



# Montgomery Child Care Beverly Farms

11614 Seven Locks Road  
Potomac, MD 20854  
301-299-6442  
beverlyfarms@mccaedu.org  
www.mccaedu.org

## **Beverly Farms Times**

**March 2009**

### Center Events

Parent Council Meeting Dates:  
Thursday March 26, 2009  
6:00pm

Staff Meeting: March 9, 2009

#### *Field Trips:*

*T/K- Every Tuesday Morning*

*Napper Snappers- Every Wed. Morning*

### Committee Meeting Dates

Personnel Committee Meeting- Tuesday  
March 13, 7:00pm

Finance Committee Meeting-  
Thursday March 19, 2009 6:30pm

Development Committee Meeting-  
Tuesday March 3, 2009 6:30pm

### **Director's Corner**

Hello to all of our families! ☺ Our biggest news of all is that MSDE Validators will be at our center on Wednesday, March 18, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. We are very excited as our MSDE Accreditation has been a year in the works and finally we are ready to show off all of our hard work! We will have two validators at the center observing our Napper Snapper and T/K Program. I will be sure to let everyone know how our day goes!

We are working diligently as well on our NAA school age accreditation. Two of MCCA centers have had visits so far, with Woodacres Club House being the first MCCA Center to be officially accredited by NAA. We will keep everyone posted as we work towards Group Two and Kid's Klub's accreditation.

**SUMMER ENROLLMENT** - Don't miss out. Please note that the last day for any changes to your summer contracts is April 15<sup>th</sup>.

Enrollment is moving along and there are some weeks that are full already so don't miss out on our fabulous program and summer opportunities.

**FALL ENROLLMENT** - Watch for information about enrolling your child in our fall program. We will have our "in-house" fall registration the last two weeks of April. Please watch for information regarding giving your deposit....you will need to give us a \$100 deposit for fall once our new rates are approved mid-April.

As always from myself and our staff...we thank you for all of your support and commitment to our center.

Have a wonderful week.

Cindy O'Carroll  
Director

## **Congratulations**

**To the following Staff who have earned the Maryland State Credential:**

**Cindy O'Carroll**  
**Jenna Burns**  
**Toks Williams**  
**Jill Elwinger**  
**Stacey Cumming**  
**Stacy DiCara**

**(We look forward to hearing about the rest of our staff soon!)**

Please Designate Montgomery Child Care



**Inside this Issue:** Classroom News, Family Resource Corner  
Staff News and MCCA Updates

*Here is what's happening in our classrooms:*

## Napper Snappers

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Napper Snappers have been busy this past month. They have been traveling on Wednesdays and our latest trip was to the Rockville Sportsplex for some winter indoor soccer fun.

Projects have included Yoga...what a great way to relax and get some exercise. The Nappers are learning a variety of poses to work on their flexibility, balancing and imagination skills. Some of the fun poses are trees, lions and pretzels.

Jump Bunch has been a blast ...last week they brought in a balance beam! We took turns walking forward and backwards along the beam...the Nappers had a blast and even asked Mr. Henry for more turns. They especially liked when they were pretending the beam was a river and they had to jump over it!

Watch for more exciting reports of what we are doing in the Napper Snapper Class...please sign up for conferences and don't forget to register for our wonderful summer program, MCCA Beverly Farms Summer Adventures.

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## Transitional Kindergarten

Highlights of T/K:

Field Trips have included a trip to the Rockville Recycling Center. The children learned about the 3 R's (reduce, reuse and recycle). T/K was excited to learn how to "go green".

Group Activities: T/K children are reading BIG books! While reading the books this month the children are playing "I SPY". It was interesting to watch as the children picked up different objects from the book. This inspired the group to do a shape and color hunt and the children are doing well identifying their colors and shapes. T/K is definitely getting ready for Kindergarten.

Parent Conferences: Thank you to all of our families that have signed up for conferences. A reminder that the last week is the week of 3/23/09. If you need to reschedule or our times did not work for you please call Jenna at the center.

Projects: T/K children have been practicing their writing skills by creating recycling and springtime posters. The children were asked to write about what they saw at the recycling center and also what they love about springtime. All of their work is posted around the classroom so take a look!

We are looking forward to our MSDE visit on March 18, 2009. Our classroom looks terrific!

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## Group One

Highlights in Group One for February:

We had fun building marshmallow designs which helped the children work on their fine motor skills. We also used toothpicks along with the marshmallows. During this activity the children used their small muscles in their hands as well as eye hand coordination.

Sand names is another activity we have done with the children in Group One. This activity was a cool lesson in reading and writing. Our Math projects have helped the children use their logical thinking skills by measuring fun in which they used a ruler to measure objects around the classroom. They also used numbers by counting the length or width of the object. For Science we made nature bracelets collecting the evergreen needles from outdoors and leaves. We used clear tape for the bracelet sticky side up and applied our materials to the tape. The children took on the pretend role of Rock Star, using their representation and symbolic thinking. We used Jell-O for sensory explorations. The children made the jello and then we used it for sensory fun. The

children learned about cause and effect with the jello and it was a fun time had by all. We also had some fun in Group One with our Road Rally. We made a road on the our rectangle table with colored tape and used our cars to drive up and down the road. We also made hills and signs for interest. The children also learned pro-social skills by playing and cooperating with their friends. Join us next month for more fun in Group One!!

## Group Two

\*\*\*\*\*Please note that all Kindergarten children who do not have school during their school's Kindergarten Orientation will be able to attend our center at 3:00 p.m. due to space limitations in our building. (we have another program going on during the day from 9 - 3).

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In Group Two we have been exploring recipes. we made heart shaped soap and continued with our Question Of The Week. We also made Valentine Poems in February. In the Group Two kitchen we have been whipping up great recipes including Crazy Quesadillas. We used flour tortilla, salsa, chicken and cheese to create this yummy snack. The Group Two children enjoyed building their own quesadillas by choosing their own ingredients to build their own quesadilla's. You can recreate this fun recipe at home and enjoy a nutritious snack! For Valentine's Day we also explored a "Love Potion" by mixing Cherry 7 -up, Cranberry juice and Grape Juice to create a delicious beverage that we shared with all of our Valentine's friends.

### Group Two's Garden Project:

Wow do we have an awesome long term project and check out our huge documentation in the Ivymount hallway....It's GROUP TWO'S GARDEN PROJECT!

This month we have started a long term project that will take us right into Spring!

We began our Group Two Garden where the kids get to plant their own Marigold flower and watch it grow and bloom into spring.

The children were able to create their own flower pots where the flowers will grow. They will keep journals to track the growth process and eventually be able to bring the flower home and enjoy!

Reminders: No School on Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup>. Group Two will be at the center all day ..watch for a child care survey to come out as well as our fun plans for the day.

Also we will be open all of Spring Break...will you need child care..watch for a child care survey to also come out for Spring Break.

## Kid's Klub

This month in Kid's Klub has been a busy one, Tim's "Create Your Own Monopoly Board" project finally was completed last week and now the children are enjoying playing using the boards they created! The children put the finishing touches on their own Monopoly Boards and pieces and are now ready for play. Many of the boys were very excited by this idea. This project was a huge hit with all the children, boys and girls alike!

Sewing club with Shirley finished another project recently, teddy bears. Many of the girls involved in Sewing Club spent endless hours cutting out patterns, sewing and stuffing their bears. Their hard work and determination paid off because their bears were amazing.

Fortune Tellers and MASH have been a huge comeback, thanks to Kim. Some of the children have been known to spend their free time at Kid's Klub working on both of these paper activities. These are two activities that are bound to become classics at Kid's Klub.

In other news, Kid's Klub continues to work on the campaign for the first annual Kid's Klub Election. Plans are being made to hold the election sometime in March so as to give the nominees more time to prepare.

Watch for exciting plans to come out for the "No School" day on Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup> where we will be taking a field trip to the Baltimore Aquarium.

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IMPORTANT DATE REMINDERS:

Monday, March 30, 2009                      No school for MCPS  
We are open regular hours for school age and full time  
Nappers and T/K. No class for 9 - 1, 9 - 3 or T/K.

April 6 - April 13, 2009                      Spring Break. NO SCHOOL for MCPS  
All child care is at our Ivymount location  
We are open regular hours, 7 am - 630 pm

End of School Year Schedule:

Tuesday, June 16, 2009                      Last day of school and child care  
Half day of school

Wednesday, June 17, 2009  
Thursday, June 18, 2009                      Both Wed and Thursday are "drop-in" days; watch for  
Upcoming details of our days and cost

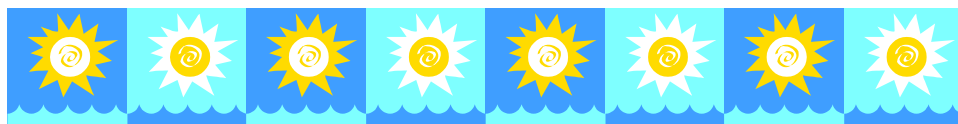
Friday, June 19, 2009                      Center CLOSED to prepare for summer program

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**MCCA BEVERLY FARMS SUMMER ADVENTURES 2009**

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We are filling up fast...some weeks are full..don't miss out...register now for fun a fun summer including swimming, field trips, sports, computers, cooking and arts and crafts.



## **Family Resource Corner:**

**Ready at Five:** Ready At Five is a statewide, public/private partnership committed to ensuring that all Maryland children enter school ready to succeed. Their website has information for families in both English and Spanish on topic related to school readiness. Parent Tips for supporting their children's development beginning at infancy including activities for families to do with their children are home. Scheduled community events are posted on their website as well as additional resources for families.

[www.readyatfive.org](http://www.readyatfive.org)

## **Curriculum Corner:**

As you probably are aware, we like to PLAY at MCCA Beverly Farms- in fact PLAY is a cornerstone of our curriculum. There is an abundance of research that shows that children learn best through hands-on activities that engage their interest, and there is not better way to do that than play. Each MCCA Beverly Farms classroom team meets once a week. They utilize this time to discuss issues in the classroom, coordinate guidance strategies, and plan the activities for the upcoming week. Creative Curriculum® along with MSDE accreditation standards, are the guidelines that we utilize at MCCA Beverly Farms to ensure quality in all of our classrooms. There are monthly Creative Curriculum Committee meetings that support our classrooms in planning an enriching curriculum meeting the needs of individual children. Lesson Plans are posted on the parent bulletin board outside our hallway at Ivymount about upcoming activities. Lesson plans for our Kid's Klub program can be found on their bulletin board in the All Purpose Room. As children's interests may change or special events (like snow!) occur, activities may emerge and require that the lesson plans be altered. When this happens teachers will just mark that on the lesson plans accordingly. More information to come in next month's newsletter! Take time to look at our plans and how we are meeting the individual needs of our children.

### **Staff Recognition:**

*Congratulations* to Jenna Burns who has been promoted to Program Director of the MCCA Beverly Farms Transitional Kindergarten Program. We look forward to working with Jenna in this capacity!

### **Other Staff News:**

*Jackie Ayoub's* last day was 2/20/09. Congratulations to Jenna Burns and Rhonda Watson-Cox who earned their 45 hours in school age curriculum and 45 hours in school age development in March 2009.



### **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.