



CECC NEWS

Central Early Childhood Center

Parent Teacher Conferences Tuesday, February 4th



Sign up TODAY!!

Parent Teacher Conferences are an important time to discuss your child's developmental progress; any questions or concerns you may have; and to receive enrollment info for the 2020 Summer and 2020-21 school year.

Conference sign up sheets are available NOW in your child's classroom.

There will be NO SCHOOL on this day. However, we will have childcare available for you during your conference time only, if your conference is scheduled between 9:00 am—2:30 pm.



CECC will be closed on Wednesday, Feb. 5th so families and staff celebrate our Chiefs winning the Super Bowl for the first time in 50 years with our city and all of Chiefs kingdom! More factors than just being

able to celebrate and attend the parade with friends and family were considered in making this decision. We have concerns about traffic and public transportation which could affect our teachers traveling to and from school and/or parents being able to retrieve children on time. Another real concern is how communication by cell phone can be an issue for many during could be a safety issue if we are unable to reach parents in an emergency. And last but certainly not least, how often does our city have a reason to unite over such a positive outcome? We hope that our families will support us in this decision.



CECC will be closed on Monday, February 17, 2020 in observance of President's Day.

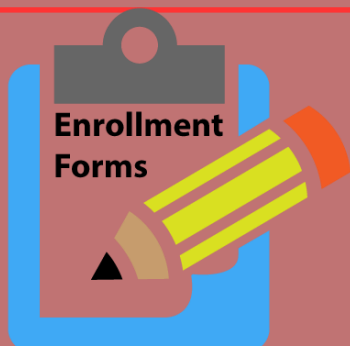
Classes will resume on Tuesday, Feb. 18th.



CECC NEWS

Central Early Childhood Center

Enrollment for 2020-2021 begins soon!



Enrollment for the 2020 –21 school year & Summer 2020

begins **March 2nd** for our currently enrolled families and Central church members. On April 1, enrollment is opened to the public. **We are happy to answer any questions you might have about any of our classes. You**

might want to visit some of the rooms or meet some of the other teachers.

Brochures and enrollment forms will be available at Parent Teacher Conferences and on the website in February. *Classes are filled on a first come, first served basis, so enroll early! **We will begin accepting completed forms on March 2!**

All children need to be enrolled to attend CECC, so forms and payment must be turned in, there is no “automatic re-enrollment” so be sure to get your enrollment in early.

**Directors make the final decision for room assignments. Input from teachers, age, required ratios/group size, developmental abilities, gender balance, and total enrollment are all considered.*

Save the date...

Our Spring Family Night & Potluck will be held on Thurs., April 16th!

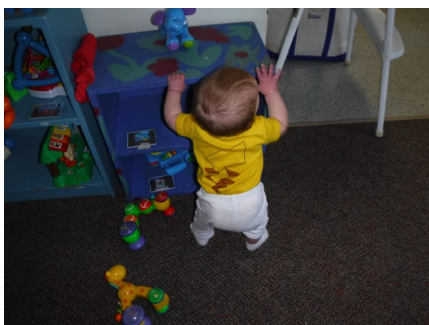
Electronic Check-In and Check-Out

Starting in February!

Beginning this month, we will have families use either the Kindersmart app on their phone, or the tablets located in the CECC entrance (one on the 2nd floor at the top of the stairs) to sign their child(ren) in and out each day they attend. Look for an email that has some instruction pages. Patience is a virtue as we all learn how to use this new system!! Directors will be available to help during conferences on Tuesday.

CLASSROOM NEWS

Room 104 (infants) Michelle Garcia



We are on the move in room 104! The babies are starting to pull up on things, crawl and rolling all over the room! Things that move and make noise make great obstacles for them to explore. I will add blocks, tunnels, chairs etc., to help them problem solve and learn how to move in different ways. They can go over, under, around and through things which can help them to understand how to use their muscles in different ways. This activity will also help with coordination and

balance. Also, we will play a few hide-and-seek games, this will help them to learn problem solving skills. I will place objects in a bucket and have the baby try to find it. This can also help with critical thinking and problem-solving skills as they look for and find the different objects.

Room 102 (Young Infants) Sally Dux

In the middle of a month associated with dreary weather, a day celebrating loving affection shows up on the calendar. Though the infants at Central are too young to understand the concept of Valentine's Day, they are not too young to appreciate smiles, hugs, and



friendly interactions which come their way. When the older children stop to say hello, or when two infants turn toward each other on the floor mat, positive social connections are made. Young children are comforted by loving attention; it encourages their sense of self-worth and wellbeing. We all benefit from a friendly smile, a kind word. Each day can be Valentine's Day if we intentionally encourage the children in our care to share their friendly smiles with each other. The infants at Central will usually smile back and warm your heart.

CLASSROOM NEWS

Room 101 (Infants/Toddlers) Erin Guthrie & Kerra Wilborn

It's hard being cooped up inside when the weather is cold, rainy, and snowy, especially now that we're becoming so active and mobile, which is why in 101, we're finding lots of games and activities to encourage big body play and gross motor skills! Our friends in 101 are very interested in putting things in boxes and bins- especially ourselves! We are collecting big cardboard boxes of all sorts to climb and hide in, and to push and pull around. We like to climb and explore, so the new climber and slide, giant soft blocks, and our window step give us safe places to practice our newfound climbing skills. Hiding and crawling in cozy spaces is so much fun, and fabric tunnels and pop-up tents are perfect for exploring and crawling through. Games that incorporate music and dancing use lots of muscles, plus they encourage listening skills and cooperation! In addition to being a great way to use our energy and combat cabin-fever, these activities are perfect for developing spatial awareness, balance and coordination, muscle control and body awareness, and social skills like taking turns, following safety rules, and sharing!



Room 107 (Toddlers) Joyce McKelvy & Morgan Wright

This new year has been so much fun already! We have been doing a ton of artsy activities with all our friends. Tuning our fine motor skills by scribbling and coloring with all sorts of art supplies. We have markers, crayons, stamps, and so much more. We're becoming very skilled at holding and maneuvering different art supplies. When we color, we scribble all sorts of lines, swirls and a bunch of dots which are pre-writing skills. Our friends are also becoming pro's at identifying and naming colors and even verbally telling our teachers exactly which color we want, we even have great manners and say "please" and "thank you".

February will bring a whole bunch of new games and activities that involve our creativity and wonderful minds. We can't wait to show off all the beautiful things we create.



CLASSROOM NEWS

Room 105 (Toddlers/Twos) Rebecca Clair & Shelby Watz



When we returned from the holiday break, we wondered whether our class would still be interested in dough and cooking, but play dough was the first thing they asked for after they got back from break! So we made two fresh batches of play dough together (chocolate and oatmeal!), taking turns mixing the ingredients together and then watching as a teacher cooked it in our classroom. We noticed that the children seemed particularly interested in cutting the dough, both with plastic pizza cutters and plastic knives, so we have begun introducing blunt plastic butter knives for cutting. We have practiced on soft fruits and vegetables, like bananas, peeled melon, peeled pineapple, and cucumber, making a fruit salad and often cutting our own produce for snacks.

We also noticed the children continuing their cooking pretend play in the kitchen area, particularly pretending to make pies, so we continued our exploration of dough by making mini apple pies (where we got to try a spiral apple peeler and a pastry cutter for the first time!) and pizza dough. With each of these cooking activities, the children have become even more familiar with the basic ingredients of most of doughs (flour, salt, and water) and with the idea that we use both dry ingredients and wet ingredients together to make the dough. They have also explored the different textures of the doughs, noticing that our pie dough was still hard to roll out whereas our play dough and pizza dough were softer and squishier. In the coming weeks we will continue to explore cooking as long as the children show interest, as well as expanding our pretend play to include a doctors kit and some more accessories for our baby dolls as several children have shown interest in these as well.



Room 203 (2's & 3's) Jerri Taylor & Carla Warriner

In 203 we have been working on art for the art show. Pipets are new for the children, interesting, and help strengthen the muscles in their hands. Some children even found that they could put them in their mouth and use their teeth to squeeze them. We also had an unfortunate event with our pet Beta fish, Dory. He passed away during the holiday break. He was 2 ½ years old (about the expected lifespan of a Beta) and had lived a good life at Central. This gave us an opportunity to talk with the children about death and heaven. We brought in a new Beta and named him Libby.



In February, Ms. Carla and Ms. Jerri plan to have a Valentine's Day party with the children. When we asked the children what they planned to do in February, they said, "make rocket ships with glue and glitter," make airplanes that they will fold with paper, "make BIG trains," build with Magna-Tiles, and play games with the Thomas the Train dominoes. The children build and create frequently.

CLASSROOM NEWS

Room 201 (Preschool, 3s, 4s, & 5s) Adriane LaCaze & Katie Lane



Room 201 has gotten back into the groove of coming to school after the holiday break! We have talked about change and newness as we have an old friend joining our class, new teachers visiting, and changes in materials and furniture. Sometimes change can make us have big emotions! We have read some really great books about our feelings, so we are going to make our own books! They are working on being the author and illustrators of their books by making “color monsters” and dictating text about what makes them feel a certain way. Some of the children are even writing their words in their books! There has been a growing interest in forces and watching the way things move. We will experiment with blowing through straws, using fans, throwing airplanes and more!

Room 207 (Preschool, 3s, 4s & 5s) Angela Bowers & Katie Lane

Since the beginning of the year the children have shown interest in the ramp that we have in the classroom. They have used balls, wheels, Lego creations and more to explore how items move down. At circle time we have read many books talking about ramps. One book introduced the term "incline plane" to us. We have also made predictions about items that will roll down a ramp and which ones will not. We talked about how items that are more round will roll easier down the ramp. We also raced cars down the ramp. Each child made a prediction about what car will go the furthest or the fastest. The red car won!! We are looking forward to Valentine's Day by planning our friendship party!



February Birthdays

Sean O’Bryan	2/6	Room 201
Jonathan Forsberg	2/14	Room 101
Lily Englander	2/18	Room 104
Liam Mitchell	2/19	Room 107
Birdie Rae Staley	2/20	Room 207
Olivia Metzler	2/22	Room 101



CFAB Parent Representative(s) Needed

CECC Families,

Did you know that you are represented on our current advisory board by a volunteer parent(s)? Shannon O’Bryan is your current rep but she will be rotating off at the end of the school year. The board **needs** one or two of you to take her place on the board. The board typically meets on one weekday evening every other month (5-6 times/year). Please call or email the office or Shannon for more information. Thanks in advance for filling this important role at Central .

Central Early Childhood Center

5144 Oak Street, KCMO 64112

816-753-1844 central_ecc@yahoo.com

www.centralearlychildhood.com

Fax: 816-756-1553