

## From the Director

### Christmas and New Year's Holiday-

The Center will be closed on December 24th and December 25th in observance of the Christmas Holiday. We are also closed on January 1st for New Year's Day.

### Need care for your Kindergarten Prep or school-age child during winter break?

Winter Break Camp at Bright Generations will be held from December 22<sup>nd</sup> - January 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Center will also provide drop in care on January 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> if your child does not return to school until the 7<sup>th</sup>. Click on the link to download the flyer and registration form: [Winter Break Camp 2014](#)

### Gingerbread House Contest-

Please stop by the Mega Watt Café during the End of Year Celebration on December 4<sup>th</sup> to vote on your favorite BGHC gingerbread house. Each classroom creates a gingerbread house that we display during the luncheon. Employees at the CCC vote on their favorite, so please encourage your co-workers to vote! The following week, we host a silent auction at the center, so parents can bid on their favorite gingerbread house. They make a great centerpiece for the holidays!

### Bright Generations Gives Back!

Join us in our annual support of the Community Welcome House, with our **Angel Tree**. This organization provides transitional housing to women and children that are leaving abusive households. Each year we receive their holiday wish list. Those items are placed on an "angel" on the tree for parents to take, purchase and return to the center. Our deadline this year is Friday, December 19<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your support!

## Important Dates

12/04- Gingerbread House contest at the CCC

12/08 – 12/19- BGHC Angel Tree

12/13- National Cocoa Day

12/15- 12/19- Bright Generations Henry County Door Decorating Contest

12/22 -01/06/2015 - Winter Break Camp for School Ageds and Kindergarten Prep

12/24 & 12/25- Center Closed for Christmas Holiday

01/01- Center Closed for New Year's Day

## Reasons to Celebrate

### Happy Birthday...

#### Child Birthdays

Charlye Brand- 12/29

#### Staff Birthdays

Augusto Sosa, 12/01

Michele Jones, 12/15

#### Staff Anniversaries

Norrica Rosser, 12/06

### Connect with Bright Horizons



# Classroom Highlights

## Infants... Well Aware- Hand and Eye Coordination

**We learn to** intentionally grasp and manipulate objects by manipulating whole-piece puzzles with large knobs. Emma and Charleigh reach for the interactive balls and push them around the carpet.



## Toddlers... Math Counts- Numerical Understanding

During morning exploration, the **toddlers learn to** count to two or three by teachers modeling language. The toddlers experiment with the counting bears after seeing their teachers line the bears up and count one, two, three. Kinsley mirrors her teacher by pointing to each bear as she counts.

## Early Preschool... Well Aware –Fine Motor Development

**We learn to** strengthen and refine our small muscle skills by peeling masking tape off of the table. When Kyle noticed the masking tape on the table he says, “A circle!” Myron and Kyle showed persistence in problem solving as they successfully pulled the tape off of the table. When they finished Kyle said, “I pull it off!”



## Preschool... Math Counts- Quantities

During self –directed activities, Alanis chose to explore the math manipulative learning area. **She learns to** understand quantities related to numbers by counting the manipulative and matching the amount to its corresponding number.



# READY for SCHOOL News



## READY for SCHOOL Parent News – The Flu Season Fight: Keeping Children Healthy

Young children get as many as 12 colds a year, or up to one cold per month, says the University of Maryland. Because each cold lasts 7 to 14 days, it may seem like your child is sick more often than he's well. Although you can't prevent every cold, you can reduce the risk and help your child stay healthier this cold and flu season. Below are a few quick tips for keeping the common cold (and flu) at bay.

- **Get your flu shot.** Getting the [flu shot](#) every year is the single most effective way to prevent the flu, according to the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), which recommends the flu shot for everyone age six months and older.
- **Wash your hands.** Adults know to wash their hands to keep germs at bay, but children are notoriously forgetful. Teach your child to wash her hands before eating, and after using the bathroom, playing outdoors, handling animals, or using a tissue. Teach your child to wash his hands after coughing or sneezing, or better yet, show your child how to cough or sneeze into the elbow of his sleeve. Show your child how to use soap and scrub all parts of her hands well for at least 120 seconds. Keep a bottle of waterless hand sanitizer in your bag for when you're out and about.
- **Make a predictable bedtime.** Lack of sleep can make children and adults more vulnerable to illness, and can also prolong recovery time, suggests the Mayo Clinic. Infants and toddlers need between 12 and 18 hours of sleep daily, depending on their age. Preschoolers need 11 to 12 hours of sleep daily, while school-age children need about 10 hours of sleep.
- **Keep ill children home.** Children in a group setting are bound to share germs, but we can limit their exposure by keeping children who show signs of respiratory illness home. The AAP recommends that children remain at home until all signs of fever are gone for 24 hours, without the aid of anti-fever medications and children are able to participate comfortably in all usual program activities, including outdoor time.

Boost your family's well-being and fend off common respiratory illnesses with a few, simple preventative measures. You'll miss fewer days of work and your children will stay healthier – and happier.



# Bright Horizons News



## Make a Difference with Your Holiday Shopping



Without spending any additional money, you can make a big impact on the life of a child experiencing homelessness or other crises. When you buy books, toys, music, and more as part of your holiday shopping on Amazon, 8% of your purchase will be donated to the Bright Horizons Foundation for Children from Amazon.com using this link.

Just click on [this Amazon link](#) and shop as normal. Visit our [FAQs](#) for more information about this program.

[The Bright Horizons Foundation for Children](#) is a nonprofit organization focused on brightening the lives of children, youth, and families in crisis, especially those who are homeless.

*Make sure to save this Amazon page as a favorite and then share it with your family and friends! It works all year.*