

Director's Corner

It looks like we just finished summer and unbelievably the holiday season is right behind the corner. I hope you all are well and healthy and getting ready for it. We are also way in to the flu season and luckily here at MCCA Arcola we didn't have any bad cases of flu or H1N1. We still continue with washing hands when entering the classrooms and we thank all the parents who donated bottles of the hand sanitizer to the center.

We put out the boxes for our annual "Holiday giving project". We sent home the letter with detail information about this project but just a reminder, we collecting the new and unwrapped toys for the kids in need. We are also starting the holiday collection for the teachers. You can donate cash or check (made out to MCCA) until Dec. 18. All your

donations will be divided evenly among teachers in the form of gift cards to Target. The cards will be distributed to the teacher during holiday lunch on Dec. 21. We got two parents to volunteer to provide child care during this time. Thank you in advance for your donations and time volunteering in the classroom.

We are still in need of a parent council president. We keep with the meetings every month and we hope to find one soon. Remember, during our parent council meetings we provide child care and dinner for you and the children. We hope to see you there.

With the colder weather and winter approaching, please make sure you are familiar with our weather policy. We sent a copy home for your convenience and you can find



it also on line. If you are not sure if the center is open or not, please call the center number and there will be a message about any changing hours of opening or closing.

HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!

Alena Tobolkova
MCCA Arcola Director

Curriculum Corner

As many of you know here at MCCA Arcola we follow Creative Curriculum in the classrooms. This is an approved curriculum by MSDE and is a play based curriculum. Children learn better through play and that's what we do in our classrooms. All the teachers attend monthly Creative Curriculum Workgroup meetings and share with other teachers from MCCA their ideas and experiences from their classrooms. Teachers work during their weekly

team meetings on individual children's observations, IPs (Individual Plan), and three times a year they check each child's developmental continuum. From this continuum they see how a child is doing and how far he/she is in their development. Each child has its own portfolio, where the teachers keep the progress of a child. Various observations forms help them to do that. Classroom lesson plans are based and plan accordingly with Creative Curriculum goals and objectives.

Lesson plans are posted on the Parent Info Board every Monday. If you get a chance, have a look. Teachers are doing great job with planning and typing them on the computer, so it's easier for you to read.

Upcoming Events:

Annual 5k race	Nov 7
Business Meeting	Nov 9
Personnel Committee Meeting	Nov 10
NAEYC Conference thru 21	Nov 18
Finance Committee Meeting	Nov 19
Board Meeting	Dec 1
Directors' Sharing	Dec 3

Center Events

Field trips:

- Nov 25 (Stars room)

Parent Council :

- Every 3rd Wednesday of the month. Dinner and childcare provided

Pre-School Stars



As most parents know we are using the creative curriculum which is a play-based. The creative curriculum is used to promote four different developmental areas: Social/Emotional development which helps the child learn about themselves and others. Physical development which helps the children to learn

about moving. Cognitive development which helps the children learn about the world, and Language development which helps the child learn about communicating. In our daily schedule we are planning activities which help children to develop all these areas. The Kids play outside two times a day, in the morning and

afternoon. They ride bikes, climb, slide, play with balls, jump ropes, draw with chalk, walk in the park and walk around the neighborhood. They have two hours of center (free choice) time. During this time children are free to choose the area they want to play in.



Learning how to wash away germs from our hands.....

“We take pictures and make documentation boards”

The activities that the teacher prepare relate to the children learning need and cover the following MSDE curriculum areas:

- Listening/Speaking
- Reading
- Writing
- Science
- Social Studies
- Fine Arts
- Physical education
- Health Education

We take pictures and make documentation boards, take time to look at these boards as they will let you know what your child has been involved in during the day and share what goal and objective we are working on.



We are in the greenhouse at Brookside Garden.....

With the weather changing daily, please be sure your child is dressed with the necessary clothing to go outdoors. We are required to go outside daily and we do! Please be sure your child has a hat,

gloves, and other appropriate outdoor gear to be able to play outside each day whether it is

October or January! And most importantly all clothing should be labeled with your child's name on

it...so many items..hats, gloves, sweatshirts..some are just like their friends!



School Age



Children have very distinct developmental needs during the school age years. During this time children are striving to feel competent with their skills, peers, within their families, and in school. Our program goal is to give children opportunities to learn life skills including empathy, com-

passion, tolerance, healthy risk taking and self confidence. we strive to provide children with an active participation on their own terms, outlets for curiosity, opportunities for independence and exploration, the choice to work alone or with others, we also provide them with opportunities and

experiences which promote feelings of competence and pride. We use the Creative Curriculum to help with the children developmental needs which it focuses on four different developmental areas : Social/Emotional, Physical, Cognitive, and Language.



We love to do arts & crafts projects.

We believe in the learning power of play. We in the school age program show up each and every day with professional attitudes and commitment to provide a safe place for the children to grow physically, socially, emo-

tionally and cognitively. We believe in the importance of childhood and the value of children.

We continue to work on our transition times, we still have a hard time with it. Our kids enjoy music a

lot and musical instruments. They made their own band “The kidz in the House”. They also make their own poster about the band. Look for it on parent table. We got some talented singers.

“We provide them with opportunities and experiences which promote feelings of competence and pride.”

Please remember to sign the in/out sheets when you drop off and pick up your children. Also please make sure you are checking your parent mailboxes daily for important notices.

Please, remember to send all the winter gears with your child— gloves, hats, scarves and warm coats. We do go outside and play there every day!



We have a lot of fun in the school age program.

IMPORTANT DATE REMINDERS:

NOVEMBER

November 26 Center CLOSED

November 27 Center CLOSED

DECEMBER

December 24 Center Closed

December 25 Center Closed

December 28 Center Closed

December 29 Center OPEN, 7 am - 6:30

December 30 Center OPEN, 7 am - 6:30

MCCA Mission Statement

Montgomery Child Care strives to provide:

- The highest quality care and play-based education for children in Montgomery County
- Professional training for child care providers
- Advocacy for affordable quality child care for families of all income levels
better training, pay and benefits for child care professionals.

Parent Resources

Zero to Three: On this website you'll find **science-based information and tools** designed to help parents and caregivers nurture their young children's development. ZERO TO THREE's approach to parent education is based on the belief that parents are the true experts on their children, and that there is no "one-size-fits-all" approach to raising children. The information and tools they offer are

designed to support parents in developing their own ways to promote their children's growth and development. A training calendar, articles, and books are available on line and you can sign-up to be notified when new information is available.

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Making murals in preschool room, that's a good way to practice sharing space.