I cannot believe that summer is ending and that school will be starting very soon. We have had a great summer full of fun and exciting activities. As we prepare for the start of the fall semester, we would like to wish all of our school-agers good luck with the upcoming school year and that we hope to see them again next summer. We also must say good-bye to some of our teacher assistants. We wish them well with their future endeavors.

Our last event for the summer will be our annual Ice Cream Social on Friday, August 18 from 4:15 to 5:30 p.m. The UNO Marching Band will be here at 4:30 p.m. They will perform and the children will be able to look at the musical instruments. We will have ice cream and cotton candy. We hope you can join us.

The new 2017-2018 contracts will be going out the week of August 21 to new and returning families. Please make sure you sign and return the contracts. Everyone must have a current signed contract on file for the start of the semester/school year. Please make sure that we have your child’s correct schedule of hours s/he will be here, so that your contract states that correct amount. If you have any questions, please see Dawn or Monica.

Food Program Forms will be going out to families that still need to complete the form for the 2017-2018 year. Everyone must have a signed form on file whether you qualify or not. If you do not qualify, all you have to do is sign and date the form. Everyone who does qualify will need to fill out the form.

We continue to advertise for the Preschool 1 Lead Teacher Position. We are continuing to accept applications and started interviewing candidates. I will continue to keep you updated on the progress.

Please mark your calendars now for the following upcoming fall semester dates:
1) Monday, September 4, the UNO Child Care Center will be closed in observance of Labor Day. We will re-open on Tuesday, September 5 at 6:30 a.m.
2) Thursday, September 14 is Curriculum Night/Open House from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.
3) Monday, October 9 is Picture Day.
4) Tuesday, October 31 is our Annual Costume Parade at 9 a.m.
5) November 6-10 is Parent Teacher Conferences.
6) Saturday, December 9 is Holiday Program at 10 a.m. at Milo Bail Student Center

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 month...
“So many dreams, at first seem impossible. And then they seem improbable. And then when we summon the will, they soon become inevitable.” Christopher Reeve
Welcome to August!

Upcoming Activities:
August 3 will be the last Water Play day. Your child’s swimsuit, towel and extras will be sent home on Friday, August 4.
August 11 is the Toddler Picnic. Please provide a peanut free sack lunch for your child.
August 12 is Stuffed Animal and Book Day. Bring in a favorite stuffed toy and book. We will also be having a special snack.

The following toddler friends will be moving up to transition this month:
Adelyn B., Violet D. and Kateri K.

We would like to wish those teacher assistants that will be leaving us the best in their new adventures. We also have some new faces; please take some time to meet our new assistant teachers.


Wanted: Guest Readers
Early literacy is important part of a child’s language development. I am asking parents, grandparents, or other family member to come read to the children during the fall semester. If you are interested, you may contact me at 402-554-3398 or e-mail me at eswinarski@unomaha.edu.

Toddler Teachers

The Transition class has been so busy this summer that we cannot believe it is almost over. Gifford Farms will be here Friday, August 4 to round out our summer fun. The cost is $5.00 per child and any parent that would like to participate.

We will continue to do water play until Monday, August 14. If you are returning before then and would like your child to participate in water play, you will need to bring in a swimsuit, towel, and sunscreen.

Also, as the weather continues to stay warm, we are asking that parents bring their child a water bottle in order from them to have easy access and to stay hydrated.

We will be welcoming some new friends from Toddler 2 into Transition this month. There will also be some Transition friends moving down to Preschool 1 this month. If your child is transitioning classrooms, please keep an eye out in their mailbox for a visiting schedule. If you have in questions or concerns about transitioning please see Dawn or Cassie.

We will taking a mini-field trip to Milo Bail Student Center on Thursday, August 10 to get ice cream. The cost is $3.00 (cash only) per child. The Transition class will also be having an end of the summer picnic on Friday, August 11. Parents are more than welcome to join us. We will eat at 11:00am at the picnic tables outside of the center (weather permitting).

Happy August.

Transition Teachers

Cooking with Rick!

As summer comes to an end, I wish the best to everyone returning to their perspective schools and hope to see everyone next year. This month’s recipe is “Tomato & Mozzarella Potato Salad w/ Lemon Buttermilk Dressing.”

Ingredients include:
3 lbs. of petite red or yellow Yukon potatoes unpeeled & quartered
Salt & freshly ground pepper
1/4 C buttermilk
1/3 C olive oil
2 to 3 Tbsp. lemon juice from a lemon
1 Tbsp. honey, warmed
8 oz. tiny mozzarella balls
12 oz. cherry tomatoes, halved
2 oz. basil, roughly chopped

Heat in a large pot of water to boiling add in the salt (approx. 1 Tbsp.) and potatoes and cook for 15 to 20 minutes or until potatoes are tender. Drain the cooked potatoes and return them to the drained pot.

While cooking the potatoes—whisk together the buttermilk, olive oil, lemon juice, honey and ½ tsp of salt. Next pour the dressing over the warm potatoes and toss to get them evenly coated.

Next toss in the mozzarella balls and halved cherry tomatoes and basil. Then generously add in the salt and pepper. Garnish with a tiny sprig of fresh dill when served if desired.

Refrigerate for at least an hour before serving. Serve at room temperature.

Enjoy, Mr. Rick

Talk with Toddler 1

Talk with Toddler 1

Time with Transition

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Also, as the weather continues to stay warm,
Dear Parents,

What a warm summer! In July, we learned all about fireworks, camping, the ocean, and friendships. We enjoyed playing at the Children’s Museum and learning all about stars and planets at the Planetarium. We were able to do some indoor camping that was complete with some gooey s’mores, yum! We learned what it meant to be a friend and how we are to treat one another, even in a tough situation. Using our sense of touch, we played in the sensory bin with water beads and discussed what creatures live in the ocean and how they interact with each other.

During the month of August, we will be reviewing and getting those prepared to move on to preschool 2! The children will focus on different concepts pertaining to letter and number recognition, shapes, colors, months of the year, and days of the week. Each topic will bring about a new understanding of what is being discussed to help prepare them for some concepts they will learn in the fall!

As we enjoy these last few weeks of summer vacation, we continue to have water play and library time. Each child has enjoyed these activities and all the other fun things we have done this summer! Our last field trip will be viewing the animals from Gifford Farm at the UNOCCC on Friday, August 4 at 9:30am. The cost is $5 per child and any parent participating.

As always, please feel free to contact me anytime 9-5:30 at the center. My desk hours are from 2-3pm and my email is aemccoy@unomaha.edu for any questions or concerns.

It has been such an enjoyable time being the interim lead preschool teacher for the summer and I cannot thank you enough for letting me get to spend time with your child to help them learn and grow! I am looking forward to a great August with them all!

Thanks!
Miss Anna and Preschool 1 Staff

Anna McCoy – Intriem Lead Teacher

News and Views From School-Age to Preschool 2

Hello Parents!

It has been a great summer and we have had a lot of fun. We want to wish all our Kindergarteners and School-agers a great school year and hope to see you again next year!

I am so excited for the start of fall semester. I want to welcome you back. I am looking forward to speaking and working with you in the coming weeks. If you are new to the center, welcome; my name is Megan Liu and I am the lead preschool 2 teacher.

Information packets will be available within the first two weeks of the semester. The packets will include any forms or information pertinent to both the structure of the classroom and the organization of learning goals during the year. There will also be an interest inventory that will need to be filled out and returned so that I can get a better understanding of what kind of learner your child is and their interests.

My desk time in the fall will be 12:00-1:00 p.m. every day. You can reach me at 402.554.3398. My email is mmliu@unomaha.edu.

Thank you so much-
Miss Megan and the Staff of School-age/Preschool 2

Megan Liu - Lead Teacher

Points to Ponder with Preschool 1

News and Views From School-Age to Preschool 2

Welcome back to the families returning from their summer break and to the new families!

CHAMPS does a lot to support the growth, learning and development of children and families enrolled in the center. Not only does CHAMPS plan social activities for families to interact with each other, but the group also plans learning opportunities for families as well as holding fundraisers to purchase equipment to support the children’s learning.

Meetings are held once a month from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Thompson Alumni Center. We need your support to make this academic year another success! Please be sure to attend the next meeting, as we will be electing officers. The first meeting for the school year will be on Tuesday, September 12 from 12 to 1 p.m. We hope to see you there.

C.H.A.M.P.S. Information

Book Orders

Book orders have concluded for the academic school year and will start up again at the end of August.

The children will be working on the Summer Reading Program with the Omaha Public Library and earning points to receive a free book.

You can also check with your local library to see what summer activities have been planned that your child could participate in.

Happy Reading!

Anna McCoy – Intriem Lead Teacher

Megan Liu - Lead Teacher

Points to Ponder with Preschool 1

News and Views From School-Age to Preschool 2

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Happy Reading!
6 Sneaky Ways to Get Your Kids to Eat Healthier
by Parenting Today Staff | on February 6, 2017 | in Child Development, Healthy Meals for Kids, Parenting
by beconrad

Getting kids to eat healthy can be an exercise in frustration and the source of much family discord. Many kids are picky eaters to begin with and simply plopping them down in front of a plate of broccoli is unlikely to turn them into vegetable fans.

If you want your kids to eat healthier, you need to be a bit creative. Some may even say that turning young junk food fanatics into avid health food fans requires a bit of sneakiness, but in the end, the results will be well worth the effort.

Kids who develop healthy eating habits early in life are less likely to suffer from obesity later, and their rates of chronic illness are lower as well. If your kids are still turning up their noses at lima beans, spinach, and other healthy ingredients, here are some tips for turning the tide.

1. Add tiny bits of vegetables to your sauces and dressings. Grab your blender or food processor and incorporate bits of broccoli, spinach, kale, and other healthy greens into homemade or jarred pasta sauces and other staples.

2. Swap traditional pasta for vegetable-based alternatives. Your kids will love the vibrant colors, and you will love the fact that they are finally eating their veggies.

3. Make vegetable-infused meatloaf and hamburgers. Few kids will turn down a hamburger, but you can make yours healthier with a bit of trickery. Just puree a handful of healthy vegetables in your food processor and work it into the ground beef as you make your patties. You can use this same trick for meatloaf and homemade meatballs as well.

4. Make your own fruit snacks. Processed fruit snacks are portable, delicious, and fun to eat, but they are also loaded with added sugar, preservatives, and other harmful ingredients. Invest in a food dehydrator and make your own healthy fruit snacks for a fraction of the cost of the store-bought ones.

5. Make fruit and veggie pops. When the weather heats up, your kids will be longing for a cool treat. Be ready with homemade fruit and veggie pops—puree fruits and vegetables and freeze them into popsicles.

6. Pack their lunchboxes with kid-friendly fruits. Those little oranges and tangerines in kid-friendly sizes are always a hit, so include plenty of them when you pack their school lunches. Baby carrots and sliced apples with dipping sauces are other healthy lunchbox staples.

Lesson plans are posted weekly outside your child’s classroom. Please read and extend those lessons at home!

Focus on Policy and Procedures

**MEDICATIONS**

Upon enrollment, you were asked to sign a Medication Permission Form for us to be able to administer any medications that your child may need in the future. Then if your child needs medication, you will need to do the following:

- You will need to provide a written physician’s prescription &/or note for all medications; this includes any over the counter medications.
- You will need to write in the medication book (near the sign in computer) each day your child needs medication with; date, your child’s name, name of medication, time and dose to be given, and your signature.
- All medications will need to be taken home daily with the exception of inhalers, epi-pens, nebulizers or medications prescribed for daily use.

Note: All medications must have the child’s name on them in order to be administered. If you have more than one child on the same prescription medication, both names must be on the prescription label or a note from the doctor must accompany the medication.

The staff will be sure to give your child the appropriate medication at the specified time, sign the book, and mark it on the child’s daily note. If your child requires medication for more than one day, you MUST write it in the book each day it is to be given. Once your child no longer needs the medication, please take it home, as we are not allowed to store medications that are not currently being used on a daily basis; (Epi-pens, inhalers and nebulizers require a special note from your child’s physician in your child’s file for us to keep on hand).

Please be specific and clear with these instructions and have medications in the proper container and labeled with your child’s name to ensure proper medicating.

If your child has any special medical or allergy needs, you will be required to fill out individual forms.

Congratulations!
Congratulations to the Walsh-Crawford family, Justin, Allison and Big Brother Benton on the birth of Adalynn Christine born July 20, 2017. 8.4 lbs. 20 3/4 in.