

# A Great Place for a Childhood

October 2014



## From Brandi's Desk

**Fair Traffic:** Please be aware that the State Fair will be running October 16<sup>th</sup> through the 26<sup>th</sup>. Traffic will be very challenging. Please plan extra time in your afternoon commute and/or find alternative routes.

**Extra Clothes:** Please take a moment this week to replenish your child's extra clothes with more seasonally appropriate clothes. It is also helpful for you to label your child's clothes with their initials.

**Costumes:** We would like to discourage families from sending children to school dressed in costumes for Halloween. While we would love to see how cute everyone looks in their costume (so please share your photos), many costumes pose safety hazards (tripping, and choking). Costumes are not made to hold up for 9 hours of playtime, and we would hate for an expensive (or a priceless handmade costume) to be ruined before the big night. Some costumes may cause young children to be afraid, and are not conducive to the regular routine in a classroom (imagine how pottyting would work with a full-bodied Spiderman costume- yikes!).

**Allergies in the Center:** A few members of our parent group have asked me to remind you that we are a *Peanut Sensitive* center due to the number of children with severe allergies we have. Because MANY of the candies out there are made in factories where peanuts may be, please refrain from bringing candy to share with friends. Thank you for helping to keep everyone safe on this season.

**Curriculum Night:** We hope to see everyone on Thursday October 9<sup>th</sup> for Curriculum Night. We will have a family dinner and time to visit with your child's teachers. Children are welcome to come and participate too. Please RSVP by Tuesday 10/7, so we can plan dinner numbers.

## Important Dates

**October 9: Curriculum Night 5:30-7:00pm**

**October 20: Speech Screening 9:30-11:00**

**October 21: Read for the Record**

**October 24: Picture Day**

**October 28: Trike-A-Thon**

**October 29: Family Matters Webinar Series**  
(see pg. 4 for details) volunteers needed

**October 31: Pajama Day**

**November 15: Truck Day**

## Reasons to Celebrate

### Happy Birthday

10/2 Karina

10/9 Debra

10/23 Jennifer

10/28 Rasheda

### Happy Anniversary

10/12 Anita 5 Years

## Connect with Bright Horizons



# Enrichment Highlights



## Spanish

We are excited to announce that we have hired a new Spanish Enrichment Teacher. Ms. Gloria is finishing her orientation this week and will begin weekly Spanish classes for Early Preschool, Preschool and Kindergarten Prep children next week. Gloria is from Spain and has a degree in Physical Education. She believes in teaching Spanish by bringing in hands on activities and incorporating puppets, songs and movement. We will share her newsletters once she is established in her role! She will be at RCC from 9am-3pm on Wednesdays.



## Movement Matters

Our *Movement Matters* Zone is especially equipped with materials to support our curriculum providing children with a variety of fitness stations and activities to explore while learning about healthy living. Look for the Enrichment Spaces schedule to be out by mid October!

## Art Studio

Our specially designed Art Studio encourages children to uncover their talents and express themselves artistically while providing inspiration to help children discover an appreciation of the arts. Infant through School Age children enjoy weekly Art Studio time at our center as part of our enriched curriculum. Feel free to help us add to our first Art Studio project...our community loom. We will work on it during the month of October and hang it in a special spot!



## Outdoor Science Laboratory

We are excited to reveal our new Outdoor Science Laboratory. This addition will allow us to extend our Science Rocks Curriculum projects. We are excited to add this space near our gardens. We think it will tie in nicely to our GardenWorks curriculum too!



## READY for SCHOOL Parent News: Inclusion Interactions

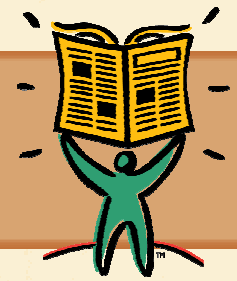
Early childhood is the time when children develop lifelong values and dispositions that affect how they view the world, how they relate to others and ultimately how they act. The core of each child's self-esteem and identity stems from the interactions between the child and important adults in the child's 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](http://www.brighthorizons.com/webinar) for the latest registration information as it becomes available!