



## Dickinson College Children's Center May 2024

### From the Director's Desk...

As we begin the month of May, we look forward to lots of playground time!

Class rosters for the fall have been shared with families during conferences. The center has decided to do a 3 % increase in tuition to help cover the costs for the 2024-2025 budget year. New Agreements, including the new weekly tuition rates, will be coming home sometime this month.

The Waiting List has been taken off the website as the center proceeds in offering spots for the fall in a variety of classrooms. We continue to look forward to enrolling many new families. Applications are welcome and prospective families are encouraged to call the center for enrollment information. An Open House will be offered on August 16<sup>th</sup> from 3-4.

Staff Appreciation was held the week of Monday, May 8<sup>th</sup>. A special thank you to our DCCC families that contributed funds so that the teachers and the substitutes could be treated to a special lunch from Pizza Grille. As a center we held a Donut and Coffee day and purchased a mini refrigerator for our staff break room and purchased snacks and drinks for all. Thank you to all those who help to care for the children at DCCC, we appreciate you!

We are excited to be holding our annual Trike A Thon during the month of May. It is always a fun time for the children. Due to the weather forecast we have decided to reschedule until May 13<sup>th</sup>.

Kindergarten Graduation will be held on May 29<sup>th</sup> on campus at the ATS building at 6:30 PM. Thank you to all the families and children for a fun and busy year!

Re-sign or complete your Summer School Age Program Forms:

Dates: May 13, 15, 17      2-5 PM in the Big Room

Both Summer Camp Programs will begin on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Ms. Brittney, Ms. Carly, and Ms. Bree will be the D2 teachers. Ms. Mati will be joining g the bunny class for the summer. Ms. Mandy, Ms. Sally and Ms. Haleigh will be running the Dragons 1 camp. Mr. Gunner and Ms. Sondra will be join-



### **Dates to Remember:**

**May 13**—Trike-a-thon for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital—make-up date!

**May 24 & 27**—DCCC Closed for Memorial Day

**May 29**—Last day of Kindergarten!

Kindergarten graduation 6:30—7:30

**June 3**—First day of Summer School-Age Program!



ing the Yellow Bears for the summer and Ms. Kennedy will join Ms. Ashley in the Blue Bears! We have several summer staff returning and some new substitutes as well. Please keep an eye out for the Welcome Bulletin Board for the summer staff which will include a picture and bio about all our extra helpers for the summer. If Summer Camp families returning and new want to stop by on Friday, May 31<sup>st</sup> anytime between 3-4 PM, the teachers will be at both camps to greet the new campers.

### **DCCC Covid Policy Update**

#### **May 2024**

Dear Families:

We have reviewed the updated CDC guidelines regarding Covid-19 and encourage you to do the same here: <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2024/p0301-respiratory-virus.html>.

Please continue to monitor your child for symptoms of illness and keep them home to rest if they are too ill to attend care. Our DCCC Family Handbook contains medical guidelines for attendance at the Center. And now the illness of Covid-19 will simply require a doctor's note

# Fundraising



R & K Sub Sandwich Sale

Starts: May 3<sup>rd</sup>

Ends: May 23<sup>rd</sup>

Delivery: June 6<sup>th</sup>

One last fundraiser!

Time for a picnic!

Check out the fundraising bulletin board in the hallway at the end of May for final totals!

Pending Totals: Original Works, Lil Angels Photos

What's next: Yearbook Orders! Your child's year in candid snapshots! The 2023-2024 Yearbook proof will be available soon, along with information on how to get yours!



# Duckling News

## This Month

The “big idea” of our April lesson plan revolves around spring. We will spend a little bit of time on the playground observing the seasonal changes around us. We can’t wait for it to get warmer so we can spend more time outside!

## Family Reminders

\*Please continue to label all bottles and containers.

\*Mango and Coconut are considered to be part of the tree nut family, and we can not serve them at DCCC

\*Please remember shoes for outside time!

\*If your baby has celebrated their first birthday this is a great time of year to begin transitioning to blankets for nap time. It may be helpful to send in both a sleep sack and blanket in the beginning of this process.

## Next Month

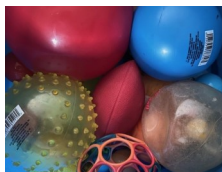
Our “big idea” for May is “Things That GO!” We will celebrate things that go in play, in books, songs and in our observations around our neighborhood. We will explore the wheels on push toys and toys cars in our room, explore ramps and tunnels, and make some exciting art with things that go! This is the time of our year together when most of the infants typically have moved away from pureed baby foods and are able to enjoy the delights of table foods! Now that most of the infants are self-feeding, we are beginning to eat in small social groups of four, which is such fun and we learn so much at mealtimes together. We will begin to offer our one-year olds some simple art materials, such as finger paints and chunky crayons. These art activities can be fun and creative, while strengthening and training the little hand muscles. We look forward to sharing our early masterpieces with you!

## Helpful Feeding Information

This website has some ads on it, but it also has a bunch of toddler friendly ideas and recipes that you may find to be helpful!

<https://www.yummytoddlerfood.com/recipe-in>

## Our Favorite Toys This Month



## Baby Signs

<https://babysignlanguage.com/dictionary/stop/>

We are using this sign a lot as we get older and work on social interactions.

## **YELLOW PUPS**

We had a lovely April! It has been a busy month and spring has truly sprung! We spent a lot of time outside exploring flowers, dirt, bugs, and we had fun dressing up for week of the young child. We are really getting into moving our dancing feet and including our friends while we groove!

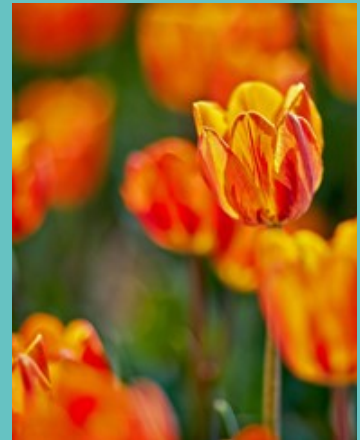
With some rainy spring weather, we've been singing "Rain, Rain, Go Away" and "If All the Raindrops." We've explored paint dobbers, paint rollers, and using markers to create some cool art projects! The warmer weather has given us a chance to be outside more, so we have been enjoying playing with push mowers, throwing balls and attempting to ride trikes!



Our theme for May is flowers and animals. There are so many animals in the world around us. Many of us have pets, farm animals, and some of you may have been to a zoo and seen animals there. We will listen to the different sounds they make and talk about the differences in how they look, move, and act. We will be reading books such as *Old McDonald*, *Rainbow Fish*, and *Who Goes Moo*. We will be making animal and flower paintings, footprint butterflies, and more! It will be a Marvelous May!

-Lindsay & Bri

It is finally warm and sunny outside! We will let you know if you will need to send in new sunscreen or warm weather spare clothes.



## **BLUE PUPPY HIGHLIGHTS!**



### PBIS

We will be reviewing being RESPONSIBLE this month. We practice this by helping to clean up toys, bringing our cup to the sink after meals, keeping our art on our own paper and being gentle with friends.

Bring in a hat and/or sunglasses (if your child will wear them) for when we go outside.

The puppies are exploring animals this month! We started the month with farm and will continue to look at many other groups. We are also working on rote counting and shapes. There is lots of language going on between peers!

Feel free to bring in a water bottle for your child to use when we go outside and through out the day



The puppies are now using the older toddler playground in the morning! Please make sure your child wears sneakers or a sturdy closed toe sport sandal, refrain from wearing "cros" as they tend to slip off easily

### REMINDERS

~Please check mail box folders and Lillio daily for office correspondence and daily reminders.

Cathryn  
& Tessa



## **YELLOW HONEY**



During the month of April we enjoyed reading books about Spring, Earth Day, and insects. We have gotten outside practically every

day and enjoyed a lot of sandbox time. We hope everyone's flowers from Earth Day are growing in the beautiful sunny weather. We have walked to the Education Station and have also gone on a walk around the neighborhood observing the flowers blooming, birds, and insects. Our daily routine has changed so there is time for a little more structured activities like circle time, table toy time for fine motor skills, as well as our art time. The children are loving all the painting and coloring we have been doing, including the giant very hungry caterpillar we made for our classroom.



Our class activities for the month of May will include a couple science activities. We plan to talk about the flowers and birds this month and use our special magnifying glasses to walk around outside looking at everything growing up close. Look for lots of art projects again this month!



May 13th is the Trike a Thon (rescheduled due to weather), where we will have a designated time for the children to ride their bikes around the parking lot. There will be more information on that to come. Also, if you have an extra bike helmet for our bikes we have here, send it in because we will start allowing the children with helmets to ride the little bikes around the playground during recess times.



### **Reminders:**

Please bring in a few family photos for us to post around the classroom!

**ALISHA & MIMI**



## **BLUE BUSY BEES**

### **April Highlights:**

- \*Chopping eggs for egg salad
- \*Animals that hatch from eggs activity
- \*Pajama day
- \*Planting flower seeds
- \*The celery experiment
- \*Playing with Farm animals and Trackers in mud (brown paint) and then cleaning them with soapy water and sponges



Thank you, parents, for attending your child's conference so we could talk about the growth that your child has had since starting in the Blue Bee room.



### **What Is Coming Up In May**

During the month of May the Blue Bees will be talking about **Animals Near and Far**. We will be read many books about animals and hope to learn about how animals live and adapt to their environment. We will also be doing many fun art projects that relate to the animals that we are talking about and plan to use the sensory table to recreate the environment that the animals we talk about live in.



This Photo by Un-

### **Family Reminders:**

\*If you have not already done so, please bring in sunscreen for your child. We will start to apply before we go outside both in the A.M and P.M.



\*You may wish to bring a sweatshirt or light jacket for your child to wear in the A.M. when it is still cool outside and, in the P.M., when the sun is not so hot, and the playground is a little cooler.

\*Please be sure to check your **Lillio app** each day so you know what your child has done during the day and to receive any important information you may need.

**JODY & CASSIE**



# Preschool Pages...

## YELLOW BEAR CUBS

We had a busy April, but I am sure the bears loved our frog and toad week best! I just found out that there are tadpoles in a pond near my house and we are going to bring them in to observe the change!

May is going to be busy learning about saving the environment and recycling during our weeks of "Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle". The bears have soaked in the basics of growing plants and gardens, but we will

explore garden seeds and bugs a little more in the month of May. We will finish off the month of May with some Fairy Tale and Folk Tale fun!



**I truly enjoyed taking the opportunity to meet with you at conferences; it is so great to share all the growth that we have seen in every one of these bears!**

~ MANDY



## **BLUE BEARS**



Yay it's May and the weather is finally getting warmer! The Blue Bears have enjoyed some extra time outside in the sunshine! Please take a minute to check your child's extra clothes bin by the bathroom to ensure they have seasonally appropriate clothing.

Thank you for meeting with us for conferences. It is always nice to talk to families about their child(ren) and show

them all the growth they have done!

As we head into May, we will spend a week talking about plants and flowers. We will learn about the different parts of plants and what they need to grow.



During the remainder of the month, we will focus on insects. We will learn that certain types of insects are very helpful for the environment. We will also touch on the life cycles of lady bugs, butterflies, frogs, and birds.

The last week of May we will spend some time learning about sun safety to prepare us for the summer months ahead.

During the month of May we will finish up our letters of week with X, Y, and Z! Which means we will have learned all 26 letters of the alphabet! We will continue with our monthly name writing and self portraits to help prepare us for Bunnies/Kindergarten in the Fall.

\*If you would like your child to wear sunscreen, please bring in a bottle (if they do not already have). **PLEASE NO AEROSOLE.** We ask that you please try to apply sunscreen in the morning and we will reapply before our afternoon outside time.\*



### **IMPORTANT DATES:**

**Thursday, May 9<sup>th</sup> Trike-A-Thon**

**DCCC is closed Friday, May 24<sup>th</sup> AND Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup> for Memorial Day**

**ASHLEY & GUNNER**

# **BUNNIES**

April was full of adventure for the bunnies! We took a ride back in time to the beginning of the year to revisit our 3B Rules; Be safe, be kind, be responsible. With April fools falling around that time we took the opportunity to talk about how to have fun and be funny without being hurtful. We talked a lot about how to be kind and safe with our words and our actions. We also discussed the differences between what's true and what's false. Being responsible with our bodies and choices rolled nicely into our reduce, reuse, and recycle theme. We celebrated earth day by learning how to keep it clean and how to take care of all the things it provides for us! We also celebrated all our classmates during the



Week of the Young Child. Lastly, we began to talk about life on the farm.



We spent a few weeks investigating farms. Farms give us a lot of things! On a farm there are a lot of jobs to be done, a lot of responsibility to be had! We learned about this through our book study of *The Little Red Hen*. We wrapped up our farm unit while thinking about all the different foods we would plant if we had our own farm or garden here at the center. Here is what the children said:



May marks the beginning of the end for some of our bunny friends. The official pre-k academic year will be over and some of our friends will be taking the summer off before the start of kindergarten. It's a bittersweet month as we bid fare-

well to long time friendships but are excited for the next chapter to begin! During the month of May we will discuss buildings, bugs, and being safe in the sun!

Thank you to the families who were able to make time to meet for parent teacher conferences! We are excited to see all your children shine brightly in kindergarten!

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

May 6-10: Teacher Appreciation Week

May 13: Trike-a-thon reschedules

May 24 & 27: DCCC closed

~CARLY & SARAH

**celebrate!**

Amelia	sunflowers
Austin	strawberries
Beau	flowers
Charles	eggs & milk
Dylan	broccoli
Eliot B.	strawberries
Eliot S.K.	apples
Ella	cucumbers
Ellie Q.	corn
Harrison	corn
Hattie	strawberries
Hya-cinth	lettuce
Leyton	flowers
Miri	carrots
Reed	Pink flowers
Sophia	corn
Sydney	kiwi
Verena	tomatoes
Wally	corn
Wyatt	strawberries

# **KINDERGARTEN DOLPHINS**

Kindergarten is winding down! The class just finished their last big homework project which is a research project on endangered animals. They all shared the information they learned about the animal they choose in such creative ways!

May is all about end of the year and graduation preparation! We started our KINDERGARTEN COUNTDOWN on April 30<sup>th</sup> which means that at that point we only had 20 more days of kindergarten (there are less now!!).

Each day will have a special theme or activity that will make each day super special while we complete all our end of the year work.

Kindergarten Graduation is May 29<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-7:30. If you see a kindergartener between now and then be sure to congratulate them on all that they have accomplished this year!

The first day of our countdown was Kindness Day and I want to share with you our kindness chart and encourage you to do it with us. The world can always use more kindness!

If you do something from the kindness chart or think of something else to do to show kindness, please let us know (you can also post it on our Facebook page)



**Ms. BRITTNEY**

