

Bright Horizons at UM Canterbury News

From the Director

Dear Families,

Welcome back to a new school year at UM Canterbury Preschool! A special welcome goes out to all our new families. We are excited and looking forward to partnering with you and sharing the learning journey your child is about to embark upon. We pledge to provide another year of engaging, fun, stimulating, and nurturing activities. We are always available to assist you. Please do not hesitate to stop by the office if you have any questions.

All parents are invited to attend our first gathering, "Curriculum Night." Please join us on Thursday August 24th from 6:00 to 7:30 PM (light dinner will be served). Curriculum Night is an orientation for families on what to expect this year. You will experience a typical day in the life of your child in the classroom. You will have the opportunity to meet the teachers and learn about Bright Horizons curriculum.

Thank you for your trust,

Mariella & Vicky

...Every day is special when you greet the morning light. Every day is special when you gather in the night. Every day is special when you stretch to see the view. Every day is special when a child shares it with you.

Come and share the wonder Share the old and new. Celebrate the magic a child can bring to you.

Jean Warren

Important Dates

July 31 – August 4	Center Closed
August 7	First day of school
August 21	First day of VPK Program
August 24	Curriculum Night

Reasons to Celebrate Happy Birthday!

8/1	Abigail W.
8/5	Killian L.
8/10	Henry T.
8/12	Rosalind R.
8/16	Amara O.
8/17	Caroline R.
8/17	Charlotte R.
8/20	Aidan S.
8/22	Ander I.
8/22	Lily C.
8/22	Ms. Enia
8/25	Maximo M.
8/26	Charlotte I.
8/26	Lucas Z.
8/28	Asher M.
8/31	Sadie C.



Bright Horizons at UM Canterbury

1150 Stanford Drive, Coral Gables, Florida 33146

305-284-5437 | Canterbury.gables@brighthorizons.com

Monday-Friday, 7:00AM – 6:00 PM

CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

Infant

As the school year drew to a close the children in the Infant B class celebrated with a graduation party. Mommies and daddies came and shared an afternoon snack with their children, reminiscing over the wonderful times they have had this past school year.



Toddler

July was a time for transitioning. The children that are moving to new classrooms in August spent time visiting and getting acquainted with their new teachers. As they familiarized themselves in their new surroundings, the children had an opportunity to explore the materials in the different areas.



Two's

While learning about famous artists in history the children had an opportunity to see how Michelangelo felt as he painted the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel. In the Art Smart area, they lay on the rug using different art media to create their own masterpieces.



Preschool

As the children learned about theatre and drama, the teachers in the preschool class invited the children to bring in their stuffed animals. The construction area was then transformed into a veterinarian shop with a check in area, waiting area with magazines, and the veterinarian's office. The children had fun taking turns helping their sick pets get well.



READY FOR SCHOOL NEWS

Math: Easy as 1-2-3

Children are born mathematicians. From birth to age five, they're naturally curious, readily taking in information from their environment. The early years are a great time to begin building math literacy, but many adults feel intimidated about how to do it. No need to worry. Children learn best through playful, everyday moments. As parents, we just need to capitalize on those moments.

Here's how:

Talk about math. Introduce math concepts through casual conversations and every day activities, such as cooking or getting dressed. "These shoes are too small. These shoes are bigger." "Let's cut the apple in half." "Do you want one orange slice or two?" "Can you get a pair of socks?" Can you help me find the mate?"

Play with math. Integrate math into playful interactions, which is so much more effective – and fun – than doing worksheets. For example, count how many blocks you can stack before a tower topples. Line a row of trains up and count them. Arrange rocks, pine cones, or other shells in a pattern or spiral. Count the stairs as you hop up and down them.

Look deeper. After your child can successfully count a variety of objects, introduce addition and subtraction through casual experiences. "How many more strawberries than blueberries are on your plate?" "How many stuffed animals would be left if we took three off your bed?"

Make comparisons. Ask open-ended questions to nudge your child toward more abstract mathematical thinking. For example, "What shapes do you see in this slice of pizza?" "What's the same and what's different about this sea shell and this pine cone?"

Early playful math experiences build math vocabulary and understanding and can ward off the math phobia that seems to affect so many children in the later years. In addition to math sense, early math experiences build problem solving and critical thinking.

FROM THE FAMILY ROOM BLOG

Ideas for a Summer Bucket List with a Toddler

Summer can tend to fly by! In order to get the most out of the season, create a list of activities to complete with your toddler so that you can take full advantage of the long days and sunshine!

Here are some ideas for a summer bucket list to complete with your child:



- 1) Bring your toddler to a **beach** or a lake where they can play in the sand and dip their toes in the water.
- 2) Set up a **sensory table** where your toddler can enjoy playtime outdoors and you don't have to worry too much about the mess.
- 3) Take a **walk**. Strap your toddler into a stroller or let them expend energy by walking alongside you while checking out a park or simply enjoying your neighborhood.
- 4) Visit the **zoo**! Let your toddler compare real-life animals to those in their story books.
- 5) Take advantage of local **community events**. Look up event boards and entertainment listings happening near you that the little ones would enjoy.