



Dickinson College Children's Center October 2014



From the Director's Desk

We are so excited to be into the swing of fall once again. It's so exciting to see the leaves start to change colors and the squirrels scampering around on the play-grounds. The children have all settled into their new rooms and look as if they have been there all year. They no longer look way too little to be in their new rooms. It always makes me think how fast time can go if we don't take the time to enjoy these little milestones with the children. After all, it is a very big deal to be a Yellow Bear these days!

Our Enrollment is currently at 112 children, including 92 families. We still have a few toddler openings and one PT preschool opening. The waiting list has been placed back on line for the remainder of this year.

DCCC welcomed two new substitutes and three new student workers this month. Teachers were busy attending the Infant Toddler Mini conference on the 6th and a number of teachers were trained on Seizure safety on the 16th.

The Shippensburg Education Students will be joining us for one day a week for 10 weeks. Three of the students will be in Bunnies and one student will be in Blue Bears.

The DCCC taskforce was recently formed to look at ways to eliminate the deficit at the Children's Center. The group of faculty, staff and administrators will meet over the next few months and will be reporting back to P&B by the beginning of the New Year.

DCCC has once again received E.I.T.C (Educational Improvement Tax Credit) Scholarship packets for preschool families who meet specific income requirements. The Scholarships were made available thru the Bravo Foundation and Success by 6 – United Way of Carlisle and Cumberland County.

Plans have started for the additional Summer School Age Program to be held at the old Sylvan Building. We will be submitting an application by the end of November and plan to offer an Open House in January.

Upcoming activities include: Children's Portraits and Parent Teacher Conferences.

~GINA

Dates to Remember:

**10/2—Paladan
Financial Services
Presentation 4:00 p.m.**

**10/6 – Fire Engine Visit
for Fire Safety Week**

**10/7—Infant/Toddler
Portraits**

**10/8—Preschool/
Kindergarten Portraits**

**10/9 – Ambulance Visit
for Fire Safety Week**

**10/ 21 – Start of Parent/
Teacher Conferences**

**10/31 – Class Fall
Harvest Parties**

Inside this issue:

Announcements	1-2
Ducklings	3
Yellow Puppies/Blue Puppies	4
Yellow Bees	5
Blue Bees	6
Yellow Bears/Blue Bears	7
Bunnies	8
Kindergarten	9

In consideration of our staff...

The Children's Center closes promptly at 5:30, with the Infant Room closing at 5:15, each evening. Family members should arrive at the Center with enough time to pick up their child, gather their child's belongings and exit the building by 5:30.



FUNDRAISING UPDATES

Ongoing:

*Giant Bonus Card Numbers-If you did not give us your bonus card number last year, please either sign up online or turn in your number at the office. Thank you!

*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

Totals:

Chicken BBQ-\$1676.97

Target-\$308.65

T-Shirts-\$307.00

Total Amount Raised: \$2292.62



Current:

Box Top Competition

Upcoming:

Lil'Angels Photography

Promotion Motion-

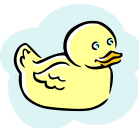
Please continue turning the labels in. There is a board right outside of the office that is keeping track of how many labels each classroom returns. The classroom that returns the greatest percentage of labels will win a fun Hawaiian Day Party (the younger classrooms will win books)!! Keep in mind that all proceeds from this fundraiser go straight to DCCC.

Goal for the year: \$15,000





Ducklings



September has been a busy month of getting to know each other and adapting to our new environment. In our short month together, we have already observed so much growth and development in our babies! Our young ones have very noticeably grown physically and are more alert, spending more wakeful hours with us, beginning to grasp at toys and responding to our conversations, songs and stories. We have come to call our three older baby girls, the Three Musketeers, because they can always be found huddled together playing, all for one and one for all! The older girls are standing and cruising, very mobile, and beginning table foods, sippy cups and self-feedings.

October ushers in autumn and we will continue to venture outdoors daily to observe the changing weather, cooler temperatures, wild life and falling leaves. We will celebrate the season in song and in story. We will examine pumpkins, gourds and colorful leaves.

Please be sure to check your calendar for October events....it is a busy month at DCCC! The infants will have their first "School Pictures" taken! During early October the Center will commemorate "Fire Safety Week" with the annual visit of our community firefighters and their big, shiny red fire truck, which the children love. Toward the end of the month there will be the center-wide Fall Harvest celebrations. While we do not dress in costume in the infant room, we encourage you to send your baby in a festive onesie or other seasonal outfit that can be worn comfortably all day and one that does not complicate our ability to change diapers. And finally, Parent-Teacher conferences will be scheduled for October 21st. You should have already received an e-mail to sign up your conference.

We are moving into the cold and flu season, so be sure to discuss flu vaccination during your upcoming well baby visits. Our babies under 6 months cannot be vaccinated, therefore we depend on all others being properly vaccinated and on our continued vigilance in hand washing and toy disinfection to protect our smallest ones from getting sick this flu season.

Many thanks to those parents who sent in wonderful family photos. You will notice these photos displayed in the classroom. The infants love to look at the pictures of mom, dad and the other important people in their lives.

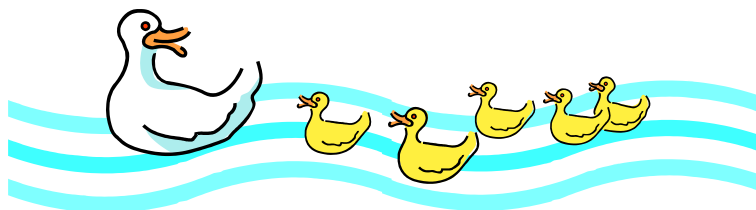
Reminders:

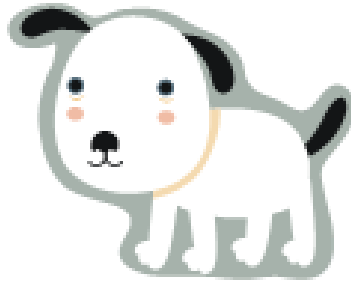
*Send in sweaters for cool mornings outdoors, as well as protective footwear.

* For the older babies now advancing to table finger foods, please return your signed DCCC Snack Forms. These forms are important so that we remain aware of all dietary changes for each infant. If you have questions, please let us know.

* Please continue to label your baby's belongings, especially formula/milk bottles.

~SANDY, LYNN, TORY & JODY





The Yellow Pups are going strong: making choices, listening to simple directions, and having fun learning every day. Last month we did some art projects and discovered we like using the paint brushes but we weren't sure about letting a ball roll round around in the paint and kept wanting to pick it up. But we will try it again. We are doing better at riding bikes, some are even trying to ride the bigger bikes. We mostly like pushing the bikes, shopping carts, and poppers and do love dancing to the music and throwing balls.

We have a lot of fun and love reading books!

We enjoyed our food tasting! Everyone at least tried the different foods and we will definitely do this again!!!

Next month will be all about the color orange and pumpkins. We will sing the Itsy Bitsy Spider song and make our own spiders!! We will also do a week

Yellow Pups

about pets. Remember, October is Fire Safety month. We will have a chance to see a fire truck here at the center. We will do a parade on October 31 though the campus (more information will be given closer to the date).

Reminders:

- Please remember to check your child's bins. We want to be sure we have diapers, wipes, and extra clothing. Between families checking and us checking and sending reminders, we should be able to keep well stocked.
- We are having cool mornings and warm afternoons. So it is important to have a light jacket or layered clothing.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please let us know.

~MARSHA & DONNA

Blue Puppies



Colors are everywhere and the puppies are looking for them! We started October with colors, finger painting, coloring with markers and crayons, and reading books identifying colors.

We will then explore different "tools of the trade" as we look at doctors, construction workers, and firemen. The puppies will get to see a real ambulance and fire truck! We will have dress up outfits to wear and lots of books to look at about these interesting people and vehicles.

The puppies get so excited over balls, so we will be playing with them a lot. We will talk about different sizes of balls, feel balls of different textures, roll balls in paint, and watch them roll and bounce. We also have some ball activity toys we will get to explore!

We will explore pumpkins and gourds. We will look at the different colors of gourds and feel their different textures. The puppies will get to help carve a pumpkin and have fun with the slimy insides. We will color a paper plate pumpkin and roll a gourd in paint.

The puppies will end the month with a Halloween fun week. We will color ghost with chalk, paint a spider, and color a black cat. The puppies will have a Halloween party with kid friendly music, a spider game, and play with "slime". Wear a Halloween shirt (or a shirt that is black or orange) on Friday.

SAFETY REMINDERS:

~When picking up your child from the playground please wait on the patio. A teacher will bring your child to you.

REMEMBER TO:

- ~label utensils
- ~have a sweater or jacket, mornings are cool
- ~check bin for extra clothing

~CATHRYN & LACI



Yellow Honey Bees

Things in the yellow honey bee room are falling in to place. The children are getting used to the new room and rules.

The month of October will bring us lots of opportunities to review colors, shapes and numbers. We will be focusing on different colors, shapes and numbers every week now.

During the first week we will explore community helpers. We will have a visit from the local fire dept. This will bring us the opportunity to teach about what we do if we ever have a fire. This is a great time to discuss with your child your plan of action if every there is a fire at your house. Focus this week: red, the number 1, and the circle shape.



During the next two weeks we will talk about apples and pumpkins. We will cook a lot this week, making apple muffins and apple turnovers. We will explore the inside of the pumpkin and we will make a jack o lantern. We will also make a pumpkin pie. Yummmm. Focus this week: yellow, green, red and orange and the number 2.

At the end of the month, we will talk about spooky fun. We will discuss how at Halloween most things are pretend and it's fun! We will dress up in our Halloween costumes for the Halloween walk to the HUB. (more information to come on this) Focus this week: the colors for this week are orange, black and white, the number is 3 and the shapes are circle, square, triangle.

Parent -teacher conference will be on Oct. 23rd, I hope to see you all there!

Ms. BARB & Ms. ALISHA

Blue Busy Bees

Our Blue Bees have been adjusting nicely to their new room. They are starting to grasp some of our routines and schedules. September brought us themes such as Color Week, ABC's and 123's, The Life Cycle of a Butterfly and Opposites. The children enjoyed new songs, art projects and lots of books on the subjects. They especially liked watching our classes very own butterfly fly away after emerging from it's chrysalis.

In October we will be learning about Health and Safety. We will be having a special visit from an area fire fighter company and an ambulance. We will be practicing "stop, drop and roll" with the children and learning about taking care of our bodies (handwashing, brushing our teeth, etc.). As October continues we will have a theme on Apples. We will discover how apples grow and come in many different colors. The children will also be baking an apple pie. They will love testing how the apples in their pie taste! Our Spooky Fun theme week is a great time as the children can show off their favorite costume on our annual walk to the HUB. The next theme will be Pumpkins. This is a big favorite as the children will be helping to make our own jack-o-lantern for the room. They will have an opportunity to decorate their own pumpkin and take it home. Of course, our Pumpkin theme wouldn't be complete without making a pumpkin pie! Each of our themes will include special songs, books and artwork.

Reminders:

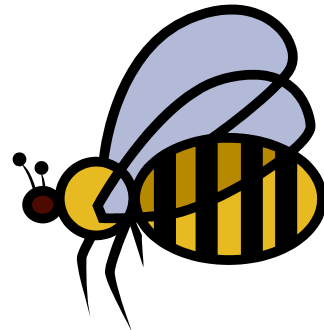
As fall blows in this is a great time to check your child's cubby for seasonal appropriate clothing. Make sure they have clothing to change into if necessary. Each child should have at least 2 sets of extra clothes in their extra clothes bin. Also, keep your eyes out for reminders on diapers/pull-ups and wipes. We do not keep extra wipes in the classroom so please keep those well stocked. Please label ALL of your child's clothing and lunch containers.

Areas the class is working on...

- * Potty training, proper hand washing, putting on jackets and clean up time.
- * Please let us know if your child is ready for pull-ups or underwear. We will work with you!

We look forward to a fun and exciting October!

~JODY & PAM



Yellow Bear Cubs

The bears enjoyed learning about each others' families through puppet shows. It was a lot of fun playing games that helped us be better friends. Ms. Mandy's cousin Valerie Virus sure made an impression about germ spreading on her visit to the classroom! The bears seem to have earned their shape masters awards for identifying shapes around them during our shapes week!



We will be tasting and making lots of good treats with apples during our apples week. We will be dressing and acting like fire-fighters and having special visitors during fire safety week! We look forward to a lot of fun playing with leaves and going on a leaf hunt. I hope everyone will take the time to check out our hard work with the pumpkin carving contest, the bears will enjoy helping prepare the pumpkins for the carving and then eating the baked seeds during our pumpkin week! The fall fun day where the bears can



come in costumes and enjoyed fun centers in the big room will be Friday October 31st!

Fall portraits will take place on October 8th!

Conferences to tell you how your child has transitioned into the bear room and where they are developmentally will be October 27th. I look forward to talking with all of you!

The fall weather is upon us and it is time to make sure we are working with our children on independent dressing skills, especially with coats/jackets! This will become a very important skill when winter weather comes with the dressing up into snow clothes!



~MANDY & CHERI



Blue Bears

We are looking forward to an exciting October. This is one of our favorite months. Ange and Kristen love all the fall themes, and are really looking forward to sharing our ideas with your children!



We will begin the month with a week about apples. We sure do go through a lot of apples! We are really looking forward to the visit from the fire truck and Firefighter Rusty! He will bring his gang with him for Fire Prevention Week and talk about smoke alarms, getting out safely and having a meeting place outside. We will start to memorize our home addresses that week as well.

After that we will be talking about lots of leaves! We plan trips to jump in leaves around campus and collect some to look at throughout the week. Feel free to bring in some from home as well! We will then have a week dedicated to the pumpkin. We plan on decorating, carving and eating pumpkins that week. Everyone will need to bring in a pumpkin that week to decorate, so look for that on the lesson plan too. Our final week in October will be all about Spooky fun to go along with Halloween! Our fall party will be on Friday October 31st. Children may come in costume, but please do not send in any accessories or masks. We will take a walk around campus and then parade in the parking lot for parents. Feel free to join us for our walk! The time will be on the lesson plan.



We will continue our letter of the week throughout the month as well. The kids love all the games and activities we play, and they really get into the song we sing about letter sounds. I hope you are enjoying the letter of the week craft in the hallway, they get cuter every week!

Picture Day is October 8th unless your child has a younger sibling, then they will have pictures on October 7th. Parent Teacher conferences are scheduled for October 28th and 30th. As always, check your

child's extra clothes bin for seasonally appropriate clothing. It's getting cooler, so having an extra sweatshirt here may not be a bad idea. Please label everything! Lunch containers, clothes, hats, bike helmets, bedding and stuffed animals need to have your child's name on them! If you have questions or concerns, please talk to Ange or Kristen. Thanks for all you do!

~KRISTEN & ANGE

Bunnies

I cannot believe it is October already! Fall is here and you can tell by the cooler weather and things start to get busy! We have a lot going on in the month of October. We will be learning about community helpers, pumpkins, and leaves and how things change in the fall, and bats and spiders.

During community helpers week we will have a visit from a fire truck and an ambulance and we will learn how these very helpful people are important members of any community. We will also learn about many other jobs and people who make any community run smoothly. Our leaves week will bring discovery of what happens to leaves in fall, why they change colors, and about what things can be harvested during this time, which is how we will spend our Farm to Preschool day. During our pumpkin week we will have a blue vs. yellow pumpkin carving contest, we will make pumpkin seeds, and do some experiments with pumpkins and gourds. Finally we will finish out October with our spiders and bats week. We will learn about nocturnal animals and will have a fall harvest party and a costume parade. Keep your eyes on your child's cubby for more information on guidelines and times for the fall harvest party.



We will learn the letters G, H, I and J during the month of October. Please continue to practice writing your child's name and letters at home. We have also been learning the signs that go along with the letters so feel free to ask your child what the letters are and if you need a paper with the signs on it please let me know and I will copy one for you.



****Reminders:**

-BOXTOP COMPETITION GOING ON UNTIL OCTOBER 10TH! Don't forget to put your box tops in the bunny bin in the hallway.



- Please remember to check your child's mailbox daily for important information
- Our room gets a little chilly during nap time and things so it might be helpful to send your child with a sweatshirt or light jacket that they can wear if they are cold during the day.
- Please be checking your child's extra clothes bin

Important Dates:

- Friday October 3: Promotion Motion Labels Due
- Tuesday October 7: Sibling Fall portrait day
- Wednesday October 8: Pre-K Fall portraits
- Wednesday October 15: Farm to Preschool Day
- Wednesday October 29: Conferences
- Thursday October 30: Conferences
- Friday October 31: Fall Harvest Party (more information to come closer to the date)

~MS. BRITNEY AND MS. DEBBIE

Kindergarten Dolphins

September certainly was a busy and productive month! We're learning to print letters properly, make letter-sound associations, recognize rhyming words, read some sight words, and understand basic concepts of print. In math so far, we've done activities with shapes, patterns, symmetry, classifying, graphing, counting, numbers, measurement, and money! We do attendance, weather, calendar, and number of the day routines every day in addition to a math lesson and math centers.

In Science this past month we learned the difference between living and non-living things and spent quite a bit of time exploring living things through our senses. Thanks to our kindergarten families, we had a nice variety of invertebrates to observe, and we've been fortunate to observe the metamorphosis of some of a few caterpillars into Black Swallowtail and Monarch butterflies.

At the beginning of October we will be talking about Healthy Habits... germ prevention, eating nutritious foods, and the importance of rest and exercise. For the remainder of the month we'll focus on safety, occupations, and our neighborhood community. Visits from the fire/ambulance departments are planned for October 6 and 9. We'll talk about various other community helpers and occupations and would love to have parents come into our classroom to share about their own careers! Please let Miss Katie know if you're interested! On October 17 in the Kindergarten Room, we'll

have a Career Day, where the children will dress to represent a career they would like to have when they grow up. During our community unit, we'll also learn a little about money and resources and will learn the difference between needs and wants. We'll plan a center-wide Diaper Drive for Project S.H.A.R. E. and will be given a tour of their facility when we deliver them. Please keep in mind that we also have a Project S.H.A.R.E. Penny Pail outside the Kindergarten Room for monetary donations which will be delivered to Project S.H.A.R.E. in April.

Also in October, we'll begin our Color Days, with a goal of learning to read all of the color words by the end of the month. On each featured color day, students should wear as many items as they can with the designated color, and we'll graph the number they're wearing each day.

On October 31, we'll celebrate Halloween with our Halloween/ Fall Harvest Party. We ask that children dress in costumes without masks or accessories. Parents will be invited to our parade around the DCCC parking lot, and we will enjoy party games in the Big Room that afternoon.

~ Ms. Katie & Miss Cheri

REMINDER: Please be sure your child has a full set of extra clothes in his/her bin to fit the season.

