



UNO Child Care Center **Chronicle**

January 2024

Dawn Hove-Casart - Director

Monica Dey - Assistant Director

UNO Child Care Center Happenings and Reminders

Happenings: Mark Your Calendars

Lead Teacher Positions

We continue to advertise for the Assistant Lead and Lead Teachers positions. Help spread the word.

To assist us in the interviewing process, the UNO Human Resources Department will be conducting initial interviews with potential Lead Teacher candidates. Once the interviews are completed they will send me the information gathered. We will then schedule an additional interview times. A UNO HR Representative will also be present to help with the interviews.

I continue to look for parents to help serve on the interviewing committee. UNO Human Resources is now requiring all parents who are interested in assisting with the interview committee attend a 30 minute training. This training will be conducted prior to the initial interview. Please let me know if you are or still interested serving on the committee.

[UNO Child Care Center Closed Monday, January 15, 2024](#) In observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. We will re-open on Tuesday, January 16, 2024 at 6:30 A.M.

[Change in Schedule](#) If you need to change your child's schedule for the spring semester, please let me know, as you will need to complete a new registration form and sign a new contract. If you are a student; please make sure we have an updated copy of your spring semester schedule.

Reminders

1. The children do play outside and will go for walks on campus. With the weather getting cooler, please make sure your child has a jacket/coat, hat and/or gloves for outdoor play. As long as the temperature, including wind chill, is above 32 degrees, the children will be able to play outdoors.
2. The UNO Child Care Center **closes** promptly at **5:30 P.M.** Please make sure you are picking up your child by 5:30 P.M. The staff thank you.
3. As wintertime approaches, so do illnesses. Remember that if your child is experiencing any illness type symptoms, to please keep them at home. If your child develops a fever of 100.4 or above, your child must be fever free with out the aid of Tylenol or Ibuprofen before they can return. If your child has vomited or had diarrhea 2 or more times in a 24 hour period, and/or develop additional symptoms, they must be out for 24 hours, symptoms improving before returning. The UNO Child Care Center continues to follow all COVID guidelines from the Douglas County Health Department. If you child has been diagnosed with an illnesses, please let us know.
4. Inclement Weather: Please listen to your local news and radio stations for updates on closings or check the UNO announcement web page. If you see that UNO has closed, then the UNO Child Care Center is also closed. If UNO has a late start, the UNO Child Care Center will open 30 minutes prior to the start time. (Example: If UNO would have a 10 A.M. late start, the UNO Child Care Center would open at 9:30 A.M.). If UNO closes early, the UNO Child Care Center will close 30 minutes after that time. (Example: If UNO would close at 3 P.M., then the UNO Child Care Center would close by 3:30 P.M.). I will send out an email to families and staff informing them of the closure or late start.
5. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Dawn at 402-554-4936 or by email at dhove@unomaha.edu.

Happy Birthday!

- 12 - Bellamie M.S.
- 13 - Miss Rylee
- 18 - Jack H.
- 19 - Opal S.
- 21 - Sutton S.
- 23 - Miss Davis



January

National Blood Donor Month

- 1 - New Year's Day; Center Closed
- 2 - Child Care Center Re-opens
- 8 - National Gluten Free Day
- 12 - National Youth Day
- 15 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day; Center Closed
- 25 - Opposite Day
- 26 - National Fun At Work Day
- 29 - National Puzzle Day
- 31 - National Hot Chocolate Day



February

Black History Month Dental Awareness Month

- 2 - Groundhog Day
- 4 - Rosa Park's Day
- 9 - National Pizza Day
- 10 - Chinese New Year
- 13 - Mardi Gras
- 14 - Valentine's Day
- 14 - Lent Begins
- 14 - Read to Your Child Day
- 15 - Susan B. Anthony Day
- 19 - President's Day
- 29 - Leap Day



Recommended Books for the Month.



My Brother Charlie by Holly Robinson Peete and Ryan Elizabeth Peete

Best Friends by Sheri Safran

One of These Is Not Like the Others by Barney Saltzberg

Jenny Mei Is Sad by Tracy Subisak

More Than Peach by Bellen Woodard, illustrated by Fanny Liem

Dolls and Trucks Are For Everyone by Robb Pearlman, illustrated by Eda Kaban

Leah's Voice by Lori DeMonia

"The Day You Begin" by Jacqueline Woodson

"Our Diversity Makes Us Stronger" by Elizabeth Cole



Book Orders

Book Orders for this month will be due on Tuesday, January 23.

Books are an important part of a child's development and can help your child gain pre-literacy skills. When you order your child's books through Scholastic Book Orders, the center earns points to use towards free books and educational materials we can use in the classrooms!

Please visit scholastic.com/bookclubs to order.

If this is your first time ordering online, you will need to create an account using our center's code GKXFX. This is the center's account under "Dawn Hove". Please make sure you are using this account, or your order may not be processed. You will be able to pay online and the books will be delivered to the center. Happy Reading!



Talk With Toddler 1 & 2

Happy New Year, friends!

We are looking forward to a semester filled with new activities. We hope to be able to play with real snow. Winter may keep us indoors, but we plan to stay busy indoors.

Thank you to our families for the holiday gifts and treats. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated.

Lucky the Bunny Backpack

We are excited to bring back a favorite family take home activity: Lucky the Bunny Backpack. The backpack is filled with 3 board books, a stuffed animal, and a Journal. A flyer with more information will be in your child's mailbox on January 10, 2024.

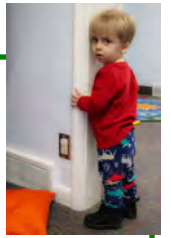
Parent Reminders:

1. Please make sure you are providing a change of clothes, including socks and shoes in your child's backpack.
2. Provide a refill package of unscented diaper wipes for the month of January.
3. The center is closed on Monday, January 15 for the observation of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

January Themes:

Transportation; Color: White; Shape: Diamond; Number: 6; Letters: M, N, O

Time spent playing with children is never wasted – Dawn Iantero
Ms. Efi and the Toddler Teacher Assistants



Time With Transition

Happy New Year Transition Families!

I hope everyone had a relaxing holiday break. We would like to welcome all our new friends from Toddler 2. This semester, Miles, Hudson, Frankie, Skylar and Junior have joined our class. We look forward to watching them learn and grow over the semester!



Family Reminders:

With our new friends tubbies and coat hooks moved over by our classroom, this is a great opportunity for all our Transition friends to be checking their tubbies and backpacks for extra clothes. Please take a moment to ensure your child has extra weather-appropriate clothing and shoes in case of spills or accidents. Additionally, please make sure you are checking your child's daily sheet so you can stay up to date on what is happening in the Transition room. We also use the sheet to send home reminders of things your child may need, like diapers or clothes.

Transition's January Themes: Winter Weather and Safe/Healthy Choices: Water, Snow, & Ice; Nutrition & Exercise; Safe Choices and Helping Others.

Letters: L, M, N

Numbers: 12, 13

Color: Blue

Shape: Diamond

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me via email or during my scheduled hours at the center. My email is zoabram1@gmail.com.

Let's have a great 2024!

Mr. Fred and the Transition Assistant Teachers



Happy New Year!

We hope that everyone enjoyed their winter break and is looking forward to a new year!

Preschool 1 has welcomed some new friends who came to us from Transition. Mckinley, Aurora, Dawson, and Sofia are having fun getting to know our routines and a few new friends! Preschool 2 has welcomed Theo S. We know that all of our friends will enjoy getting to know each other and have fun learning and playing together!

January is, with no surprise, cold! We will be celebrating the month talking about Animals in Winter, Snow and Ice, Martin Luther King Jr. as well as Polar Bears and Penguins. At the end of the month, we will start asking the question, Did the Groundhog See It's Shadow? Some of the letters we will discuss are O and P. We will do activities involving our color of the month, white and with our shape, the octagon.

Preschool friends love to color, cut and paint. That sometimes means that mailboxes get pretty full throughout the day! Please be sure to check your child's mailbox when you pick up at the end of the day.

We are looking forward to the spring semester and all of the fun and learning that will occur! As the semester progresses, there will be changes in Preschool 2 to help the children start preparing for the start of Kindergarten in the fall. Please be sure to watch for notes about the changes as they start to occur.

Please remember, I am available if you have any questions. I have office hours from 12:00 to 2:00 each day and can be reached by calling 402-554-3398. You can also email me at mdey@unomaha.edu.

Until next month,
Ms. Monica and the Preschool Assistant Teachers



Baby News



Congratulations to the Following Families:



Bachle Family: Rachel, Randy and big sister Reagan on the Birth of Rowan Steele born on December 2, 2023.

Royse Family: Rebecca, Trenton and big sister Skylar on the Birth of Brooklyn Jane born on December 6, 2023.

Teaching Your Kids About Diversity and Inclusion



Diversity and Inclusion - Raising Your Children to be Accepting

We live in an increasingly diverse world, which is a truly wonderful thing. Your children will encounter people of different races, cultures, and abilities. They'll make friends with children from different familial structures.

Teaching your children about diversity and inclusion is so important — we all want to raise tolerant, accepting, and empathetic kids. So, here's how to harness the power of your child's young, open mind.

Begin teaching acceptance at a young age

The best time to begin teaching your child about accepting differences is when they begin noticing differences:

Up to 3 years old: Toddlers will notice differences in skin color and appearance, including the names for these things.

4 to 6 years old: Kids will begin to identify their own race or ethnicity.

7 to 11 years old: The understanding your child has about him or herself in regards to that identity will deepen. As they begin to recognize differences, emphasize that those things aren't wrong, just different. Explain that differences lead to diversity, and that diversity makes the world an interesting and special place.

Teaching your young child about diversity

Teaching your young child about diversity and inclusion has a simple start: monitor your own behaviors and your environment. Think about how you approach diversity, acceptance, and inclusion yourself. This includes acceptance of different opinions and viewpoints.

On the environmental side, think about these questions:

- How often does your child see people with different skin colors/abilities/cultures/etc.?
- If it doesn't happen often in your neighborhood, how can you change that?
- Is your child comfortable with new things in general, like new foods or visiting new places?

If your environment is lacking in diversity, go out and find some! Visit neighboring towns. Try a new restaurant with food from another country. As a family, volunteer with an organization that helps people of different means and abilities.

Finally, encourage your children to honor others. Emphasize open-mindedness toward anyone who looks and thinks differently than they do. Explain that there are people all over the world with different lifestyles, cultures, and beliefs, and that that's something to be celebrated.

Books and activities about diversity and inclusion

Books and games are very useful teaching tools for kids, so don't hesitate to use them. You can read the books together and have a conversation afterwards, which will be especially impactful if you're making diversity and acceptance a theme in daily life.

One final reminder: it's tempting to try to be completely politically correct when talking about diversity. When you help your child understand these differences they'll be one step closer to appreciating them.

