

# 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*



## November, 2016

### Calendar

Nov. 1	Optional AM After School
Nov1-Nov.29	Annual Appeal Challenge
Nov. 5	CCC Enrollment Open House
Nov. 9	Board Meeting
Nov. 11	Optional AM After School
Nov. 14	Dec. Optional Days Requests Due
Nov. 14-18	Open Table Food Drive
Nov. 19	Bookshop Fundraiser
<b>Nov 24, 25</b>	<b>CCC Closed</b>
Dec 14	Board meeting
<b>Dec 26</b>	<b>CCC Closed</b>
<b>Dec 27 – 30</b>	<b>Optional Days</b>

### Annual Appeal Turkey Challenge



The Challenge is on! From November 1 until *Giving Tuesday* on November 29, we are holding a CCC-wide Annual Appeal ***Giving Challenge***, focusing on participation!! As families make donations “feathers” will appear on the Turkeys roosting in the halls of all three schools. Annual Appeal dollars support professional development for your teachers, technology upgrades to enhance documentation and communication with parents, and outdoor playground improvements.  
<http://concordchildrenscenter.org/support-ccc/annual-appeal/make-a-donation/>

### December Optional Days

#### November 14 Deadline

Families planning to bring their children to school on December 27-30 will need to let us know by November 14. .



### Bookshop Fundraiser November 19<sup>th</sup>.



Kickoff your holiday shopping at **The Concord Bookshop, 65 Main Street Concord Center** and support Concord Children's Center at

the same time! The Bookshop will donate 10% of all purchases all day long to CCC. We especially love the Concord Bookshop Gift Certificates!

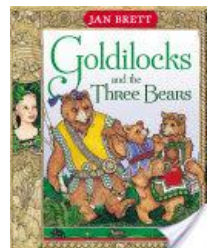
Throughout the day CCC teachers will be reading to children and CCC volunteers will be on hand to help you select a favorite children's book.

### Pat's Pick For the Bookshop Fundraiser

***“Children are made readers on the laps of their parents (and grandparents) — Emilie Buchwald***

There are an amazing number of wonderful books for children, new and creative authors are appearing each year to offer our children opportunities to

become engaged in imaginative stories with wonderful illustrations that lure them into a love of reading. My “pick” this year is a classic Fairy Tale, ***Goldilocks and the Three Bears***. I love this tale because it tells a simple, predictable and comforting story, one children love to hear over and over, sharing proudly in the telling. It is a books that cannot help but create a connection between the reader and the child on the readers lap.





## Celebrating Holidays at CCC

Holiday celebrations can be wonderful opportunities for children to learn about the traditions and values that are significant parts of people's lives. At Concord Children's Center it is important our curriculum reflects and respects the cultures represented by all of our families. Holidays are one way for our community to work together to create developmentally and culturally appropriate learning experiences.

Following the lead of our children and their families, CCC includes a variety of holidays in the curriculum and invites families to share special traditions. Our CCC community of families celebrate over two dozen different holidays

throughout the year. This Fall we celebrated Halloween and Diwali. We focus on the secular aspects of holidays, often celebrating commonalities of the various traditions.

In November we will have a Friendship Feast at West Concord and Ripley. Children look forward to these events, participate in preparing the food and are very excited to be sharing a meal with their whole school!

We recognize, regardless of which holidays are celebrated, they often come with an abundance of anticipation and excitement. We are all affected, no matter what our traditions may be. At the Children's Center, we remain committed to providing developmentally appropriate experiences, and paying careful attention to children's emotional and physical wellbeing. We provide a calm and predictable place for children, and guide conversations toward opportunities of giving vs. getting.



## Technology for Your Teachers

As any organization, operating since 1975, CCC has seen a steady evolution of the tools we use to accomplish our mission. In the world of "technology tools" we have possibly been slower to move forward than the organizations where many of our families work.

Several years ago parents started donating laptops to the school. Teachers were able to more efficiently create conferences and portfolio documentation using laptops and digital cameras. We gradually began to purchase used and refurbished laptops, keeping our budget dollars focused on our core mission. We are now looking to take a leap forward. We educate your children through play and the close relationship they have with their teachers. We also communicate with families through conversations and face to face interactions, again our emphasis is on relationships. While our non-technical interactions are our highest priority, we acknowledge the value of technology in enhancing communication with families and creating easier more "organic to the classroom" strategies for accessing curriculum material, documenting, and chronicling the learning process. We also



acknowledge the importance of having up to date technology that works smoothly in our non-technical environment. This Fall we will purchase three tablets for use by classroom teacher's. The value of the tablet is the dual role it can play as a camera, a laptop, and a connection to the internet. Our plan is to purchase or lease one tablet for each classroom once we are sure this tool works in our environment. The tablets are for the teachers. Teachers may use the Tablets to bring curriculum into the classroom, however they will not be used by children. This year's Annual Appeal dollars will support this effort and we thank all of our families for participating in the Turkey Challenge!

## Cold Weather Wear



**Outside play happens year round at CCC. Please remember to dress your children for the weather.**



## What does it look like? Standard 2

The second standard in the NAEYC Accreditation Classroom Portfolio is “Curriculum”.

*Standard #2 Curriculum: The program implements a curriculum that is consistent with its goals for children and promotes learning and development in each of the following areas: social, emotional, physical, language, and cognitive. A well-planned written curriculum provides a guide for teachers and administrators. It helps them work together and balance different activities and approaches to maximize children’s learning and development. The curriculum includes goals for the content that children are learning, planned activities linked to these goals, daily schedules and routines, and materials to be used.*

Below are examples of the NAEYC Portfolio entries from 2012.

**Standard 2.A. Criteria 12:** The curriculum guides teachers to plan for children's engagement in play (including dramatic play and blocks) that is integrated into classroom topics of study.

When CCC teachers decide on a theme or area of exploration it can be explored in all areas of the classroom. The dramatic play area can be turned into a cave or a Post Office. Animals and clipboards with crayons are made available in the block area. Themes presented at circle time are explored in art activities, through special books and introduced as themes for dramatic play.

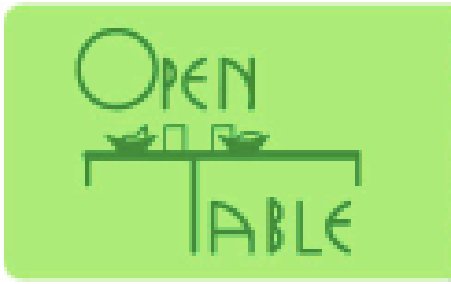


After reading Jann Brett's *Gingerbread Baby*, a group of children built and decorated their own Ginger bread house in the block area which integrated literature, blocks and community play.



The theme of post office was explored in the dramatic play area with costumes, letter writing materials, a plastic post office box replica and a visit from our local mail carrier. In addition, our class sent letter's to their grandparents asking them what they did when they were four to five years of age.





**Peter and Lucy Morris, CCC  
Alumni**

**Invite you to participate in**

(Peter is the postman on the previous page)

**Concord Children's Center  
Food Drive**

**Benefiting Open Table**

**November 14<sup>th</sup> – November 18<sup>th</sup>**

**Thank You**

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**Family Trees  
The 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Celebration  
of**

**Children's Literature at the**

**Concord Museum**

**November 23, 2016 - January 2, 2017**

**37 trees of all shapes & sizes decorated  
with inspiration from contemporary &  
classic children's picture books**

