

**May 2015**

**Lawrenceville Ledger**



**May 2015:** Teacher and Staff Appreciation Month   
*(see page 4 for more information)*

*May 5th – Parent Partnership Meeting 12:15*

*May 7th – Kindergarten Flower Sale at BMS*

*May 13th – Toddler to Preschool Transition Meeting 12:30, Safe and Sure for Preschool*

*May 14th – Infant to Toddler Transition Meeting 12:30*

*May 19th – Transition to Big School Meeting 4pm*

*May 20th – Safe and Sure for Preschool*

*May 25th – Center Closed*

**Important Dates**

Congratulations to the 2015 Awards Of Excellence recipients: Debra Phelan, Charisse Mulligan, Heather Spoto, Sharene Lavendar, and Victoria Heeney!

Happy Birthday Sara Sowards and Penny Stout!

Happy Anniversary to Kerry Curran, Charisse Mulligan, Debra Phelan, Melissa Pillik and Jaime Sisson!

**Reasons to Celebrate**

**Connect with Bright Horizons**

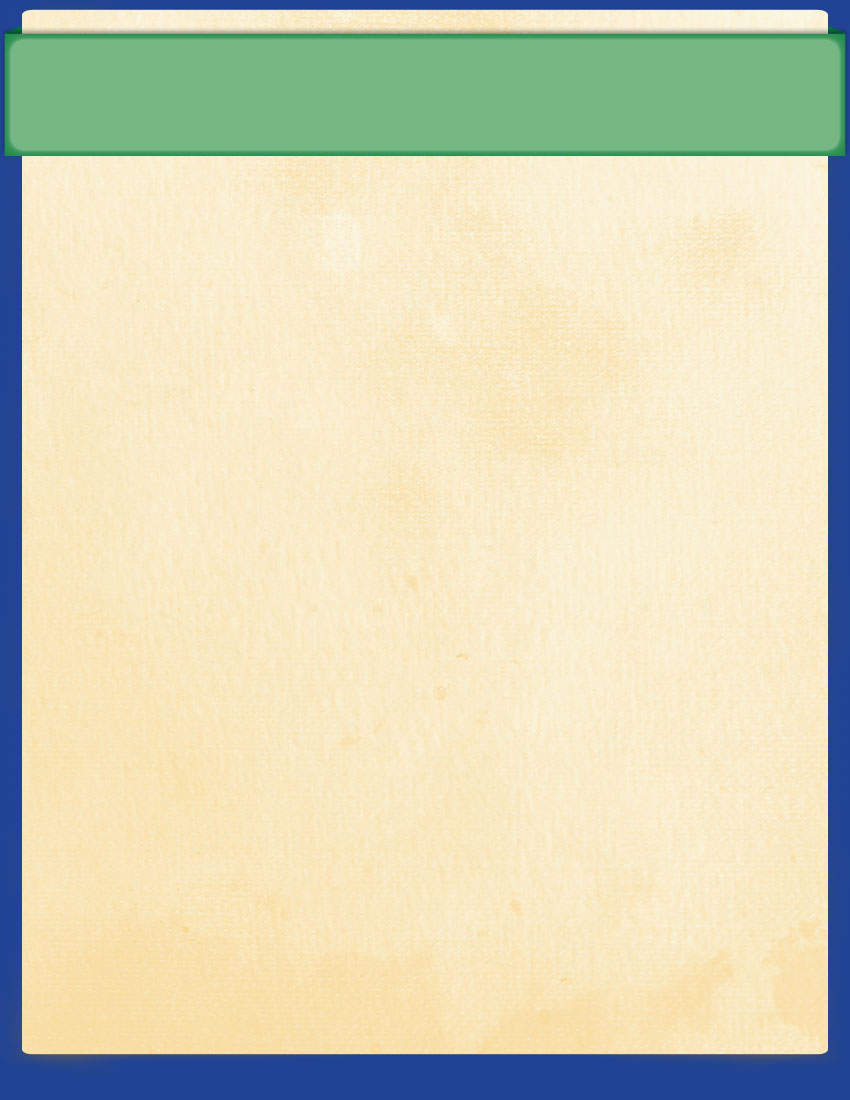
**[](http://www.facebook.com/brighthorizons)** [](https://twitter.com/BrightHorizons)[](https://plus.google.com/u/0/113627110245602441280/posts) [](http://www.instagram.com/brighthorizons) [](http://pinterest.com/brighthorizons/) **[](http://www.youtube.com/brighthorizons)** [](http://blogs.brighthorizons.com/momtomom/) **[](http://www.brighthorizons.com/community/)**

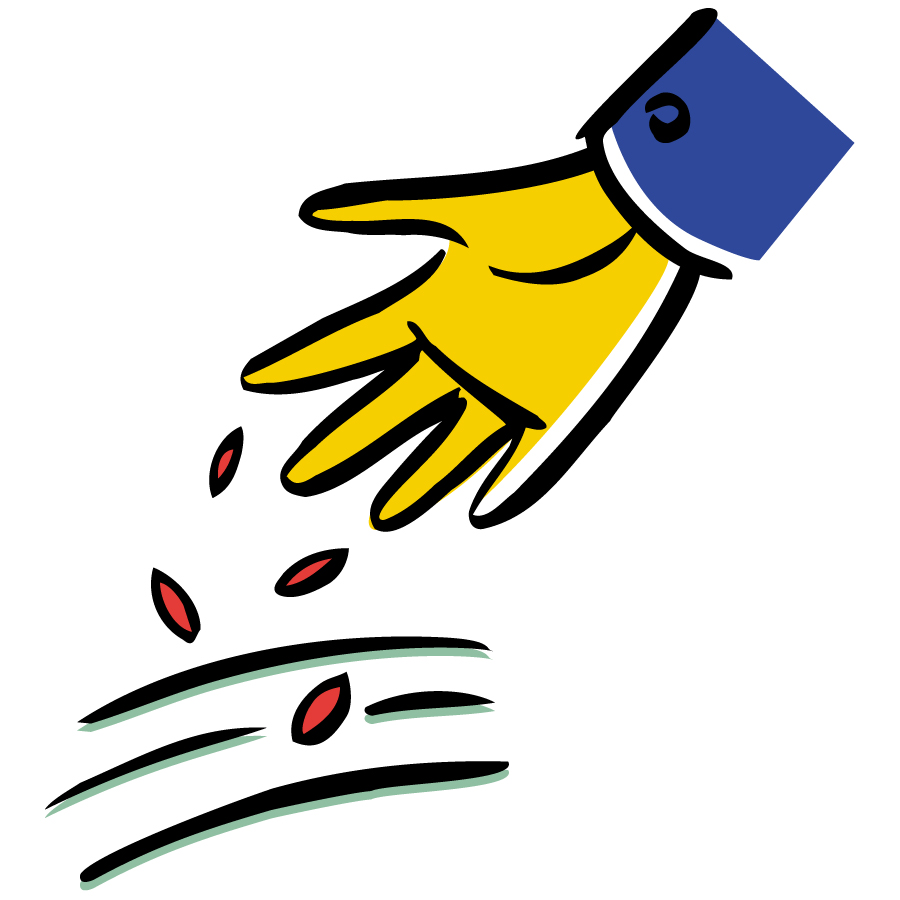
From the Director

April was a super fun filled month with lots of celebrating! Weeks were devoted to Parents, Faculty and children! The center welcomed Justin Jr. Sports and the musical talent of Yosi to celebrate the Week of the Young Child. The themed days during the week included Music Monday, Tasty Tuesday, Work Together Wednesday, Throw Back Thursday and Fun Friday! Many families visited the Garden Café to enjoy lunch with their child/ren and participated in a craft. Families attended a ‘Friends and Family’ CPR/First Aid session and took advantage of a night out with the Parent’s Night Out program! The Preshool has been practicing safety topics through the Safe and Sure program. Kindergarten and Preschool also experienced digging for worms on their field trip to Terhune Orchards. Faculty were celebrated with notes of appreciation, special treats throughout the week and an Award’s banquet. Thank you to all of the families who assisted in appreciating the teachers! All of your words of gratitude are so meaningful! The month of May is sure to include many STEM activities as the children continue planting, observing and experimenting!

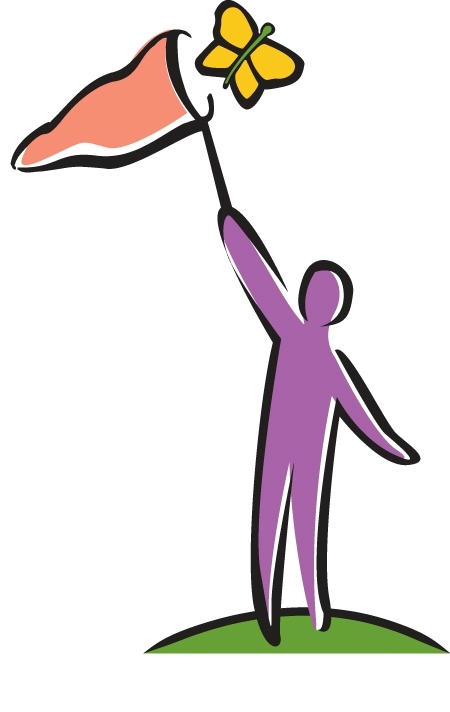


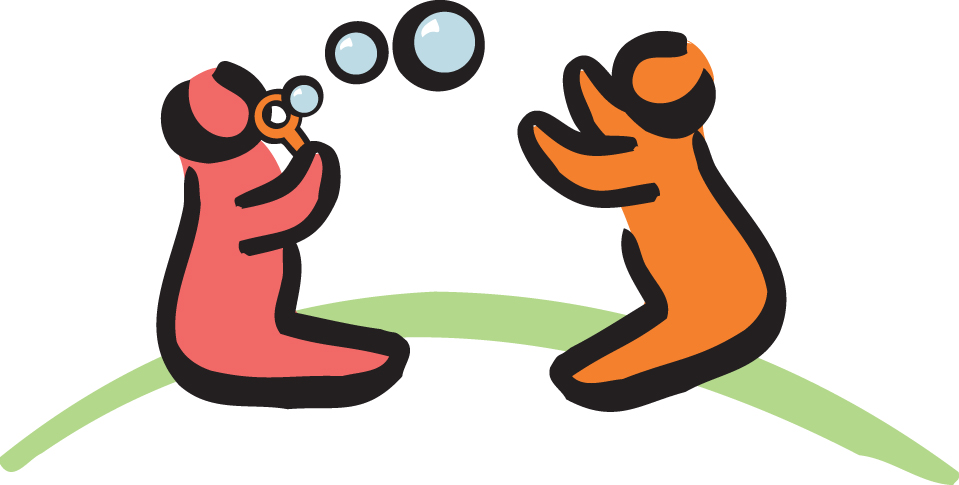
**Classroom Highlights**



****

****





Kindergarten

Believe it or not, we only have seven weeks left of the school year! Although the Hummingbirds are busy preparing for their upcoming events, the continue working hard in all areas of the curriculum. The class finished exploring all letters of the alphabet and are becoming familiar with digraphs. In Everyday Math, we focused on numeration, place value, 3D shapes, addition, subtraction, money and more! The Hummingbirds are doing a great job during WiggleWorks sessions and are sharing their reading skills by participating in the “Readers Chair”.

Preschool

The Preschool and Kindergarten classes enjoying looking for signs of spring on our field trip to Terhune Orchards! The children learned about crops, dug for worms, met some farm animals and planted vegetable seeds. It was the first field trip for many preschoolers too! The preschool classrooms have certainly been busy learning about gardening and taking care of plants in our GardenWorks program. Each class has planted vegetable, fruit, flowers, and herbs all around the playground. We will be documenting the progress through classroom books and our Work Journals.

Toddlers

The toddler classrooms all participated in Garden Works activities during the month of April. Some children worked together to clear out the gardens on the playgrounds for future planting. Others started container gardens by planting grass or vegetable seeds in cups or ziplock bags. The children are excited about observing the growth of their plants in the upcoming month!

Infants

Throughout the month of April, the infants focused on developing their gross motor skills. While the younger infants participated in tummy time to strengthen their neck muscles and to learn to roll over, the older babies visited the Movement Matters Zone and outdoor playgrounds where they walked, ran and climbed.



**READY for SCHOOL Parent News: Partnering with Teachers in Potty Training**

Your child seems old enough to begin potty training, but you wonder how potty training works in child care. Relax. Like every other aspect of child care, you and your child’s teacher will work as partners in the process of potty training. Potty training while in child care is usually very successful. At school, your child sees other children visiting the bathroom, which can create a powerful incentive and example. Teachers are usually very experienced in potty training and can offer you a lot of support. Soon, your days of changing diapers will be over and your child will seem oh, so grown up.

Below are a few more tips for potty training at child care:

* **Get on the same page.** Talk with your child’s teachers about the approach they use. They can help you watch for signs of readiness. These signs may include staying dry for lengths of time, expressing an interest in using the toilet, and being able to pull clothes up and down. You and your child’s teachers will work together to develop a plan for potty training. Mutually agree on how you’ll handle potty training and make sure that you consistently follow the plan during the evenings and weekends.
* **Come prepared.** Accidents are bound to happen during the first few weeks of potty training. Be sure to send your child with plenty of clean clothes. Skip the onesies, blue jeans, or overalls, and opt for soft, loose pants with an elastic waistband. These clothes help your child be more independent, and they also simplify the inevitable changes. Send your child in shoes that come off easily and don’t forget extra socks.
* **Expect setbacks.** Potty training is a major developmental milestone and it’s very common for children to make progress and then regress. Try not to get discouraged or express frustration to your child. Make sure that your child is really ready before you start potty training. The age of readiness varies from child to child, but most children are ready to potty train between 20 and 30 months. Take it slow and use a relaxed, positive approach. Talk with your child’s teacher if you have questions or just need some extra support.

As you go through the potty training process, try to keep perspective. Some children are very motivated and learn to use the toilet quickly. Others need more time before they completely master this developmental task. Remember that both you and your child are doing the best you can. Before long, your child will be diaper-free and ready for the next adventure.



**READY for SCHOOL News**

****

**Growing Givers: Raising Socially Responsible Children**

May 2015 - *Date and time TBD*



****

**May is Teacher and Staff Appreciation Month!**

The greatest reward a teacher or staff member receives is knowing that they have made a difference in the lives of children and families. Each year **Bright Horizons®** dedicates the month of May as a time to celebrate and recognize all of the teachers and staff who make this such a wonderful place for children and families.

As part of this month long celebration, we invite you to visit our [Teacher & Staff Appreciation Website](http://appreciation.brighthorizons.com/). Here, you can leave a special note of appreciation for your child’s teacher or exceptional staff member. The website will be open from May 1st  through May 31st.

If you’re looking for another way to celebrate a teacher or staff member, you may consider making a contribution to the [**Bright Horizons Foundation for Children**](http://www.brighthorizonsfoundation.org/)**®** in their name.

*Thank you for helping us recognize the important work of our*

*teachers and staff—they make Bright Horizons a great place!*

**May installment of the Family Matters Webinar Series!**

Raising children to be socially aware, community oriented, charitable minded, and educated about their world is more vital than ever in today’s global society.

The next webinar in the **Bright Horizons®** Family Matters Webinar Series will provide insight on how social responsibility and empathy develops as your child grows, the intersection of family, school, and community in raising children, as well as meaningful activities families can do together to make a difference in their communities and in the world.

Want to join us in May? [Sign up](http://www.brighthorizons.com/maywebinar) to be notified when registration opens!

**Bright Horizons News**

