

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

January February 2019

Calendar

January 25	2019-20 Applications Due
February 10	CCC Wonderland on Ice
February 13	Board Meeting
February 18	CCC Closed President's Day
February 19-22	February Optional Days
February 27	2019-20 Acceptances Mailed



Concord Children's Center Class Photo 1976-77

2018-19 School Picture Dates

All children are welcome to join their classroom for their school picture, whether it is a scheduled school day or not. Please let your Program Director know if you plan to bring your child for the Picture Day. Our photographer will start taking photos at each site at 9 AM

- Emerson February 5
- Ripley February 6
- West Concord February 8



February Optional Days

2/19 - 2/22

If you are planning to send your child to CCC during our February

Optional week (2/19-22), please remember your child must be on the "list"! If you are not sure if you signed up, please check with Penni, Anne, or Jennine.

Fund for CCC Update

The Fund for CCC (formerly the Annual Appeal) is having a great year – to date, we have received almost \$25,000 in Fund for CCC commitments, 50 percent more than all of last year's Annual Appeal! Thank you to everyone who has already made a donation. We are pleased to announce that, due to the success of this year's Fund, we have been able to introduce a leadership giving circle. All families who donate \$1,000 or more to this year's Fund will become members of the Friendship Circle and will enjoy a special appreciation event in the fall. Eight families – both current and alumni – are already members of the Friendship Circle – for more information or to donate, please contact CCC Development Coordinator Jennifer Saxe at development@concordchildrenscenter.org. We are grateful to all of our families for their support at whatever level – it takes everyone's participation to make our school the special place that it is for our children.

CCC Plans for the Future

At our November Board Meeting the CCC Board voted to support the Long Range Planning Committees recommendation that over the next five years we pursue combining our Ripley and Emerson sites into one site built and owned by CCC. We have occupied our Ripley classrooms since 1981 and the Emerson classrooms since 1986. These sites are leased from the Town and Emerson Hospital respectively. We love our Emerson and Ripley homes, with all of their benefits and challenges, not the least of which is the insecurity of leases that can vary from one year to the next. Having our own buildings offer wonderful opportunities for designing our environment to best support children and learning. The Fund For CCC allows us to continue to provide quality programming while we work to build a reserve fund to support this project.

At CCC we play outside all **Winter**, when it is cold, wet, snowy, muddy, sunny, soggy.....

Please Remember to send an extra pair....



It's a Kid's Job: Playing Helps Kids Learn and Grow: *From the National Institutes of Health Newsletter A monthly newsletter from the National Institutes of Health, part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services*

“Research shows that active, creative play benefits just about every aspect of child development.”

“Play is behavior that looks as if it has no purpose,” says NIH psychologist Dr. Stephen Suomi. “It looks like fun, but it actually prepares [kids] for a complex social world.” Evidence suggests that play can help boost brain function, increase fitness, improve coordination, and teach cooperation.

...Play can help lay a foundation for learning the skills we need for social interactions. If human youngsters lack playtime, says Dr. Roberta Golinkoff, an infant language expert at the University of Delaware, “social skills will likely suffer. You will lack the ability to inhibit impulses, to switch tasks easily, and to play on your own.” Play helps young children master their emotions and make their own decisions. It also teaches flexibility, motivation, and confidence.

Unstructured, creative, physical play also lets children burn calories and develop all kinds of strengths, such as learning how the world works. In free play, children choose the games, make the rules, learn to negotiate, and release stress. Free play often involves fantasy. If children, say, want to learn about being a fireman, they can imagine and act out what a fireman does. And if something scary happens, free play can help defuse emotions by working them out.

“Sports are a kind of play,” Golinkoff says, “but it’s not the kids calling the shots.” It’s important to engage in a variety of activities, including physical play, social play, and solitary play. “The key is that in free play, kids are making the decisions,” says Golinkoff. You can’t learn to make decisions if you’re always told what to do. Some experts fear that free play is becoming endangered. In the last two decades, children have lost an average of eight hours of free play per week. As media screens draw kids indoors, hours of sitting raise the risk for obesity and related diseases. When it comes to video games and other media, parents should monitor content, especially violent content, and limit the amount of time children sit.

Play also may offer advantages within the classroom. In an NIH-funded study, Hirsh-Pasek, Golinkoff, and their colleagues found a link between preschoolers’ math skills and their ability to copy models of two- and three-dimensional building-block constructions. Play with building blocks—and block play alongside adults—can help build children’s spatial skills so they can get an early start toward the later study of science, technology, engineering, or math.

“In a way, a child is becoming a young scientist, checking out how the world works,” says Hirsh-Pasek. “We never outgrow our need to play.” For the full article: <https://newsinhealth.nih.gov/special-issues/parenting/its-kids-job>



Lace up your skates
and enter the ...



Wonderland on Ice



Hosted by Concord Children's Center

Sunday, February 10, 3-5 p.m.

Nashoba Valley Olympia

34 Massachusetts Avenue (Route 111)
Boxborough



Event open to the public. Tickets
\$10/person, \$35/family and are
available in advance at
www.concordchildrenscenter.org
and at the door.

Concord Recreation Winter Wonderland



**Saturday,
February 9th.**

Join Concord
Recreation for the
4th Annual Winter
Wonderland event.
This is a free
community event on
Saturday, February
9th starting at

1:00pm at Emerson Field/ Hunt Recreation Center. This
event will be headlined by a bonfire, horse drawn sleigh
rides, food, music, and much more.

Make sure to enter the annual Snowman Contest between
the 1st of the year and the event! For more information,
please visit the Winter Wonderland page at
www.concordrec.com.



SUNDAYS

Create, Invent and Learn!

Visit the Discovery Table in the Children's Room
for self-directed projects that change each Sunday!
Supplies provided.

2-3pm

Concord Free Public Library
129 Main Street

FEB
9



BIG HEART, LITTLE HEART VALENTINE'S DANCE

TriCon Church 54 Walden St
10-11:30am Saturday, Feb 9th

Come join CFN for our first Big Heart, Little Heart Valentine's Dance! Enjoy a
morning of dance, crafts and snacks. DJ and Family Entertainer Tim Seston will
keep you moving with awesome music and fun games!

All families are invited. Free for CFN members, non-members pay \$5/child.
Donations of non-perishable food items to the Open Table pantry would be
much appreciated.

Please RSVP by visiting our website,
www.concordfamilynetwork.org or on Tinyhood

27



Lemon Battery Experiment

FEBRUARY

3



ORIGAMI

10



DNA Sequencing

17



Popsicle Sticks Catapult

24



Dancing Snake Craft



CCC Board Meetings are open to all families. Please feel free to stop by and listen as we discuss the work of the Center.

Meeting Locations, Topics and Special Events. All meetings begin at 7:15 pm unless otherwise noted

- February 13** **West Concord**
Benefits and Salary Review – Philosophy and Comparison
Admin Update: Professional Development Report, Staff Survey
- March 13** **West Concord**
Tuition Analysis, Tuition and Salary Increase Discussion
Draft Budget
Event Auction March 30!
- April 10** **Ripley**
Budget Proposal vote
3rd Quarter financials and projection
Admin & LRP Update: Facilities
- May 8** **West Concord**
PHONATHON/Board Dinner
Event: Special Friends Day May 10; End of the year picnics
- June 12** **West Concord**
7:00 pm: Annual Corporation Meeting: Board slate, annual reports, recognition of significant volunteers, scholarship recipient
7:30 PM: June Board meeting: Slate of Officers, welcome new members
Event: Staff Appreciation Dinner,

2018-2019 Board Members

West Concord: Betsy Keller, -Chair, , Jay
Abelowitz, Co-Chair , Campbell Rowe, Secretary,
Marcella Bean, Eric Boisvert, JC Conti, Mark Daniel,
Karen Lennon, Becky McCullough, Kathy Manero,

Emerson

Tom Doherty, Jonathan Rankin

Ripley

Nate Kemp, Kerry Norton, Jeanne Triant

Alumni

Stephan Bader, Treasurer

