

CCC Newsletter

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The mission of Concord Children's Center is to cultivate an intimate, welcoming community where children develop respectful relationships and inquisitive minds, build confidence in their individual gifts, and are engaged, prepared and inspired to learn

August 2018

August 20-24 CCC Closed

August 23 Classroom Visiting Day All Sites

August 27 First Day of School

**We Have Been Having a
Wonderful Summer**



**Splash Pad and Water
Awareness at The Thoreau Club**

**Summer Picnic with All
Hands Drumming**



Exploring our gardens at Ripley

**Please Remember to Return Your
School Forms!
Due date August 10th**

August 23. Open Classrooms

All families with children at CCC for the 2018-2019 school year are invited to open classrooms at their site on August 23 at the following times:

- Emerson: 3-4 p.m.
- West Concord: 4-5:30 p.m.
- Ripley: 5-6:30 p.m.

Bring the whole family to meet the teachers, find the cubby, check out the classrooms, meet other families, and get answers to any questions you might have!



Star Room end of the year play

Community Events at CCC



CCC events are held to connect families with each other, their teachers, and the CCC Administration and Board. Below you will find a brief description of events that take place each year.

- **Picnics and Pot Lucks:** These are for the whole family, they are informal, and a wonderful time to connect with other families and the teachers.
- **Classroom Events:** Information about classroom events can be found in your parent mailbox that is located in your child's classroom. CCC teachers also email notices of up-coming events. Classroom events include morning coffees, afternoon pizza parties, plays, and art shows.
- **Fall Social:** A very festive adult event is held at the home of one of our families.
- **Concord Book Shop Fundraiser:** The Concord Book Shop donates 10% of the day's profit to our Annual Fund. Families may purchase Gift Certificates on the date of the fundraiser to be used anytime. Parent volunteers host the CCC table which displays teacher's favorite picks and "wish list" books. This is a great way to volunteer and get some early Holiday shopping done at the same time.
- **Special Friends Day:** On this morning in May your child will "host" a special friend in his or her classroom and share the experience of being at CCC.

- **The Auction:** Our biggest fundraiser and a very good time for CCC adults



CONCORD **Food Farm & Garden Fair**

Save the Date!
September 8-9, 2018

The Concord Food Farm and Garden Fair celebrates food that is grown, produced, and prepared in the town of Concord.

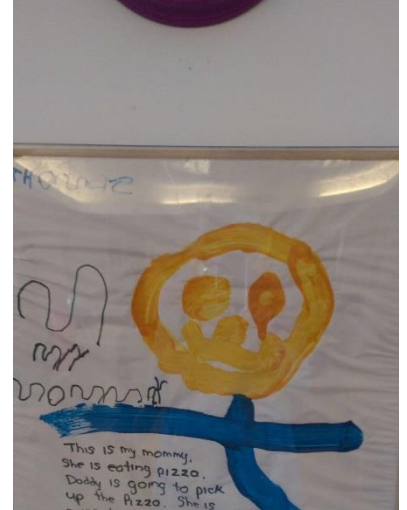
Welcome to CCC's 2018-19 School Year

Making Learning Visible at CCC

Communicating What We Do and Why



Every year families learn about their children's time at CCC through conversations with their children, their teachers, other parents, and their children's friends. We meet face to face at drop off and pick-up, at pizza parties and "Back To School Nights", formally at conferences, and much



less formally at the Fall Social and Spring Auction. Walking into school, families have the opportunity to see children's work on the walls as well as photographs of what is happening in the classroom. Sharing with our families and with each other what our children are learning, how and why, is key to successful early childhood experiences.



Teachers observe and document daily the experiences of children in their care. These observations and documentation form the basis for planning curriculum in the classroom and assuring an experience that meets the needs of each child. We use a tool, **Kaymbu**, to record, document, and share observations. **Kaymbu** provides a vehicle for teacher reflection, and allows us to communicate these reflections to families through email.

Our face to face communication will remain our most important way of being in touch with our families and building the family/school relationships.



In order to be sure you receive updates from your classroom, please remember to send email address changes to Candice at office@concordchildrenscenter.org. For families wishing to download the free Kaymbu App:

1. Search for "Kaymbu for Parents" in the App Store (iPhone) or Google Play (Android phones)
2. Download the app
3. Enter the email or phone number connected to your child's profile
4. A four digit pin will be sent to the email or phone number you entered
5. Enter the four digit pin to finish logging in!

Staying on top of what's happening at CCC

CCC Communication with families:

Concord Children's Center approach to communicating with families is integral to our commitment to work in partnership with our families and foster a strong community. First and foremost, we value face to face or telephone conversations between families, educators, and administrators. Regular communication among parents and teachers is of enormous benefit to each child. We want to know about events at home, which will affect a child's day with us, and we will let parents know of their child's adjustment and progress, and of events at the center. Families are invited to drop by their child's classroom or phone teachers or program directors during the day with questions. Longer conversations may be scheduled for a mutually convenient time. Conferences are scheduled throughout the year.

CCC uses email, Facebook, and our Kaymbu App to communicate classroom happenings, CCC news, and notices of upcoming events.

- **CCC Email:** When families enroll at CCC we request preferred email addresses for our use. Emails are sent via Google Groups. We rely on parents to let us know if their email address changes. Changes can be sent to the office@concordchildrenscenter.org.
- **CCC Facebook Page.** Families can follow us at: www.facebook.com/concordchildrenscenter We post photos of CCC events as well as announcements of upcoming events and anticipated school closings.
- **CCC Webpage:** www.concordchildrenscenter.org
- **Kaymbu:** Throughout the year families will receive Kaymbu communication via email or through the Kaymbu App (<https://help.kaymbu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115004757893--Kaymbu-for-Parents-App-Launch>) . Teachers use Kaymbu to share classroom curriculum and news.
- **Text Messages for emergencies or school closings.** In the Fall of 2018 we will have the capacity to send text messages to families who have provided cell phone numbers. Texts will be limited to school closings or emergencies.



Communication, collaboration and cooperation are intentional at CCC. The program succeeds when we are connected and in relationship. Keeping our connections alive and rich fosters the community that best supports children.

Below is an outline of what we communicate through these platforms

Notifications of School Closings:

- Announcements of Concord Public School closings on local media websites
- CCC Website
- School wide email announcement
- Facebook post
- Message on CCC Phone system
- Text Messages (coming fall 2018)

Notices of school wide events

- Newsletter (Monthly) email to families, posted on website and hard copies located at all sites.
- Email
- Website
- Facebook
- Postings on school and classroom doors
- Occasional paper flyers in mail pockets
- Verbal reminders from teachers

Notices of Classroom events

- Paper Classroom Newsletters
- Kaymbu Communications
- Posted daily notes
- Verbal from teachers
- Classroom Email

Notices from Administration/Business Office, Invoices, Due dates

- Email
- Newsletter

Administrative and program policies

- CCC Parent Handbook
 - Email copies sent to families and paper copies available at each site
 - Website
- CCC Scheduling Options Booklet
 - Paper copies available at all sites
 - Email copies sent to families during each summer



CCC Alumni visits West Concord with her Llamas

Don't Forget – We Changed our Calendar!

CCC will close on Veterans Day, November 12, 2018 and March 8, 2019 for Professional Development.

Dates we are closed in 2018 - 2019

- September 3 *Labor Day*
- October 8 *Columbus Day*
- November 12 *Professional Development*
- November 22 and 23 *Thanksgiving*
- December 24 *Close at 1 PM*
- *December 25 Christmas Day*
- January 1 *New Years*
- January 21 *Martin Luther King Holiday*
- February 18 *Presidents Day*
- March 8 *Professional Development*
- April 15 *Patriots Day*
- May 27 *Memorial Day*
- June 20 & 21 *Professional Development*
- July 4 *Fourth of July Holiday*
- August 19 - 23 *Professional Development and Classroom Preparation*

August 2018 Professional Development Day

The Wonder of Learning—The Hundred Languages of Children

On Monday August 20, the CCC Staff will travel to Brookline for a day at the Wonder of Learning. Hosted by Boston University/Wheelock College, The Wonder of Learning includes a 7000 sq. ft. multimedia traveling exhibition, developed by Reggio Children and coordinated by the North American Reggio Emilia Alliance (NAREA), that visually presents the Reggio Emilia approach to early childhood education. Using images and text, interactive multimedia, handmade artifacts, and publications, the exhibition explores how teachers and students work together to construct knowledge around compelling projects. Through the exhibition, educators encounter some of the most effective approaches to teaching. Since its debut in 2008, more than 120,000 people have encountered The Wonder of Learning and experienced a variety of professional development initiatives aimed at advancing knowledge and action for early childhood. In the afternoon staff will explore “the role of the environment” in early childhood settings. A thoughtfully arranged classroom is as important as a well-trained teacher and can be one of our biggest allies. When challenges arise in our programs, it is always important to consider how changes within a space can be of support. In this interactive session, our teachers will review the importance of the environment’s role, reflect on a few examples of how challenges in spaces were addressed, uncover ways to enhance space, and reflect on key elements like color, texture, lighting, and elements of the natural world. This session will be led by Hilary O’day, Director of the Newtowne School. Hilary brings over 20 years of extensive experience building model early childhood programs, specifically with the Reggio Emilia approach in mind. She believes wholeheartedly that a child’s learning experience relies on the presence of three major educators: the adult (both parents and teachers), the environment, and a child’s peers. Her school and work have become a destination for visitors from around the world and her workshops for practitioners inspire. She has been recognized by colleagues and researchers for her exceptional understanding of how to create optimal learning environments and develop documentation that shows children as capable and truly makes learning visible.

The remainder of our August Work Week will be spent preparing classrooms and planning for the 2018-19 school year.