten schedules, before and after school, and any other changes that affect their schedule.

Vacation Time

Building Blocks vacation time for families renews itself starting September 1st, 2006. If your child is full time Monday through Friday they will receive 2 weeks vacation time. All vacation time must be in writing and a holding fee must be put in place. The holding fee is ½ of your regular tuition and will go towards the week your child returns from vacation. Please remember if your child is scheduled on a holiday, you are still responsible for paying for that day. Also, remember you pay for what you schedule for even if your child is absent that day.

Holiday Closing

Please make a note on your upcoming calendars. Building Blocks will close on Thursday November 23 and Friday, November 24 for Thanksgiving. December 25, 2005 and January 1, 2007.

Your child's supplies

Parents, with the changing weather please make sure your child has a jacket for those colder days. Please make sure to check with staff on 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 clothes to store in their nap baskets.



Building Blocks Baby Dolls



Happy Fall! We had a fun and exciting summer and we are looking forward to a great fall. We had a lot of exciting accomplishments this past September! Kennedy has been using her words more and more and we love hearing her voice. She has lots of stories to tell everyone! Our friend Alex has been prac-

ting his jumping; pretty soon he will be hopping all over the place. He is doing great! Amelia has started scooting along and now she is crawling little by little. Our friend Tyler has also been very vocal lately sharing lots of stories with all of us. Alivia is going to be the next American Idol; she has such a beautiful singing voice. Abbigayle is doing great transitioning from

Infants to Toddlers. She is ready to be a big girl. We would like to welcome Megan to our class. We are excited for all of the upcoming activities for October. Hope to see you at the open house! Happy autumn!
Ms. Amanda, Ms. Danielle, and Ms. Wendy.



Mrs. Janet's Toddler Tidbits



We would like to welcome our newest friend Mason to our toddler class. We're glad to have you with us. A big thank you goes out to Karissa, who visited our class several times last month. You were great at get-

ting everyone to sing songs and participate in our group activities. You are growing up to be such a big girl. Lindsey, Danielle, Genna, and Makenzie are doing such a great job sitting on the potty. You will be going on your own on the potty in no

time. This month we are going to focus on the fall and we will have a lot of fun collecting different color leaves and learning all of the fall colors. Mrs. Janet



Mrs. Mary's Young Preschool News



How quickly my little young preschoolers have learned the routine of our mornings. Now that Karissa has just turned 2 ½ she has done a great job blending into our class. Hunter is such a big boy now he says good bye to his mommy right at the gate. Great job guys! Skylar and Kaylyn are always my great helpers, our friend Averielle is working on

potty training and she is doing a great job of trying. This past month we started working on writing in our own journals. Each child recognizes their own name and their journal. We will be practicing their names, coloring, writing with different tools, and decorating pages with stickers. I can't wait to show them off at the "open house" on October 17,

2006. Hope to see everyone there! We're very sad to say good-bye to our friend Kaylyn, my sweet girl will leaving this month to move to a new school that will be closer to her home in Waterford. Hope everyone has a great Halloween! Ms. Mary



Ms. Jackie's Preschool News



We have had a great first month of school. The pre K class has been working hard and their listening ears are improving. Caden, Peter, Alexa, and Elizabeth are working on learning how to properly hold a pencil and they are so proud of themselves when they are able to write letters correctly. I have been putting a rubber stamp on their papers after they have showed good effort on their work. The students are really learning the proper way to hold a pencil; this is a motor skill

that takes time and a lot of practice. Most of the students are recognizing their letters and the sounds of the letters. Each week we have a new letter that we practice writing and most importantly the sound the letter represents. We repeat and go over the sounds each and everyday. The children work on a letter mobile each week which helps the learning experience. Mikayla, Matthew, and Stella have gotten very good at recognizing our word wall words. We are also working on our numbers

and what each number represents. The children are learning basic adding and subtracting through manipulative play. The students are really looking forward to their "Weekly Readers" each week. They enjoy having their own newspaper. I encourage them to read to their mom and dad when they get home. Emma, Alexa, David, and Michael enjoy being my big helpers which I really appreciate. We have lots of fun and exciting activities planned for October. Hope everyone has a Happy Halloween! Ms. Jackie

A note from Mrs. Tracy

I would like to thank Joe and Suzanne, the staff, the children, and the families for all of your support and love as I head south to Memphis, TN. It has been an honor and a privilege to be an apart of your life on a daily basis. Best wishes for all that lies ahead at Building Blocks!



Mrs. Nicole and her husband Mark welcomed their newest arrival Emily Elizabeth into the world on September 20, 2006 at 10:59 am, weighing 6 lbs 3 oz, and was 18 inches long.

Great News

Big brother Cameron is doing a great job keeping an eye on his baby sister. We look forward to meeting her when she comes back to work at Building Blocks in November.





Happy Birthday To You!!

Abbigayle October 11

David Lee October 19

Kailee McCullough October 20

Staff

Jackie October 5

TODAY

Today like millions of other Americans I went to work. I didn't design a beautiful skyscraper, I didn't write a proposal to save an endangered species, and I didn't drive a bus or fly a plane, or write a crucial bill that would someday become a law. However, I did spend time with some very important people. I read a story to an attorney, I sang the alphabet song with a Supreme Court Justice. I ate Lunch with a pastor,

and patted the back of an engineer until he fell asleep. Taught a policeman how to tie his shoes, and introduced an astronaut to the color red. Tomorrow, who knows whom I'll meet, but one thing is for sure..... They will be very IMPORTANT For they are our precious children, and the hope of our very future. ~~~Author Unknown~~~

Tell Your Friend's About Us!!

We have a few enrollment spaces available for the Fall and if you know of anyone looking for care, please recommend us. We will be more than happy to give you \$160 off your weekly tuition for every referral that signs up for Full Time. And for 3 day part-time enrollment will give a



"I feel the mission of Building Blocks reflects quality childcare ..."

\$50.00 off your weekly tuition referral . This will be reimbursed off of your tuition on the third week of the new families enrollment. The more that you refer and sign up the greater the savings you will receive. If you have any questions, please see Mrs. Emily.

Scholastic book orders



We work with Scholastic Books. This company offers great books and educational resources at great prices. The students really enjoy reading and what a great way to start or continue your child's library at home. We will be sending out catalogs in November for you to choose from. One can never start holiday shopping to soon! Please let the staff know, if you have any questions.