

Bright Horizons at Wilton

May 2015



From the Director

Hello everyone,

Welcome to the month of May! We are spending a great deal of time outdoors now, so please remember to fill out a sunscreen form by the sign in computer and provide the teachers with an unopened bottle of sunscreen. We ask that you apply it in the morning and we will re-apply after nap, and as needed throughout the day. Thank you for your cooperation as we work together to keep the children safe and healthy!

We will be hosting a "Garden Party" at Bright Horizons at Wilton on Thursday, May 28th. We will be asking for every family to bring in a plant to place in our Tire Garden. More information to follow.

Please remember to drive slowly in the parking lot. We want to ensure the safety of all of the children at the center.

Please note that we have created a much healthier snack menu for May. We will be assessing how well the children are enjoying the new choices and will be making any necessary adjustments for June.

Thank you all for your support during the NAEYC Accreditation process. The visit went very well and we feel very confident in the fact that we will achieve our re-accreditation. We appreciate all of your efforts to make Bright Horizons at Wilton a safe, healthy and enjoyable environment for the children.

Important Dates

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

May 11th – Librarian Visit

May 19th – Tom Weber Visit

May 19th - Parent Partnership Meeting 5:00

May 26th – Center Closed for Memorial Day

May 28th – Garden Party

Reasons to Celebrate

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Sophia Ries – May 12th – 4 yrs old
Luke Marjani – May 17th – 1 yr old
Jimmy McPhillips – May 17th – 1 yr old
Avi Patel – May 23rd – 1 yr old
Gopika Kaimal – May 26th – 5 yrs old
Matthew Hall – May 29th – 3 yrs old

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Classroom Highlights



Infants

Infant I children explored soap and water, and rubber animals in the sensory table. Through “**Science Rocks**”, they used their sense of touch to feel the wet water and slippery soap. They manipulated the animals in and out of the water. Older babies laughed as they discovered dipping their hands and then clapping to see the bubbles fly. With the help of the teacher, younger babies dipped their hands or splashed.



Toddlers

As part of “**Art Smart**”, Toddler I children experimented and explored color. They expressed their creativity by choosing the colors they wanted and then were engaged in the creative sensory making of storm clouds. They used their hands to smear the paint on a piece of wax paper. Then they pressed another piece of paper over it and rubbed the back all over. When the paper was lifted they saw their storm cloud picture transferred to the paper.

Preschool

Preschool Three children incorporate “**Garden Works**” and “**Science Rocks**”. After reading about the life cycle of the plant, they filled small pots with soil, add seeds and then water. They placed their pots in the classroom greenhouse near the window so they could get sunlight. After a few days sprouts began to come up. They look forward to planting them in bigger pots outside.



Kindergarten Prep

Kindergarten Prep children collaborated together on a “**STEM**” project. Outside in the sandbox they used PVC pipes and different sized balls. Together they used their math and engineering skills to determine which angle of the pipes made the balls go faster or slower. They also discovered that the pipe made unique sounds if they talked through it.

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.

Bright Horizons News



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](#). 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®](#) 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!



Growing Givers: Raising Socially Responsible Children
May 2015 - Date and time TBD

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](#) to be notified when registration opens!