

# Bright Horizons at Harrison Park News

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October 2014



## From the Director

A key feature of Bright Horizons at Harrison Park is our parent partnerships. Our goal is to create a strong home and center connection by developing a process of open, honest communication with you regarding your child's development and relationship between staff and families. We want family communication to be specific, proactive, caring, thoughtful, and warm. One way we strive to increase communication is through our Parent Partnership Group meetings. These meetings will systematically solicit parent ideas, questions, and their appreciation. We hope you will join us on this month's call!



### Triangle Truck Day 2014

November 15<sup>th</sup> – 10am – 1pm

Join us for a fun-filled morning and help make a difference in the lives of children in need. Bring the family and explore a variety of vehicles/ trucks up close and personal. Participate in activities, games, food, music and face painting. Suggested entrance fee is a donation of \$5 per child and adults are free with all proceeds benefiting the [Bright Horizons Foundation for Children](http://www.brighthorizons.com/triangletruckday). Help us reach our goal of \$4,000!

Visit [www.brighthorizons.com/triangletruckday](http://www.brighthorizons.com/triangletruckday) for more information or ask your center director about pre-event tickets or how your company can get involved.

## Important Dates

October 1<sup>st</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>

**Toward A Better World Diaper Drive**

October 14<sup>th</sup>-October 21<sup>st</sup>

**Scholastic Book Fair  
Pumpkin Parade**

October 13<sup>th</sup>

**Center Closed**  
Teacher Training Day

October 15<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 pm

**Parent Partnership Conference Call**

October 21: Read for the Record &  
Fall Festival 4:30-6:00 pm

(see page 2 for details)

October 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>

**Picture Days**

October 29: Family Matters Webinar Series

(see page 4 for details)

## Staff Anniversaries

Brittany	October 7 <sup>th</sup>	1 year
Susan B.	October 10 <sup>th</sup>	3 years



## Connect with Bright Horizons

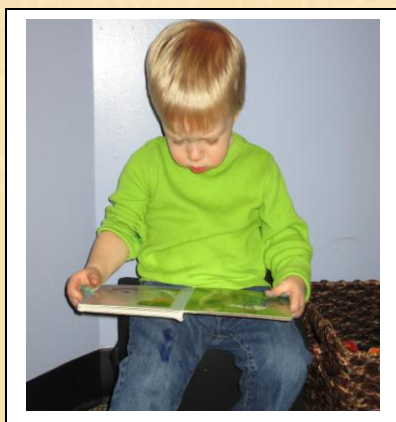
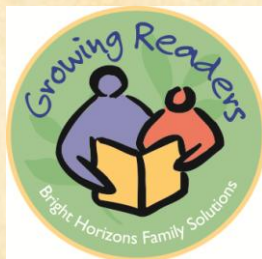
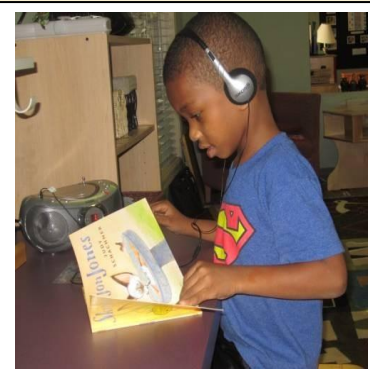


# Language Works!



The development of language and literacy skills begins at birth. Children develop much of their capacity for learning in the first three years of life, when their brains grow to 90 percent of their eventual adult weight. Early literacy is: an infant who chews on a board book, a toddler who wants his favorite book read over and over, and a preschooler who "reads" the story to you from memory and imagination or the pictures they observe on the page. Your child's exposure to early literacy lay the foundation for future success.

The most important thing you as a parent can do is foster these literacy experiences. You can do this by creating a fun, verbal, simulating and print rich environment. Model reading for your child and then let them practice. Give your child plenty of opportunities to talk and be listened to, to read and be read to, and to sing and be sung to. Creating these literacy rich experiences will help your child become a happy and successful reader.



## Fall Festival Tuesday, October 21<sup>st</sup> 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Our center will participate in Jumpstart's Read for the Record®—a national campaign that mobilizes adults and children to close the early education achievement gap by setting a reading world record. This year's book is *Bunny Cakes* by Rosemary Wells. We have some fun activities planned for this special day!

To kick off fall & celebrate breaking the world record, we invite families to join us for our annual Fall Festival. We are looking forward to an evening of fall fun on Tuesday, October 21st from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.! There will be games, face painting, fall family photos, snacks, and much more. We will also announce the winner of our pumpkin parade. Be on the lookout for more details!



## 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.

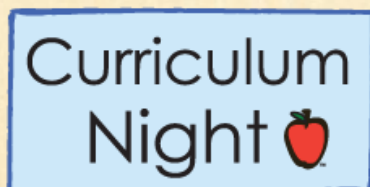
Our behaviors and beliefs have a tremendous impact on how children feel about themselves, view the world, and how they regard differences. As parents, we need to continuously be self-reflective and think about both the direct and subtle messages that we give children. We convey messages by our words, 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”



Bright Horizons at Harrison Park hosted our annual Curriculum Night event on September 23<sup>rd</sup>.

We would like to ask you, our parents, to complete a short 2 minute survey on our Curriculum Night event. We are looking for feedback from both parents that attended as well as those that did not attend. We value your feedback and will use this information as we continue to plan events at our center in the future.

You can find the Curriculum Night 2014 Parent Survey [HERE](#).

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey and share your thoughts.

## 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!