

December
2022

UNO CHILD CARE CENTER

CHRONICLE



Feature Facts With Dawn

Director - Dawn Hove-Casart

As 2022 ends, we would like to wish all our families a heartfelt thank you for choosing UNO Child Care Center as your child's early educational program and all the support that you have provided. You are the best! We look forward to serving you in 2023.

The final event of the year will be our annual **Winter/Holiday Program on Saturday, December 10, 2022, in the Milo Bail Student Center Ballroom at 10:30 A.M.** The children and teachers have been working extremely hard practicing their songs for the program. The children that are taking dance through Stretch-N-Grow will also perform. **Please have your child at the Milo Bail Student Center no later than 10:10 A.M.** Dance students need to be there by 10 A.M. After the program, there will be a visit from Santa. So, bring your cameras!

Please note that there is open parking on the Dodge Street Campus, and you will be able to use the CEC parking lots. In addition, you can also use the Library Lot or the East and West Parking Garages. Please plan ahead, as the program starts at 10:30 A.M.

A big, huge thank you goes out to all our families and staff who participated in our annual food drive for Together Inc. We raised over 620 items and \$504.00. Every pound of food raised feeds a meal for one family. Way to go!

Please make sure you have turned in your registration forms and/or class schedules for the spring semester. The spring semester for the child care center will begin on Monday, January 3, 2023 and go till Friday, May 19, 2023.

Reminder: The child care center will be closed for winter break from December 22, 2022, through January 2, 2023. We will re-open on Tuesday, January 3, 2023. We will also need to know if your child will be here on December 19, 20 & 21. Please complete the attendance form and either email me or bring it back the completed form to the child care center by Monday, December 12.

I will be out of the office on Friday, December 16. If you have any questions or concerns during this time, please see Ms. Monica or the Lead Teachers.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, you may contact me at 402-554-4936, e-mail me at dhove@unomaha.edu or stop by my office.

Until Next Year...

"From our house to yours, everyone here at the UNO Child Care Center wants to wish you and your family a Very Happy Holiday Season!"





Check out these pictures from Preschool 1&2's field trip to Together Inc. to deliver our food drive donations!
We raised over 600 items, \$500, and a whopping total of 432 POUNDS of food!
 The Preschool groups also took a tour of the pantry, delivery areas, and stock rooms.



Thank you for your donations!



Tuition Updates

In order to provide the best possible educational environment for your children, the UNO Child Care Center must raise tuition rates. Beginning January 1, 2023, the following tuition rates will go into effect:

Student Tuition Rates

Full-Time Weekly Rates

Toddlers/Transition \$230.00
 Preschool/School-age \$210.00

Part-Time Toddler/Transition Rates

2 Days per Week (Tues/Thurs) \$106.00
 3 Days per Week (Mon/Wed/Fri) \$159.00
 Daily Rate \$53.00

Part-time Preschool/School-age Rates

2 Days per Week (Tues/Thurs) \$96.00
 3 Days per Week (Mon/Wed/Fri) \$144.00
 Daily Rate \$48.00

Faculty, Staff & Community Tuition Rates

Full-Time Weekly Rates

Toddler/Transition \$242.00
 Preschool/School-age \$222.00

Part-time Toddler/Transition Rates

2 Days per Week (Tues/Thurs) \$112.00
 3 Days per Week (Mon/Wed/Fri) \$168.00
 Daily Rate \$56.00

Part-time Preschool/School-age Rates

2 Days per Week (Tues/Thurs) \$102.00
 3 Days per Week (Mon/Wed/Fri) \$153.00
 Daily Rate \$51.00

*Please Note: A Summer Activity Fee will still be required for all enrolled Preschool & School Aged children

Talks with Toddler 1 & 2

Toddler 1 Lead Teacher - Effie Swinarski

Toddler 2 Lead Teacher - Fred Abram

Toddler 2 Assistant Lead Teacher - Lizzie Parker

Happy December, Toddler Parents!

With winter right around the corner our friends will be spending more time indoors. The Toddler staff and Mr. Fred have planned a variety of fun indoor activities. Toddlers will be spending their indoor time exploring snow, Slipper Dancing, Ice Cube Painting, and making Snow Ice Cream!

The toddlers will still try to schedule some outdoor play when the weather allows it, so please continue to bring in warm clothes for your child to play in.

Reminders:

- December 10 is the Holiday Program at the Milo Bail Student Center. For more information see Dawn's part of the newsletter.
- Please bring in a refill package of diaper wipes for the month of December.

Congratulations to our Toddler 2 friends that will be moving up to the Transition room! Toddler 2 parents, if you have any questions, please ask either Mr. Fred, Ms. Monica, or Ms. Dawn.

We would like to wish all our families a safe and happy Holiday Season!

-Miss Effie, Mr. Fred, Miss Lizzie, and the Toddler Teachers



December Theme:

Winter Wonderland

Letters: J, K, L

Numbers: 8 & 9

Color: Blue

Shape: Star

Time With Transition

Lead Teacher - Allison Johnson

Welcome Winter!

The Transition class is already in the holiday spirit! We are excited to spend the month talking about family, traditions, and the spirit of giving. We have been practicing our songs for the Holiday Program on Saturday, December 10, and hope to see you there.

Soon, we will have some new faces in the Transition class. Also, we must see some of our friends off to Preschool One. Elijah, Kai, Gael, Henry, and Carly will be joining Teacher Ky in Preschool One, and we will miss them so much! If your child is transitioning to Preschool One, be on the lookout for information regarding that change from both myself and Teacher Ky!

During the week of December 19, we are asking for parents, grandparents, other family members, or friends to read to the Transition Class. You may sign up anytime between 9:00 A.M.-10:30 A.M. or 3:00 P.M.-4:00 P.M. If you are interested, let Ms. Allison know what day and time you are available!



Transition's December Themes: World Culture, Traditions, and Holidays

Giving & Sharing

Different Holidays

Children Around The World

Similarities & Differences

Letters: J, K

Numbers: 10, 11

Color: Green

Shape: Triangle



Preschool 1 Pals

Lead Teacher - Ky Jackson

Happy December, everyone!

I cannot believe that the year is almost over- We have had so much fun this semester! Here are some quick reminders to close out the year.

- Our **Annual Holiday Program is Saturday, December 10, at 10 A.M. at the Milo Bail Student Center**- We are SO excited for you to see how hard we have worked practicing our songs!
- **Beginning the week of December 12**, we will have 5 new friends visiting our classroom from Transition: Carly, Henry, Elijah, Kai, and Gael! They will officially become a part of P1 in January. We are so excited to have them!
- **Holiday Shutdown** this year will be from Thursday, December 22 - Monday, January 2. The center will reopen Tuesday, January 3, at 6:30 A.M.

Finally, I will be starting Holiday Break a little early this year, and will be gone beginning Monday, December 19 until Holiday Break.

I will miss seeing you all during the break, but I hope you and your families all have a wonderful, relaxing, and festive break! If you need anything over the break, please do not hesitate to reach out via email (kyliejackson@unomaha.edu) or text me at (402) 871-1506.

Until next year!

-Teacher Ky & the P1 Wranglers



P1's December Themes:

Book Week, Winter Welcome, Peppermint & Gingerbread, Holiday Traditions

Letters: J, K, L

Numbers: 10, 11, 12

Color: Blue

Shape: Oval



Preschool 2 News & Views

Lead Teacher - Megan Liu

Seasons Greetings!

Happy December to everyone. I can't believe how fast the semester has gone! It flew by and now it's almost the end of the semester. Just a few announcements for you for December in Preschool 2.

First, the holiday program will be taking place on Saturday, December 10 at 10:30 A.M. Please make sure to have your child to the Milo Bail Student Center by 10:00 A.M. There will also be a meet and greet with Santa after the program.

Second, the center will still be open the week of December 19. Please let Ms. Dawn or Ms. Monica know if your child will be here on Monday, Tuesday, and/or Wednesday.

Finally, if you have any questions or concerns for me, you can text me at (402)960-2416 or email me at mmliu@unomaha.edu. I'm looking forward to a fun December.

Thank you for all you do,

-Miss Megan and the Staff of Preschool 2



The Importance of Sharing Holidays You Don't Celebrate

Do you wonder why UNOCCC introduces holidays your family may not celebrate? When teachers and parents teach children about holidays from a variety of cultures and beliefs, they are helping children to develop empathy and understanding for other people and ideas. The holiday season is a great time open up the conversation to learn about other holidays celebrated by their friends at preschool. Here is why explaining various holidays to preschoolers is important!

Holidays Teach Similarities

Most holiday celebrations in every culture focus on teaching traditions, history, and the reason a group of people cares for one another. Teaching children about the holidays of other cultures helps them to see that no matter what differences we all have, we also have many things in common, such as:

- **Family:** Most holiday celebrations are times when extended families gather together to enjoy special food, traditions and one another.
- **Respect:** Most cultures use holiday celebrations to honor their history and past. By explaining holidays to preschoolers, teachers and parents can help children to understand and respect the sacrifices of people in history.
- **Love:** Most celebrations include special foods, enjoyable activities and a special focus on children. Preschoolers can learn that all people have a great love for their children and enjoy doing fun activities together, even if they have different looks, beliefs and traditions.

Explaining Holidays Brings Understanding

Children notice differences and often wonder about them, but may not always ask questions. During a time of talking about holidays and celebrations of different cultures, teachers and parents have a chance to open up discussions about differences and give children a chance to develop an understanding of why people have different beliefs and practices.

Some ways for children to learn about holidays in preschool or with parents are:

- **Meeting People:** Talking with adults and children who celebrate different holidays can be a wonderful way to understand not just the facts of a holiday but how it is practiced and what it means to the people who celebrate it. In a preschool classroom, children and their parents can share their own family holiday traditions and bring decorations or food to try.
- **Doing Activities:** Doing a craft, game or activity from a holiday celebration helps children explore and experience different holiday traditions in an age-appropriate way.
- **Attending Events:** Many groups invite others in the community to celebrate with them during their holidays. Consider taking your child to some of the local holiday celebrations around Omaha, such as different Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and other holiday celebrations in our community!



Parent Corner

Holidays Bring People Together

Even within cultural and religious groups, there are often many differences of opinion about practices or beliefs, just as there are sometimes disagreements among family members. However, holidays are times that people can unite around something bigger than themselves. Learning about holiday celebrations, especially ones celebrated by other students in their classroom, helps children to develop an appreciation and understanding for what is important to their friends, neighbors and other people they meet in the community.

Explaining Holidays to Preschoolers Through Books

Parents can reinforce explaining holidays to preschoolers by reading multicultural holiday books. One benefit of reading holiday books to your children is that you will have the opportunity to explain your own beliefs and traditions and answer your child's questions. Better yet, you can learn along with your children if you don't know much about the holiday either. Here are some good books to start with:

- ***Hershel and the Hanukkah Goblins*** (Eric A. Kimmel) is a creative adaptation of the story of the symbols and traditions of the Jewish holiday which adds an exciting twist while keeping the original spirit of the story.
- ***My First Kwanzaa*** (Deborah Chocolate) explains the traditions of the holiday by showing how a family celebrates their African heritage together with food, candles and extended family.
- ***Christmas Around the World*** (Mary Lankford) includes illustrations and short descriptions of how 12 different cultures celebrate Christmas differently.
- ***Bringing in the New Year*** (Grace Lin) follows the preparations of a Chinese American family as they get ready for the Chinese New Year.
- ***Diwali, A Cultural Adventure*** (Sana Sood) introduces the Hindu holiday with rhymes, colorful pictures and simple language.

Enjoy Learning with Your Child

Many adults have not had the opportunity to learn about the beliefs and cultures of other people, so take this opportunity to grow in understanding along with your child. Teaching children to value the cultural traditions of other people is an important part of raising a child with healthy emotions and social connections. Parents and preschool teachers can help children learn to be culturally sensitive by explaining holidays to preschoolers and helping them to learn why different people celebrate differently. What new holiday would you be most interested in learning more about?

