



2019 CECC NEWS

Central Early Childhood Center

Free Vision Screenings!



December 11th & 12th

A free auto refractive vision screening is offered for your child. This screening involves taking a scan of your child's eyes with the results provided to parents the day of the screening. This test can detect the presence of 6 possible eye disorders. The screening is performed by a trained technician and requires NO physical contact with the child. A consent form will need to be signed for your child to participate!

Available FREE for ALL children!



CECC Christmas Sing-A-Long & Party

Friday, Dec. 20th @ 1:00p.m. We will be having a special Christmas celebration in the Sanctuary and we invite all CECC families to attend! There will be caroling, Pastor Sally will tell the story of the first Christmas, then we'll have cookies and other yummy treats, and even a visit from a jolly fellow dressed in a red suit!! This program will be informal, so come casual and plan to join your child on the floor (pews will be available for those in need.) Invite grandparents, friends, and the whole family for this special event.

CECC will close after the celebration at 2:00 pm. (No PM

Join us in Kenwood Hall!

Suggested Donation: \$5

Breakfast with Santa

December 14th
9:00am-11:30am

Pancake Breakfast provided by Boy Scout Troop 24

Please RSVP to the church office at 816.753.1844

Decorative icons at the bottom include a reindeer, houses, and snowflakes.



CECC NEWS

Central Early Childhood Center

Just a few
reminders

**CECC will be closed
for Winter Break
Dec. 23, 2019—Jan. 1, 2020.
Classes will resume
on Thursday, Jan. 2, 2020**



Thanks to everyone for coming to the Fall Family Night! We had a good turn out and lots of fun visiting at the Potluck dinner as well as trying out all the fun activities in the classrooms! Look for another Family Night event to be held Spring 2020.



Mitten Tree Donations Needed!

CECC will be collecting new hats, mittens, scarves and gloves to be given to Della Lamb. Della Lamb Community Services was founded by Central Member, Della Lamb, in 1897 as a Methodist Mission to provide child care for poor, working mothers. Today, they provide low-income families with early education, child care, youth services, adult services, adult education, transportation, emergency social services, international refugee services, Elementary Charter School education, back-to-school supplies, Thanksgiving and Christmas groceries and gifts.

Please bring your items and hang them on our Mitten Tree located just outside the CECC office to help warm someone's winter!





CECC NEWS

HANDBOOK HIGHLIGHT: DEPARTURE POLICIES & PROCEDURES

- You will pick up your child from their teacher and sign them out daily. This might be a good time for a short conversation about the day. You will also retrieve your completed daily sheet. At enrollment you designated other ‘emergency contacts’ that may pick up your child on occasion. If you have a change to the pre-arranged car pool or pick up schedule, please inform a director at the beginning of the day and indicate this on your daily sheet. If anyone other than a pre-authorized person attempts to pick up your child, we will ask for identification and call a parent for verification. **Please be prompt when picking up your child. It's no fun to be the last child left.** Please inform your child’s teacher if he or she will be brought or picked up by someone other than a parent. You or your designate will be asked to sign your children in and out each day at the classroom.
- “Play dates” or staying for extended PM when arranged a minimum of 24 hours in advance, with the understanding and cooperation of your child can be fun and a great way to please do NOT plan without discussing with place your teachers in the your child of a change in
- Families are welcome to playground after school as followed. Please see “Playground” section for guidelines. Children MUST remain within sight and sound of an adult at all times. DO NOT allow your child or siblings to wander the hallways or use the stairs or elevator alone. **Please actively supervise your child** and maintain behavioral expectations for your children consistent with school policy while anywhere in the building or on school grounds. Children become confused when parents allow behavior that cannot be allowed during school time. For example; children are not allowed to: walk/run through flower beds; climb fences or on the stone church signs; push elevator buttons; take elevators or stairs without an adult; or jump from stairs while in our care. We ask that parents discourage similar behaviors even when you feel you can supervise safely.
- Do not leave an unattended child inside your car, even if locked, while you are inside the building.** Purses, wallets and other valuables should also not be visible within your locked vehicle. Please be sure to turn off the engine when in the parking lot for pick up or drop off. We ask **THAT** you not allow your vehicle to idle, as this causes unwanted fumes around children. Exceptions may be made if vehicles need to idle to maintain interior or engine temperatures (i.e.: in extreme heat or cold).



CECC takes the decision to close school seriously. We understand how this can cause inconvenience for families. However, we also want to assure the safety of our students, their families, and our staff. **We typically follow the “Southwest Pod Schools of the Diocese of Kansas City, Missouri” in closing for inclement weather.**

These schools are located in our area and do not rely on bussing of students. If you hear on the radio or television, or on a news website that these schools (i.e. Visitation, St. Peter’s or St. Elizabeth’s Schools, SW Pod, or South Pod Catholic schools) are closed for weather related reasons, then you may safely assume that we will also close. CECC reserves the right to make the decision to close or not close regardless of what the SW Pod schools decide. **We will make every effort to notify families by email when CECC cancels or closes early or if we have made the decision to remain open on a day when the SW Pod schools have closed. (There are no refunds or make-up days due to school cancellation for inclement weather.)**



CLASSROOM NEWS

Room 104 (infants) Michelle Garcia

Now that the children are starting to become mobile, I will bring in a few new things such as the climbing blocks and tunnels to get them even more motivated to move. I will try to get them to go through the tunnel and climb down the blocks, this will help develop their Gross Motor skills which will help strengthen their large muscles to help them to be able to walk.



I will also introduce some different textures, by creating a texture box for the children to explore. These will be filled with things like cornmeal, sand, or oatmeal and a variety of different toys or items for them to feel and explore. Of course, the children may try to eat the sand and such, but under close supervision they will be redirected to enjoy the feel of it between his fingers even more! Materials such as sand, oatmeal, or cornmeal play can have many benefits for an infant's fine motor skills as they develop their small muscles while pouring and digging with their fingers.



Infant Room 102 (infants) Sally Dux



As the calendar year draws to a close, a new beginning has started in our classroom. Blessed with two new infants, our focus will be one of comforting routines as the children become aware of new faces, sounds and sights. For

now, quiet moments are the norm, but the months ahead will bring increased activity as the children become more mobile and vocal as they reach developmental milestones as they change and grow.



Room 101 (Infant/toddlers) Erin Guthrie & Kerra Wilborn



Playing, learning, growing (and teething!) are hard work for little people! And in 101, that has been translating into better (and more consistent) nap-times and routines! At the beginning of the school year, naptime was a challenge, which is understandable- napping at school is very different from napping at home! There is just so much to do and see; It's a new and different crib; there is more light and noise and activity; and that can disrupt the routine that parents have established at home. Now that we are all becoming used to the routines of our classroom, the children are napping better, and as teachers, we know better what each child needs to nap their best! The biggest naptime change has been that our friends who have turned one are napping on cots now! This has been very exciting, as it means we can use comfort items from home like blankets and lovies, and the extra space has definitely meant comfier (and longer naps!)



CLASSROOM NEWS



Room 107 (Toddlers) Joyce McKelvy & Morgan Wright



We have had so much fun this year! During the past few months we have done a lot sensory activities to help develop our little bodies and minds. Some of the activities have included: painting a pumpkin, unwrapping classroom toys (pictured), placing pompoms into buckets, crinkling paper and

putting it into the toy trash bins, squishing bags full of colorful slime and beads (pictured), and so much more. Through all of these activities we are able to develop and tune fine motor skills, as well as learning colors, shapes and exploring funky textures.

In December we hope to explore more artistically with lots of coloring and painting, discovering different tools to use with our paints to create all sorts of beautiful things! Each day in room 107 brings a new fun and exiting challenge and we cannot wait to continue into the holiday season and the new year!



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



Room 105 is cooking up learning this month as we continue with our cooking project! This month we have focused on the tools we use to cook. We used a blender to make green and orange smoothies (full of healthy veggies, fruit, and yogurt!) and explored a toy blender in the dramatic play area. We used a hand mixer to mix up fluffy colored

foam, then scooped, stirred, and spread the foam with whisks, spatulas, ladles, and other kitchen tools. We also worked together to stir up a fresh batch of play dough, spiced with cinnamon, nutmeg, and ginger. Then we used rolling pins to roll it flat and plastic knives and pizza cutters to slice it. We even painted with kitchen tools, observing the marks that each tool made. As we explored all these tools, we added new words to our vocabulary, like "whisk", "spatula", and "baster". We had lots of opportunities to explore cause and effect and we discovered that different tools and different movements created different results. And taking turns with ingredients and tools also gave us lots of opportunities to practice waiting and sharing, important but sometimes challenging skills for our group of curious two-year-olds. In the coming weeks, we will begin to explore some spices and the difference between sweet and salty, as well as offering more cooking activities. In the meantime, we are still accepting donations of used cookbooks that include pictures to help inspire their questions and play!



CLASSROOM NEWS



Room 203 (Older Twos/Young Threes) Jerri Taylor & Carla Warriner

In 203, we continue to talk about traditions. We have been singing songs. One of the children's favorite songs is Jingle Bells. After our early snow, the children really started to get excited about the up-coming holidays. We have been decorating pumpkins with glitter. We observe the children as they figure out how to put the glue on. They squeeze the bottle. Sometimes they open it first. Some choose to use q-tips or a paint brush to spread the glue. Some choose not to use glue. Simply pouring the glitter over and over is satisfying on its own.

We have also added holiday ribbons to our art area. Many children are using them in their collages. We made a playdough that smells like cinnamon and one that smells like cloves, so our room smells festive also. We plan to make gingerbread people and gingerbread houses. We will decorate them with a lot of frosting, candy, and sprinkles. The sprinkles might be perceived as edible glitter, and we can't wait for the children's excitement.

We want to try a new tradition. Many families have an elf on the shelf that moves every day, perhaps getting into mischief. We are going to use nativity pieces and hide them around the room, moving them everyday. Gradually, we plan to have all the pieces gather in the manger.

Additionally, the children continue to use manipulatives to practice counting and sorting. Most recently we challenged them to sort by several attributes. We gave the children 3 sizes of bears, gaming chips, and clowns. They were so proud of themselves when they had them all sorted.



After family night, children in 203 wanted to wash more toys-not just baby dolls. We opened a car & truck wash in our sensory table. We asked the children to wear smocks to help keep their clothes dry. (above)

Children in 203 play with the barn and the animals. (below)



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

The holidays can be an exciting and stressful time for all of us! In our room we will try to keep our focus on the things that are important to the children and the events and traditions in their daily lives. They will have a week full of show and share to demonstrate how the holiday season can look differently to all of us. We will spend another week focused on giving by creating several gifts to share with families. We will extend the class's interest in book-making by writing a holiday story together in which the students will help write and illustrate. The preschool classes will visit Pastor Sally to hear a special holiday story and we will act out the story of Jesus' birth in our classroom. We wish you all a peaceful and joyous December!



CLASSROOM NEWS



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



207 is talking about kindness and problem solving with our friends. We have read multiple books in order to spark conversation at circle time. One of the books we read was "Rainbow Fish". The story is based around a beautiful fish that has shiny rainbow scales. Rainbow Fish is proud of his scales and likes to show them off. When Rainbow Fish does not share, he becomes lonely and realizes it is more fun to share.

As a group, we discussed Rainbow Fish's 'helpful' and 'hurtful' moments. We then talked about how we could practice being helpful in our classroom.

Another story we read was "Horton Hears a Who". Horton helps save Whoville, which is a town on a very small speck of dust. No one else in the jungle believes that the town is there and plans to destroy it. Every Who begins to make noise, but it takes the smallest Who to be heard. After the story we talked about teamwork and how we need everyone to help keep each other safe!

We are looking forward to the Christmas season! We have already started to make our lists for Santa!



December Birthdays!



Betty Tracewell*	12/1	Church office
Errol Jinks	12/4	Room 107
Kristina Snider*	12/7	Substitute
Kerra Wilborn*	12/14	Room 101
Ray Elliot	12/17	Room 201
Mark Arnold	12/21	Room 101
Ellie Watts	12/29	Room 201

*indicates staff

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