

Bright Horizons at Wilton

October 2014



From the Director

Hello and welcome to Fall! We have been enjoying the beautiful weather and spending much time outdoors. Please remember to bring a jacket or sweater, so that everyone is comfortable with all the weather changes. PLEASE LABEL EVERYTHING.

Curriculum Night is on Thursday, October 9th at 6:00pm. Please remember to sign up on your child's classroom door if you will be attending.

We will be having a Fall Festival/Paint your Own Pumpkin event on October 23rd from 4:30pm-6:00pm. Please bring a pumpkin for your child to decorate. We will have some treats for the children, as well.

Please remember not to "piggyback" the door for anyone you do not know. I know it is difficult to close the door on someone who is walking in with a child, but we need to follow this policy to ensure the safety of all of the children in the center.

On Friday, October 31st at 4:00pm, the children will participate in a Halloween Parade at the center. Please bring a costume with all parts labeled. (No weapons, wands or masks) We will dress them for the parade. In addition, if your child is not scheduled for that day, please feel free to join us at 4:00 in costume. More information to follow.

Important Dates

October 9: Curriculum Night – 6pm

October 13: Center closed / Columbus Day

October 21: Read for the Record

October 23: Fall Festival 4:30-6:00

October 27 – Tom Weber

October 29: Family Matters Webinar Series

October 31: Halloween Parade - 4:00

Reasons to Celebrate

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Scarlett Rodriguez – October 5th – 3 years old

Leah Parr – October 15th – 4 years old

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Classroom Highlights



Infants

Infants enjoyed an afternoon of “**Sensory Play**” as they splashed with five rubber ducks in the sensory tub. Some of the ducks had blinking colorful lights inside. They splashed, dunked and pushed the ducks around. The teachers encouraged the older Infants to repeat “Quack, quack, quack”.



Toddlers

Toddler Two spent a week exploring fruits. In this “**Art Smart**” activity, the children used fruit shape cookie cutters dipped in paint to stamp on their paper. They smeared, stamped and swirled the cookie cutters, creating different designs. They chose between several fruity colors, saying the names of the fruits and colors as they stamped.

Preschool

Preschool Three prepared for fall using leaves that they collected from outside on a nature walk. They counted, sorted and glued the leaves in columns, according to color. As part of “**Math Counts**”, they collaborated together to create a leaf graph. Then they discussed their favorites and which one had the most and least amount of leaves.



Kindergarten Prep

Using **technology** through “**Science Rocks**”, Kindergarten-Prep interacts with their new Smart Board to practice shapes and colors. In one activity the children hear the name of a shape. They show recognition by using their finger to trace the hidden shape in the picture. The Smart Board gives positive feedback if correct and gives another try if not. All children have the opportunity to try.

READY for SCHOOL Parent News: Inclusion Interactions

Early childhood is the time when children develop lifelong values and dispositions that affect how they view the world, how they relate to others and ultimately how they act. The core of each child's self-esteem and identity stems from the interactions between the child and important adults in the child's life. Children who have a secure sense of identity, (which includes gender, size, race, ethnicity, language, religion, culture, family composition, abilities, etc.), are more likely to develop skills to be inclusive of others.

Just as prejudice and stereotyping are learned behaviors, tolerance and inclusion are learned behaviors as well. Telling children to "be kind," and "play with everyone" or punishing a child for hurting a friend, have little lasting effect on the development of their attitudes. Observing adults being kind and including other people is much more effective. Children learn by modeling the adults in their world. Children are strong perceivers, and they take in all the subtleties of the adults' behaviors.

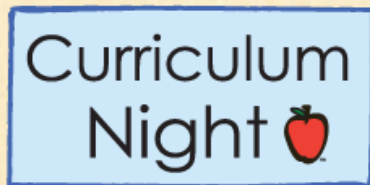
Our behaviors and beliefs have a tremendous impact on how children feel about themselves, view the world, and how they regard differences. As parents, we need to continuously be self-reflective and think about both the direct and subtle messages that we give children. We convey messages by our words, jokes, seemingly innocent comments, tone, body language, facial expressions, and physical actions.

Parents are key in instilling the values of respect, acceptance, and inclusion in their children. Children who feel good about themselves tend to have open hearts and minds; they are less likely to judge people by their accents, clothing, skin colors, sexual preference, age or physical appearance. Acute awareness of the messages that we give children is key. Think about the powerful effect it has on any child when we give him or her the message, "You are recognized, you are valued and I'm **really** glad you're my child."

Bright Horizons News



Curriculum Night 2014: “A Day in the Life”



Join us for a special event and “experience a day in the life” of your child at Curriculum Night 2014.

Parents of children in all age groups are welcome to attend and orientate themselves to their child’s upcoming year with Bright Horizons. Familiarize yourself with your child’s classroom and daily schedule, experience how the various pieces of *The World at Their Fingertips®* curriculum are brought to life each day, and meet with your child’s teachers to ask questions and discuss learning objectives for the upcoming year throughout the event.

Share in the experience and invite your friends and family to attend Curriculum Night with you and your family. You can learn more about Curriculum Night by asking your Center Director or child’s teacher.

SAVE THE DATE: October installment of the Family Matters Webinar Series!



SAVE THE DATE

Wednesday, October 29, 2:00 pm EST

Featuring [AARP](#) Health Experts, Bright Horizons Family Solutions® is bringing you the next installment of the Family Matters Webinar Series on the the basics of Medicare for caregivers Join us in this hour long webinar to discover what you need to know about Medicare policies in an quick and easy to understand format.

Keep checking www.brighthorizons.com/webinar for the latest registration information as it becomes available!