

BUILDING BLOCKS CHRONICLE



Tracy's Corner Message from the Director

It is officially that time of year again. Back to school time, I am sure you have all noticed all of the main stores preparing the aisles and aisles of crayons, notebooks, lunch boxes and all the must have school supplies. We have also been hard at work preparing the center for this special time of year. Our team has put together another amazing fall and winter program as you have been able to see in our fall packets. The students will continue to learn and grow within our program. This summer we did something we have never done before; we transitioned our students into their classes early. Typically this isn't done until the fall, however we felt it would be more beneficial to the teacher and to the students to have that relationship in place. We have already been able to see the benefits of this early transition.

We are putting in some changes to our staffing to help the onset of the enrollment. We are pleased to announce that Ms. Jackie will be taking on the preschool

program as the primary teacher. Ms. Jackie has spent a great deal of time planning and creating a wonderful program based on the student's needs and interests. We are also making some changes in our Infant/toddler program. Due to the increase enrollment in our infant class we felt it would be important to have a primary teacher in place to take on the role since Ms. Nicole is on maternity leave. We are also proud to announce that Ms. Amanda will be taking on the primary infant teacher responsibilities. We are very excited to have her apart of our program and can't wait to see the new and exciting things that she will add to the class. We have also made a permanent change in our young toddler class. Ms. Wendy will now be taking that role due to the increase with our toddler class. Ms. Wendy has such a wonderful way of nurturing the students and helping them grow and learn. We are so excited for her to take on this role. We are very proud of

all the work that she has done with our preschool program that we know the young toddlers will truly benefit from having her as their teacher from such a young age. We are very pleased to announce that Ms. Wendy played a huge role in our students that are starting kindergarten this fall, there are eight students that will be taking that step this year and we are so proud of them. Ms. Mary and Ms. Amy Jo will continue to have the young preschool class responsibilities and Ms. Janet will continue to have the toddler 2 class responsibilities. Ms. Danielle will continue to work with all of the classes. Fall is often a time of change and transition and the exiting thing about our program is the opportunity for growth. I am very pleased about our upcoming program and as always I look forward to what lies ahead here at Building Blocks. Please let me know if you have any questions or if there is anything I can assist you with. Also, if you haven't returned your new emergency card please do so. Happy fall! Take a time out to watch the changing colors of the leaves.

Mrs. Tracy

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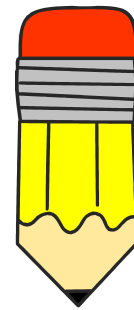
September 2006

****Dates to remember**

Labor day is Monday
September 4, 2006.
We are closed.

****1st Day of School &
Preschool is**

September, 5 2006



Inside this issue:

General House Keeping Items	2
Building Blocks Baby Dolls	2
Mrs. Janet's Toddler Tidbits	3
Mrs. Mary's Young Preschool	3
Ms. Jackie Preschool	3
Birthday	4
Mission New Enrollment	4

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. Tracy 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.

Annual Registration Fee

According to our handbook policy all students will be required to Re-register your child for the year and will have a **annual fee of \$45.00 per child is due on September 1, 2006.** This fee is to help supplement the administration cost for keeping all health documentation current for the state and additional child related expenses such as holiday gifts for families and art supplies. If you have any questions regarding this please see your Building Blocks handbook or Mrs. Tracy.

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.

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. Due to the low amount of extra clothes available, we may need to call you at work if your child has had an accident to have you bring in extra clothes for them.

Sunscreen

Please see any staff to pick up your child's sunscreen. We do not have space to keep it here year around and it has to be replaced every year according to State of Michigan regulations.



Building Blocks Baby Dolls



First and foremost we would like to introduce several new friends to our class! Alex, Amelia, and Tyler we are so happy to have you here at Building Blocks. This summer was full of lots of fun and growing. Kennedy started walking and now she is running around all over the place. Way to go Kennedy! Alivia is using her words more

and more each day. We are so proud of you! Makenzie is doing a great job transitioning from a crib to a cot. Abby is also doing a great job using her words and becoming more independent each day. We are so excited for the new school year to start. Parents- please be sure to make sure your child's bottle is labeled with the contents, name and date. Also, any food contents has to be labeled as

well. We have lots of fun and exciting projects planned. Watch for everyone to have cool new things in their cubbies. Please be sure to keep a watchful eye on the weather and make sure your child has appropriate weather gear for outside play time! Looking forward to celebrating fall with your little ones!

Ms. Amanda, Ms. Danielle, and Ms. Wendy.



Mrs. Janet's Toddler Tidbits



A big September birthday goes out to Makenzie! Have fun being 2. Genna, Lindsey, Danielle, Makenzie, and Abby are going to have fun learning to do things together as a group. They are already enjoying going around in a

circle playing in the marching band. We are going to work really hard to learn how to clean up together. This will be quite a feat! The girls have been really good about taking turns going potty during potty time. Keep up the good work girls! This month

we are going to start learning new songs, games, and creating new things when we mix ingredients together. We will have lots of fun watching the leaves fall and playing together.
Mrs. Janet



Mrs. Mary's Young Preschool News



With the arrival of September our summer program has come to an end and the school year is now beginning. This year our young preschool class has brought up all of the older toddlers- Kailee, Hunter, and even Karissa will be joining

our class. I can't believe Karissa is a preschooler and Lindsey will be close behind in joining our class. We will be incorporating many new things this year and one that I am excited about is our weekly reports. Check your file folders

on Friday to hear about all of the exciting things our class did during the week. Hope you have a happy fall!

Ms. Mary



Ms. Jackie's Preschool News



Welcome to our fall preschool kick off! We are very excited to implement our program to a great group of children. The staff has always prided themself on creating a loving and safe environment for our children. We plan to help our children excel in education and social skills so they are well prepared for kindergarten. Children truly are our future and these are very impressionable years. We plan

to help each child grow, gain self confidence, and learn to respect themselves, their friends, and their teachers.

We had a great summer with one of our many highlights watching many caterpillars turn into beautiful butterflies. The children's vocabulary was at a third grade level with this science experiment.

We are kicking this month off with ABC & 123! We will be working on a variety of shapes,

colors, language skills, and a variety of math and science skills. The children will now be introduced to a variety of different sight words each month and learning about word structure. I will be sending home weekly reports on the activities of the week each Thursday. I look forward to working with your child and if you have any questions or concerns, please let me know.

Ms. Jackie

The Value of Play

You say that you love your children, and are concerned that they learn today, as am I, that's why I'm providing A variety of kinds of play. You are asking what's the value of having your children play? Your daughter's creating a tower, She may be a builder someday. You're asking me the value

of blocks and sand and clay. Your children are solving problems, they will use that skill every day. You're saying that you don't want your son to play in that sissy way. He's learning to cuddle a doll, he may be a father someday. You're questioning the interest centers, they just look like

useless play. Your children are making choices, they'll be on their own someday. You're worried your children aren't learning and later they'll have to pay. They're learning a pattern for learning, for they'll be learners always.
NAEYC



Happy Birthday To You!!

Makenzie September 2

Alexa September 9

Our Mission Statement-What does this mean?



Building Blocks is

passionate about the need to assist children in their early childhood development with a stable, enriching and loving environment. The overall goal of our approach is to instill a "love for learning" in each child.

This is accomplished by emphasizing all areas of a child's development, (emotional, physical, intellectual, creative, social and practical life skills - "the total child"). Building Blocks understands that children naturally desire to learn and explore at a very young age. We strive to

enhance this curiosity while encouraging the children to develop a strong sense of pride and achievement.

Our curriculum is designed to foster the social, emotional, intellectual, and physical needs of the children we serve, and is based on the belief that young children need to be actively involved in learning through play. Play gives opportunities to explore, experience and succeed, as well as on widely accepted theories and principles of child growth and development.

Driven by our goal, together we pledge to add value to the services we provide to ensure that our children's parents can achieve the ultimate goal - **PEACE OF MIND!**

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



"We offer a high quality program and we are very excited about all the great things the children are doing here. We are looking for a few new friends to share it with. " Mrs. Tracy

\$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. Tracy.