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## Dickinson College Children's Center June 2014



### From the Director's Desk



As many of you are aware, class rosters have been handed out to the teachers and shared with parents as well. Move Up packets were sent out with a few forms that will need to be updated. The school year is coming to an end, Kindergarten Graduation was held on June 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM here at the center and was a great celebration of a successful year.

It is that fun time of year again and plans for the summer are in full swing. We will be offering Pizza lunches on some Fridays and the kids love this! Also, preschool will have a few walking field trips and will get to enjoy some local parks.

We will welcome the School Age Summer Campers on June 9<sup>th</sup>. They will be occupying the big room which will be converted to the Summer Camp room. The current Kindergarten room will become our "Big Room" for the summer. We are very excited to see our returning children as well as the Kindergartners who have been with us all year. The teachers for the camp program will be Cheri, Vanessa and Katie. The Staff Appreciation lunch was very successful. The teachers all truly appreciated all the yummy food. It was a nice treat after all their hard work!

The Family Event held to help with our Children's Center Garden was a huge success. As always, it was well attended and was a fun time for all. We painted bird houses, sun catchers and made some stepping stones. I think the kids most enjoyed sharing a snack together.

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### Dates to Remember:

- June 6 – Yearbook orders due  
**June 9 – First day of Summer Camp**  
June 13 – First Pizza Friday (Center and summer camp)  
**June 20 – Move-Up Packets & Agreements for current families (Ducklings-Bunnies) due in the office**  
June 27 – Pizza Friday (Center and summer camp)  
**June 30 – July 4 – DCCC Closed**

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Please remember to check out the Community Events Bulletin Board directly behind the sign in/out post in the main hallway. Throughout the year you can find a number of flyers posted that include community events, Dickinson campus children or family related events, babysitting information, parent classes offered locally and many more opportunities to become connected within the community.

We also have a Summer Helper Bulletin Board that has bios for all the staff. Please take the time to check them out.

The staff members and myself are excited about what the summer has to bring. Please read over the newsletter for classroom specific details and activities.

**~Gina**

## **Fundraising**

### **Ongoing:**

\*Nell's Gold Card & Target Red Card-Please find information on how to register for these on our website at: [http://www.dickinson.edu/info/20075/children\\_s\\_center/1055/fundraisers](http://www.dickinson.edu/info/20075/children_s_center/1055/fundraisers)

### **Totals:**

Joe Corbi's- \$648.50  
Lil' Angels Photography-\$300

### **Waiting On:**

Original Works

**Total Amount Raised to date:** \$14,151.91

### **Current:**

Yearbooks  
Harrisburg Senators

**Goal for the year:** \$15,000

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## Ducklings



May was a month on the go for the Ducklings. Not only did the infants experience all kinds of "things that go" in book, songs and pictures, but we ventured onto our campus and in our neighborhood to see real dump trucks, diggers, bull dozers, lawn mowers, trains, cars, postal trucks, and so much more! We even watched them use the skid loader and a small dump truck on our own playground! We loved pushing toy vehicles across the floor, under, over and through obstacles (we are becoming big time problem solvers!) and maneuvering push toys and trikes all around the large motor room and on the playground. We even participated in the trike-a-thon. We said good-bye to our friend Aleah, and welcomed our new friend, Madeline. It has been a very busy and fun month for us.

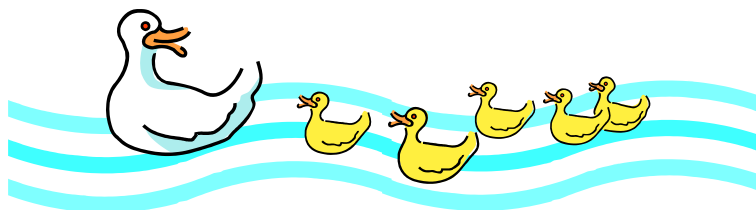
June is here with the promise of long-awaited summer. We will be able to play on our new playground. We will spread mats on the lawn and will bring our pretend dramatic play toys and storybooks outdoors. We will paint with water and continue to explore simple art materials: brush painting, finger painting, paper, markers and crayons...exploring our creativity and developing our fine motor skills! Our young toddlers will begin to learn to walk together in a line on the "bug rope", affording them greater independence, which they love! We will practice sitting in real toddler-size chairs, feeding ourselves with utensils and cups, and begin working toward gradually giving up bottles and morning naps. Within our Big Idea of "Learning About Me", we will also talk about labeling our body parts, dressing ourselves, washing our own hands, putting on our sunhats, and putting away our toys. Learning about ourselves also includes learning about our feelings and about the feelings of our friends. We will label feelings and work on coping with some of our new feelings, as well as how to live happily with our little friends with kindness and gentle touches.

We hope to harvest some of the fresh herbs, vegetables and flowers from the Children's Garden to share with one another. We will experience the myriad shapes and colors of flags in recognition of "Flag Day" and will celebrate all Dads on "Father's Day". Another busy month ahead!

**Please send in family photos of Dads and Grandpas to share with us.....all the dads in your life.....the children just love to look at real family photos.**

Thanks and happy summer days!

~SANDY, LYNN, TORY & JODY



It's not officially summer yet but it's warm and the Yellow Puppies are excited! We are donning our sun hats and sunscreen (no coats, yay!) and heading out to enjoy the beautiful outdoors. Last week we started to use the BIG sandbox on the Bee's playground and we love it! There is so much space for all of us to have our own area to play in. While walks, playing in the big play room and spending time on the porch have been faithful activities for us, we sure are looking forward to the completion of our new playground in a few weeks!



- Garden—spending time walking around outside, checking out the Center garden and possibly sampling some of the foods that we have grown will be what we'll do this week.
- Sun/sun safety—we will continue to feel the warmth of the sun as we play outside with our sun hats and our sunscreen on

- Water fun!

**Reminders:**

We would like to begin to have some water play with the children so on Friday of each week please bring in a swim diaper, swim suit/trunks and water shoes.

~MARSHA & DONNA

During the month of June we will explore the following themes both indoors and out and with books, songs and observation:

- Birds—we will go outside and see what we can see flying in the sky

## Yellow Pups

## Blue Puppies



Summer is just around the corner and we have some fun activities planned!

We are going to start the month with talking about our families, who is in our family, who we like to visit, and also our pets. We will be reading lots of books and coloring a picture for someone in our family.

The puppies are doing great with identifying their colors. We will have a fun week of coloring with markers, crayons and painting. The puppies are going to jump onto colored squares and go for a color walk. Please keep an eye on your lesson plan for the color of the day.

What do you find in a garden? The puppies will be busy as we look at vegetables, flowers and bugs! We'll read books about gardens, walk to the garden at the end of the building to see what is growing and try out different vegetables and fruits. The puppies will grow beans in baggies and plant flowers. We will make bug shapes in play-doh and look for bugs on the playground. We will also have a picnic lunch.

Fun in the Sun will have us making sure we have hats and sunglasses to keep us safe. There will be lots of fun outside coloring with chalk and playing in the sand box. The puppies will color a sun, paint with water colors outside and read Welcome Summer. We are also planning a water day for that Friday and a special cool treat.

**LOOKING AHEAD:**

We like to have water play days in the summer when the weather permits on Fridays. Here is what your child will need... swimmer diaper, swim suit/trunks, and water shoes.

**REMINDERS:**

- ~bring in a hat for your child to wear on sunny days.
- ~seasonal clothes for their bins
- ~let us know if your child will be out for a summer vacation

~CATHRYN & LACI



## Yellow Honey Bees

### WHAT'S THE BUZZ?



June is now well underway and it has brought with it a lot of warm weather and sunshine!



In the month of May we all have been making positive movements towards getting potty trained! More and more of our friends are heading toward the world of big boy/big girl underwear which has proved to be very exciting for all!

Along with gaining grounds in the world of potty training, some of our friends have reached the monumental age of 3 years old! We will have a lot of our friends celebrating 3 year old birthdays this month and in the near months to come! That being said, we ask that if you would like to provide a special snack for your children and their classroom as a celebratory treat, please take a look at the centers birthday snack policy and notify the teacher of *when* you'll be bringing the snack and *what* snack you will be bringing in! This helps us all better plan ahead and notify other parents of the special snack!

*(Excerpt from the Children's Center Parent Handbook):*

#### BIRTHDAY/HOLIDAY PARTY POLICY

Parents are welcome to send in a small snack to share on the day of their child's birthday. The items must be store bought and packaged. Please see the list below to choose from. Because of time requirements we are asking that the item be provided for the AM snack only. Please do not send napkins, plates, candy or party bags for any of the holidays (Valentine's Day, Halloween, etc.) or special class days. Thank you for your cooperation with this matter.



- Fruit (bite size)
- Muffins (no nuts)
- Cheese
- Crackers
- Bread (banana, pumpkin, blueberry)
- Yogurt
- Vegetables
- Pudding or Jell-O

Pizza lunch - please give 2 days' advance notice to the classroom teacher and the office. Also check for special dietary needs within the classroom.

Please remember we are a "nut free" center. Please read the labels carefully.

Please also consider visiting the class to do something special for your child's birthday such as playing a group game together or reading a special story. In order for the classroom teacher to plan appropriately, at least 2 days advance notice needs to be given to the teacher for this activity.

**MS. BARB & MS. SARAH**

## Blue Busy Bees

The Blue Bees had a busy month in May. We enjoyed the spring weather with lots of visits to the "Big" playground. Our Bees will continue to visit the playground as part of their transition process to their next classroom. We had a Trike-A-Thon, celebrated Moms and mother figures and learned about bugs and flowers. The children have also been very excited to have discovered two bunnies that live near the playground and visit quite often.

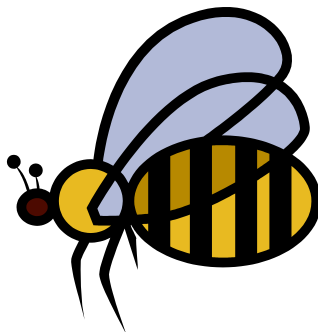
We will start the month of June with a Pets theme. We will talk about what animals make good pets and how to care for them. They will also have an opportunity to share stories and bring in pictures of their own pets. Our second theme for June will be Daddy and Me. This will be a special week talking about our Daddies, Grandpas and Uncles. Please send in a picture of your bee with their dad or father figure. (A reminder will be sent out closer to the time.) We will discuss favorite activities that we like to do with these important men in our Bee's lives. The next theme in June will be Camping Fun. The children will experience some of the fun of camping in the classroom and outside. The final theme for June will be Stars and Stripes as we get ready to celebrate the Fourth of July. Our children will learn about our flag and why there are stars and stripes on them. With all of our themes we will enjoy fun activities, crafts, books and songs.

Another fun activity coming up for the summer will be water play. Please send your Bee to school with a swimsuit and towel which they can keep at the center throughout the week for activities to help and keep them cool. We will be using a sprinkler and everyone is sure to get wet!

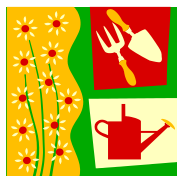
Reminders: Please check your child's cubby for seasonal appropriate clothing. Please make sure they have plenty of extra tee shirts and shorts, etc.

Vacation Schedules: We will have a vacation schedule sign up on our door. Please fill in the weeks/days that your child will not be attending DCCC. You will also notice Miss Jody and Miss Pam's summer vacation dates as well.

~JODY & PAM



## Yellow Bear Cubs



May was fun with the planting of flowers, playing instruments and being visited by real musicians, attending a royal ball and performing some favorite folk tales, but the fun to come in June is overwhelmingly exciting!

The Teddy Bears will be kicking off the summertime by chasing down some creepy crawly bugs and watching them closely during our Insects Week. The bugs will gear us up for our exploration in the world of science. We will have a blast with a very exciting Glow in the Dark week as well as a space week which we are still trying to schedule a trip to the planetarium! June will be going out with a BANG as we all get in the patriotic spirit; the bears will learn a lot about the various symbols that represent the pride for our country throughout our Patriotic Week!



### **It's Water Play Time!!!**

Bring in a bathing suit, water play shoes/sandals (close-toed) and a towel for your child to keep here all week, we will send them home to be washed, but we won't always know which day will be water day until we look at the week's forecast!

**-MANDY**



## Blue Bears

The Teddy Bears had a very imaginative May! The fairy tale and folk tale weeks were a huge hit! They loved playing with the masks and dress ups and especially the castle. We also enjoyed all the musical guests that we had for our music week. Thank you to the parents and siblings who came to share their talents!



We are looking forward to June very much because it will be warm enough for water play! We have a lot of fun summer themes planned as well. We will start off with a week of insects and worms. We will learn different body parts and many different names. After that we will talk about space. We have a trip to the Planetarium on campus planned, but we don't have a definite date yet. We will go sometime this summer! We will also have a glow in the dark week, spending the week in the dark with fun lights and activities that revolve around things that glow! We will end our month learning all about our country during our patriotic week. That will take



us right up to our week off for the Fourth of July!

**Dates to remember: The center is closed June 30-July 4.**

Looking ahead please plan on bringing in a bathing suit, towel, and water shoes to leave here for our random water play days. Don't forget to label them! It is easiest to have an extra suit here so we can plan accordingly with the weather. Please check your child's bin for seasonally appropriate clothing, and as always, if you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to talk to Ange or Kristen.

**~KRISTEN & ANGE**



**Bunnies**



May has flown by! We talked about nutrition, music, zoo animals and reviewed our letters and numbers. During May we had fun events like the trike-a-thon and our screen free week and we also did some baking.

June has a lot of fun in store as well. We will start out the month talking about sun safety where we will talk about how to be safe in the hot and sunny summer months. Then we will have a travel/transportation week where we will "travel" all over the world with our passports and talk about different ways to get there. Then we will have some silly fun with a wacky week. Finally we will wrap up the month with a stars and stripes week.

We will continue to practice and prepare our students for the transition to kindergarten by having kindergarten readiness centers, reading books about kindergarten, and allowing families to sign out games and activities to take home. Starting the first week of June we will have games and activities that focus on letters, rhyming, writing and numbers that can be signed out for a few days by families to practice at home. The sign-up sheet and games will be in the big conference room (next to Gina's office) on the big table.

**Reminders:**

\*Make sure your child has a light sweater or sweatshirt for in the classroom, sometimes with the air on it can get a little chilly.

\*Make sure your child is wearing sneakers, or sandals with closed toes for safety rea-



## Bunnies—continued

sons on the playground. (no flip flops)

\*Check your child's extra clothes bin to make sure that your child's clothes fit and are seasonally appropriate.

\*In the summer sometimes we go outside first thing in the morning to beat the heat so it is helpful if you bring your child with their sunscreen already on

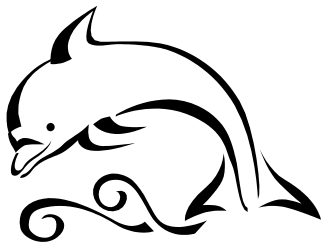
### **Important Dates:**

June 5— Morning Drop off will go back to being in the bunny room

June 30-July 4—DCCC is closed

~Ms. BRITNEY AND Ms. CARLY





## Kindergarten Dolphins



### Here are some things that we enjoyed in Kindergarten this year:

Maddie—playing music

Cameron—playing on the computer

Tori—learning

Sonja—grandparent visiting day

Nora— First day of winter party

Olivia—my birthday

Harry—playing outside

Aaron—my teacher

Thomas—glow in the dark party

Nathan—parties on birthdays

Fionn—drawing

Sean—drawing

Spencer—learning sign language and playing with friends

Lillia—Spencer pulling me in the wagon

### And here are some things that we are looking forward to for next year:

Hanging up backpacks on the hooks

Playing outside

Going to a big school

Summer vacation/gobs of books

Cafeteria/seeing big Nora

Cafeteria

Short days

Learning chapter books

Trip to Rice Elementary

Recess

Learning stuff

Learning new things

Learning new things

Lunch in the cafeteria

~ Ms. Katie & Ms. Cheri