

CCC Newsletter

Publisher: CCC

Volume No.3

Issue No. 5

Date: Jan.1, 2008

The mission of Concord Children's Center is to cultivate an intimate, welcoming community where children develop respectful relationships and inquisitive minds, build confidence in their individual gifts, and are engaged, prepared and inspired to learn.

CCC Calendar

January 11

February optional day requests due

January 13 CCC Open House

1-3 PM at all sites

January 14

07-08 Applications Distributed

January 15

CCC Board Meeting 7:30PM @

Open Comment and Outreach and enrollment discussion

January 18

CPS Closed, Optional After K

January 21 CCC Closed for MLK Day

CCC Open House and Applications for 2008-09 School Year

Concord Children's Center's Open House will take place on Sunday January 13 from 1-3 at all three sites. Applications for the 2008-09 school year will be available. Continuing families will receive applications in their parent pockets on Monday, January 14. All families are welcome to attend the Open House, especially families from Emerson. This is a great opportunity to meet the preschool teachers and tour West Concord and Ripley. Please feel free to invite family members or friends who may be interested in joining the CCC community.



School Pictures will be taken in February.

- Monday Feb 11 at the Emerson Morning Two's
- Tuesday Feb 26 at West Concord
- Friday Feb 29 at Emerson and Ripley

Watch for details from your program director.



"Get Into The Game!"

CCC Auction 2008

The Auction is off and running. Auction Chair, April Robb (Emerson and West Concord) has been joined by Sadie Simone (West Concord). Jane Torpie, CCC Alumni, and

former Auction Chair, will continue to offer technical assistance to this year's chairs.

Kate Damon and Lisa Becker are chairing the solicitations committee. Our letters to area merchants went out on January 4th and an incredible team of over twenty solicitations volunteers will begin making follow-up calls in Mid January. If you have any suggestions for a merchant we should solicit for a donation please contact Kate or Lisa or leave a message at CCC 978-369-3747 or executive@concordchildrenscenter.org.

Letters to families and staff asking for donations should appear in your parent pockets the week of January 7th. The most exciting and unusual donations often come from our staff and families.

What makes CCC Special

"Research clearly demonstrates that high-quality, developmentally appropriate early childhood programs produce short- and long-term positive effects on children's cognitive and social development. Specifically, children who experience high-quality, stable child care, engage in more complex play, demonstrate more secure attachments to adults and other children, and score higher on measures of thinking ability and language development. *A Call for Excellence in Early Childhood Education* NAEYC 2000

A significant measure of high quality care is teacher tenure. At Concord Children's Center the average teacher tenure is 9 1/2 years. Seven of our teachers and administrators have been at CCC for 20 or more years.

Program News

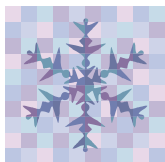


Ripley:

December at Ripley brought community building through several family events. The 3-4's group had a family sing-a-long one evening. A great time was had singing many of the familiar tunes the

children sing during the day. This gave everyone a chance to learn some of the tunes and to get a copy of the words to the songs sung that evening and many more for home. After the singing, snacks the children had prepared were enjoyed. The 4-5's group took time on a Saturday morning to share the woods behind Ripley with their families. Many families dressed warmly for a trek into the snowy woods. We took a break to enjoy some gingerbread cookies and hot cider or coffee and sing "Jingle Bells" complete with bells. The After-kindergarten group families shared many of their family traditions. From eating latkes to building gingerbread houses it was important to have a chance to see how traditions are similar and different among the people we know. Nathan's mom, Sue Poor, was able to join the group one afternoon to share their tradition of taking a ride on the polar express in New Hampshire by reading Chris van Allsburg's "The Polar Express".

Penni Hensley Wagner, Ripley Program Director



Emerson

Happy New Year to one and all.

Emerson loves winter and we are celebrating it's fun weather in all of our classrooms. We play with snow plows in the sand tables, make white play dough snowflakes with friends and teachers, and love the playground in the snow. Amazingly, we are still marveling at the snow, icicles and snow plows! Self-help skills are emerging as we find our own hats, mittens and sometimes a friend's snow gear! Bravo to the teachers for getting outside as much as possible. We do stay in when the temperature dips too low. But the snow can come *inside* for fun. We put snow in the sensory tables for exploring - with mittens on of course!

It is so nice to see everyone after our winter break. Many of the children and families are sharing stories about their family time and or vacations. All of the sharing highlights for us the many new and emerging skills in our classroom groups. We have noticed an increase in the amount of time the children can spend listening to stories, enjoying circle/meeting times and in conversation with each other. The burst of

expressive language and sharing is amazing to observe. As a result of these emerging skills and the related developmental stages, individual classrooms have incorporated more children's literature into their classroom curriculum to extend and respond to the new interests exhibited by the children. Some recent favorites (I surveyed the toddler group for suggestions) books have been... *Frosty the Snow Man, Polar Bear, Polar Bear, Itsy Bitsy Spider, Jingle Bells, The Mitten Book* and of course the many songs we sing each day.

Marianne Maloney and the Emerson and Morning Two's faculty

West Concord

As we move into a new year the each class will be focusing on different themes and exploring new topics. For the next six months of the school year, I will highlight a specific class and what theme the class is exploring in CCC'S monthly newsletter.



Tashi dlek! This is a formal greeting in Tibet and Losar and is the name of their New Year which begins in February. The HEART ROOM [4-5's

class], will be studying Tibet for the next month. Children can look forward to learning about the landscape, language, foods, people, animals and culture. The loft in the classroom will be turned into the Himalayas and the entrance to the classroom will resemble the architecture of a Buddhist Temple.

During the course of the next month children will taste Yak Cheese, create masks that depict the Tibetan culture, make and bead traditional Tibetan bead strands and paint scenery that is representational of the regions landscape. A guest has been invited to come in and talk about his journey to Tibet and to share his rock climbing adventure. The Heart Room teachers are looking forward to learning along with the children as they delve into the western region of China and all the wonders and some mysteries of the Tibetan area. If you have visited Tibet we'd welcome you to come in and share pictures, slides, or your experiences.

Tashi delek Anne Doherty West Concord Program Director

January Events for the Concord Family Network
www.concordfamilynetwork.org

Winter Play Space Open (Dec. thru March) -- FREE for CFN members, all ages welcome on most (see schedule) Fridays, 9:30-11:30am, at the Hunt Rec. Ctr. in Concord. Please contact Michelle Pflomm, mlpflomm@msn.com, for details.

Check the CFN website for January Events.