

# CCC Newsletter

*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*

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## Auction Kickoff Friday Nov. 21 7PM @ 1300 Main Street

Join your Auction co-chairs, Rachel Hitchcock (Ripley), Leslie Lilly (West Concord ) and Carole Misticawi-Lynch (West Concord and Emerson) for a *Wine and Cheese Kick-Off* for auction planning. Our annual auction is not only our biggest fund-raiser, it is also our biggest party! Join us on the 21<sup>st</sup> for an evening of fun and relaxation and help set the theme for this year's Auction. Committee chairs will be present and you can find out how you can participate.

We are still looking for a graphic designer to design our Auction Logo, and a food committee chair. Please let us know if you can help by calling 978-369-3747 or sending an email to Pat Nelson at [executive@concordchildrenscenter.org](mailto:executive@concordchildrenscenter.org)

## CCC Calendar

### November 6

*CPS Closed afterK/1 optional day*

### November 7

*Requests for December Optional days due*

### Saturday November 8

*Concord Bookshop Fundraiser all day at the Concord Bookshop*

### November 11

*CCC Board Meeting 7:30PM @ Emerson  
Presentation by the Outreach & Website Committees*

*CPS Closed afterK/1 optional day*

### November 21, 7PM Auction Kick-Off

### November 27-28

*Closed for Thanksgiving Holidays*

## Bookshop Fundraiser



On Saturday November 8<sup>th</sup>, *The Concord Bookshop, 65 Main Street, Concord Center*, is donating 10% of its sales to Concord Children's Center. This is a great opportunity to purchase Holiday gifts and support CCC. CCC volunteers will be at the store with cookies and treats.

Ripley parent Sarah Gates has the following suggestions for those older children and adults in your life:

- *Where the Sidewalk Ends, Light in the Attic*, by Shel Silverstein
- *St George and the Dragon*, Hodges & Hyman
- *Many Moons*, Thurber
- *Riki Tiki Tavi*, Kipling
- *Charlotte's Web* or *The Trumpet of the Swan*, E.B. White
- *Charlie & the Chocolate Factory, James & the Giant Peach, Danny the Champion of the World*, Dahl

### A few random gift ideas for Grown Ups

- *Three Cups of Tea*, Mortenson & Relin
- *I See You Everywhere*, Glass
- *The Miracle at Speedy Motors, Comforts of Muddy Saturdays*, McCall Smith
- *Special Topics in Calamity Physics*, Pessl
- Ian Rutledge series (mystery), Todd

The book sale is open to everyone. Tell your friends, family, and neighbors. Phone orders are welcome for those who can't make it in person (978-369-2405). You can even call in advance to put your books on hold!

### Wish List.

Emerson is seeking a changing table that is in good shape, with a flat top, and volunteers to help relocate the center mailbox to reduce the challenges of pulling out of the driveway. Call Marianne at 978-369-0492 or [Emerson@concordchildrenscenter.org](mailto:Emerson@concordchildrenscenter.org)

### Writers Needed

Help wanted to rewrite our program descriptions for use on our Website and writers for news releases. Contact Pat at 978-369-3747 or [executive@concordchildrenscenter.org](mailto:executive@concordchildrenscenter.org)



### Directors Favorite Books

Penni's favorite book as a young child was *A Child's Garden of Verses* by Robert Louis Stevenson. She would read this with her grandmother at her house. When she was older she spent many hours reading practically all of the books in the Pippi

Longstocking series and dressed as her for many Halloweens.

Marianne's all time favorite resource books for children of all ages are:

1. *Hands-On Nature, Information and Activities for Exploring the Environment with Children*. Edited by Jenepher Lingelbach, Vermont Institute of Natural Science.

2. *Earth Child: Games, Stories, Activities, Experiments & Ideas About Living Lightly on Planet Earth*. By Kathryn Sheehan and Mary Waidner, P.h.D.

### News from Emerson



This month we are gearing up for the colder weather and in putting our first garden to bed for the winter. We have been adding compost, leaves, straw and mulch (with little hands) and look

forward to watching the squirrels and other creatures dig for food. We enjoy watching the squirrel grab whole apples and run with them. We are fortunate to have a healthy apple tree near our garden. We are still playing outside even with the colder weather so, please, send in mittens, hats, snow suits, boots, change of seasonally appropriate clothing and layers. We really enjoy playing with the proper gear.

This month, on the 11th, the CCC Board Meeting is at Emerson. I encourage anyone who is available to come and see what our meetings are like. We rotate sites, and it would be a super way to learn more about CCC.

**Marianne Maloney, Program Director**



### News from Ripley

In October at Ripley we continued to explore our local farms and orchards.

The 3-4's and 4-5's groups went to Shelburne Farms in Stow for a

wonderful apple picking trip. The day was glorious and the apples were crisp and delicious. Back at the Center there was taste testing of many varieties of apples, chopping of apples for applesauce and apple tarts, and measuring of each other with apples. Later in the month each of the groups took a walking excursion to Scimone's Farmstand. Mr. Scimone enjoyed showing us around and the children took delight in discovering the different decorations and produce for sale. We also

practiced democracy by selecting many pumpkins, narrowing the field of candidates by voting, and then buying the one with the most votes. We also talked about how the grown ups would be voting on Tuesday to select the next president and other officials.

**Penni Hensly Wagner, Program Director**



### News from West Concord Who is Geoff the Slug & what is "emergent curriculum"?

Emergent curriculum is an invaluable tool for teaching young children. It's the

kind of curriculum teachers and children develop together when exploring what is socially relevant, intellectually engaging, and meaningful to young children. It can be spontaneous, open ended and evolving. This is where *Geoff the Slug* comes in.

About a month ago Taylor walked into the classroom with a very large slimy slug his mother had found in the garden. The children gathered as did his teachers to take a careful look at this great find! Within a day, the slug was named Geoff and the class did research on the computer to find out what kind of family Geoff came from and what his diet consisted of. The next day children arrived with root vegetables and fruit for Geoff to munch on. The class observed that Geoff prefers strawberries to leafy greens. Within days of Geoff's move into our school the children discovered tiny white specks of "something" all over the leaves in Geoff's home. The children also observed that Geoff left a path of slime wherever he crawled. This observation of slime became very useful this week when the children found Geoff missing! Children, parents and the teachers scoured the room until Zachary shouted out that he found some slime. Diane and the children quickly raced over to follow the path of slime and lo and behold Geoff the slug was hiding on a shelf. The children remodeled Geoff's home so that he wouldn't leave again.

When we compared the white "something" to pictures we found on the computer, we discovered that they were slug eggs!

Emergent curriculum arises naturally from situations that allow for teachable moments. It connects learning to what the children are interested in learning about. We are fortunate in our field of early childhood education that we are able to follow the lead of children and develop activities and curriculum that emphasizes emergent learning. **Anne Doherty, Program Director**