

Phyllis Bodel Childcare Center at Yale School of Medicine, Inc.
March, 2010 Newsletter
Bodelchildcare.org

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Calendar:

March 5: Inservice cancelled. We will open at 7:30 am.

March 8-11: Kindergarten Report Card conferences

March 17: Site visit from the National Association for the Education of Young Children. Gateway Community College is in the process of applying to be a NAEYC teacher training college and their validator will be coming to Bodel because we are Accredited, we are a training site for Gateway student teachers and we hire Gateway graduates.

March 19: Board meeting at noon in the Mezzanine

March 29-April 6: Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent Conferences:

March is the time for our mid-year kindergarten report cards and for our six month parent teacher conferences. The sign up for kindergarten conferences is posted next to the sign in sheet and the sign up sheets for all other classrooms will be posted on March 15th. All parents are strongly encouraged to make an appointment to meet with the teachers. The times and dates posted we realize will only work for some of our families. Please contact the office and we can schedule a time that will work for you. Our infant conference forms are tied to the Denver Developmental Scale and our Toddler and Pre-school forms are aligned with the Connecticut Pre-school Assessment Framework. Even if you feel that you talk to the teachers everyday, the conference is a time to review your child's progress in the class, see pictures of their day and samplings of their "work".

Transitions:

The best laid plans so often go astray. It had been planned for transitions to begin after the new year. They could not happen at that time for a number of reasons, the primary reason being sufficient staff to facilitate them. They will be beginning in March for several of our friends. Parents will be getting a letter and schedule in their child's cubby by March 1st. I do thank you all for understanding that the primary function of our Center is to ensure each child's safety and happiness during the day, while they are away from you, regardless of the room name that they occupy.

Week of the Young Child and Raffle:

After weeks of meetings and the hard work of the Raffle Committee we have received enough donations to offer ten incredible prizes for this year's raffle. The Raffle and Children's Fair will be held on April 15, 2010. Please mark your calendars for this fun event and help us celebrate staff anniversaries, a wonderful children's fair and the Week of the Young Child. There will be more information regarding this important fundraiser by email and in your April Newsletter.

Special Thank you's:

From the Manatee's a thank you to Wendy's mom for coming in to plant with the children.

A thank you to Alexandra's Mom for the books.

From the Dolphin's a thank you to Krishna's Mom for the pin print game and to Mia's Dad for coming in to set up the bouncing castle on a rainy day.

From the Kindergarten, thank you to Haniya's Dad for the 100 day pictures for all the families,

To Haniya's Mom and Anton's Dad for going on the field trip to the Shubert Theater.

To Jon's Dad and Lauren's Mom for helping celebrate Chinese New Years.

To Eleanor's Mom for the Agar plates for germ experiments.

To Alex's Mom for coming in, baby and all, to help input data in the office.

From the Beluga's a thank you to Sebastian's family friend Nancy for coming in with her guitar to sing with the children.

Some Notes:

In your child's cubby you will find a handout from the Rudd Center on choosing healthy beverages. Frequently our parents, especially our infant and toddler parents want us to serve juice to the children. This handout will explain why we refrain from serving juice except in cases where juice would be required by the child's physician.

We are once again requesting that our parents please provide the teachers with appropriate winter clothing for the children. I think this year has proven to us that the best of forecasts is often not accurate and we do go outside. There are many days where we are scrambling for outfits to allow all the children an opportunity to play outside. If you have any questions about what your child needs, please talk with their teacher.

The kindergarten for the 2010-2011 school year is fully enrolled.

We have a number of our families moving to new homes and new states. Please remember that if you are leaving Yale and Phyllis Bodell you are required to give us at least two months notice in writing, you may do this by email. If you are moving to a new home or apartment, we need your new address and phone number. Again, you may do this by email.

Guidelines for Birthdays: Part of the NAEYC health and safety restrictions state that we cannot have food, that is shared with children, brought in that is made at home nor can we serve fruit that is not in its whole state. We need to be certain that all food prepared for the group is free from allergens. The only ice cream that we are certain is prepared on a peanut/treenut free line is Hoodsie Ice Cream Cups. Any other ice cream needs to be returned to parents. We follow the Yale Policy of no balloons.

