

Family 2 Family

A newsletter from *our* family at West Chester Area Day Care Center to *your* family
June 1, 2009

Welcome to our new families: Welcome to the Shedleski family!

Sandals/Open Toes Shoes: Regardless of what we may have let go in the past, we must enforce that the children wear sneakers or other safe shoes that cover their toes at ALL times! Children are getting their toes stepped on and are more susceptible to injuries while on the playground or on walks. If your child comes in to school with inappropriate shoes on, we will ask that you bring them back in when they have the correct shoes. Trust me, I have 3 girls and a boy of my own and I know they love their sandals and crocs and pretty little “jellies”, but we are only doing this to prevent injuries, so we are asking for your full co-operation. This will be enforced school-wide starting Monday, June 8.

Food from Home: This issue involves food that children are bringing in to eat as well as food being brought in for birthday parties or other celebrations and again, regardless of anything you were told in the past by anyone, we must enforce that **no outside food** be brought into the center at any time. This means regardless if you list the ingredients or not. The problem is that we cannot assure a parent of a child with allergies that the food was made safely in a sanitary environment that was in no way near peanuts, wheat etc... Parents of children with allergies totally understand what I mean: it really does put their child at risk. Allergic reactions can be life-threatening. It's just not something I am willing to compromise on for the sake of a party. There are plenty of healthy, wonderful store-bought treats (or fresh fruit!!) that our children would love for parties. Teachers are instructed to send back any outside food that is not labeled and in new packaging, or donate to the teacher's lounge!! Please respect this. Our morning staff will turn away a child with any kind of food; this causes many hassles in the morning when one child has a food item in front of others. Thank you so much!

Surveys and Feedback: Please look for a survey on pink paper that will be sent home this week asking for your feedback from this school year. We need to hear your likes and dislike, changes you'd like to see made, materials or equipment you'd like to see bought, insights on policies, etc. Please tell us anything that will improve and enhance how we care for your children.

Pre-K and Kindergarten Graduation: This Wednesday, June 3, everyone is welcome to join our pre-K and Kindergarten classes in their graduation here at the center at 6:00 p.m. on the pre-school playground. We are very proud of them, congratulations!!!

Pictures: Pictures will be coming tomorrow afternoon (2:30-5:30, June 2) for you to look at to purchase or not. HOWEVER, every child will receive a FREE backpack with their picture on it just for having their photo taken, so make sure you at least stop by the picture table to get your free gift!!

School Fair: Mark your calendars now for the annual school fair which will be held here at the center on Wednesday, June 24th. We will have moonbounces and food and games and prizes etc....and a lot of FUN!!

Late Fees: for non-payment or late payments will begin to be applied this week so please have your balances paid in full for the week by Wednesday to avoid this, thanks!

Field Trips: Unfortunately we were not able to afford to go to both The Please Touch Museum and Sesame Place because of the high price of the buses (almost \$600 a bus!) and we HAVE to do Sesame Place or I would have some tantrums coming my way! (I mean from the adults!) So Sesame Place is Friday July 17th. All children enrolled who are over the age of 4 will be able to ride the bus with 1 parent/chaperone. Our discounted ticket price is \$31.00. Children enrolled will only need to pay \$25.00 a ticket, chaperones pay \$31. For our other families who would like to buy tickets and drive on their own, the same deal applies; if he/she is an enrolled child, they will pay \$25.00 and any additional tickets will be \$31.00. Just an FYI: Sesame Place charges for any child 2 and over and these tickets are good only for July 17th. ALL monies for the trip must be paid in full by Friday June 26th (checks payable to WCADCC-PTO). Also any family who has an outstanding balance will not be eligible to purchase tickets.

Fundraiser: Thank you for all of the orders for Joe Corbi's. Our profit was \$419.75 which is really good for a quick, no hassle fundraiser. I totally realize some people dislike the pizzas, whereas others love them and still others just do the cakes...we try and do a variety of fundraisers to hopefully please the majority of our families, but please remember you are never obligated to participate! Pizzas come in this Thursday around lunchtime (12:00) so if you could arrange to come get your orders that would be great!

New Staffing for September: We have a TENTATIVE new schedule for teachers for September. We made a few changes and really love the way we balanced the teachers' experience, degrees and other education. For now, we will be having the following teachers working in these classrooms. Again, this is tentative as things such as enrollment change and we will have to adapt to where the need is, but just so we are communicating our plans early, I wanted to list the assignments:

Room 1: Ms Regina and Ms Val,

Room 2: Ms Aja and Ms Velva,

Room 3: Ms Gloria and Ms Sharon,

Room 4: Ms. Nancy and Ms Chantel,

Room 5: Mr. Dan and Ms Katie,

Room 6: Ms Mary,

Room 7A: Ms Jameka and Ms Melinda,

Room 7B: Ms Carmen and Ms Megan.

Where is Ms RaMona??? In case you did not know, Ms Mona is expecting a baby in September and will be re-joining our staff after Thanksgiving so we will assign her accordingly upon her return where she is needed the most.

We also have many new staff faces around for the summer, so please introduce yourselves and let me know how they are doing!

Sunscreen: Make sure you have brought in your sunscreen permission slip so we can apply sunscreen to your child and bring in their own supply for this as well. Extra forms are available at the desk!

We are NOT raising ANY rates for the next school year, but remember there are no discounts for vacation weeks or days off. Your payment, or pre-payment, is still due each week, thanks!

IMPORTANT DATES:

Pictures come back for Viewing: Tuesday June 2nd

Graduation: Wednesday June 3rd

Pizzas Coming Thursday June 4th

CLOSED: Friday July 3rd

Sesame Place Field Trip: Friday July 17th

PLEASE GO CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AT: www.wcadaycare.org

Thank You!!

Betsy Billie, Executive Director