

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 2017

August 21-25 CCC Closed

August 24 Open House at all sites

August 28 First Day of School

**We Have Been Having a
Wonderful Summer**



Playing with sound



Exploration and adventure



In the garden on a rainy day



Indoor camping on a very rainy day



Telling stories around the campfire



Waterplay



Swimming at Thoreau

**Please Remember to Return Your School Forms!
August 18 Deadline!**



August 24th. Open House

Families are invited to visit their classrooms meet their teachers, and connect with their classmates.

- Emerson 3-4 PM,
- West Concord 4 - 5:30 PM,
- Ripley 5-6:30 PM.

Many Thanks to Concord Recreation and the Thoreau Club



In the Spring of 2017 we learned the Recreation Department would no longer be able to host our

Swim Lessons. CCC and the Recreation Department have been swimming partners since were offering swim lessons at Walden Pond in the 1980's. We have appreciated our relationship with Recreation and look forward to collaborating on future projects.

Fortunately our West Concord neighbor the Thoreau Club was able to help out and we have now completed our first summer of the Swim Program at Thoreau. The Thoreau Club offered discounted Swim lessons and Doherty Bus became our transportation.



In recognition of the wetter than usual summer the Thoreau club will offer day passes to the Concord Children's Center families enrolled in the

swim program.

As always CCC is very grateful for the wonderful Concord community, and our many partnerships.

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. Classroom events include morning coffees, afternoon pizza parties, plays, and art shows.
- **All Site Open Houses:** Visit your classroom and meet the teachers.
- **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.
- **The Auction:** Our biggest event of the year. .
- **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. .

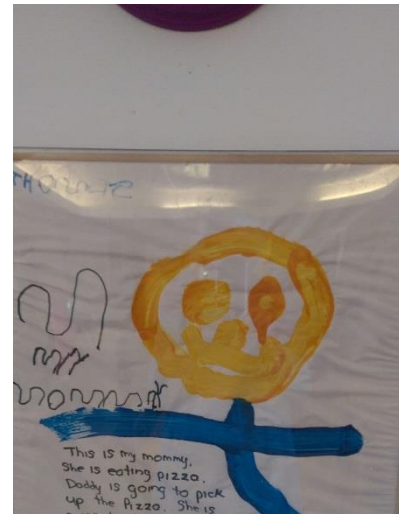
Welcome to CCC's 2017-18 School Year

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 a key to successful early childhood experiences.



We made Lava Lamps this morning. We put vegetable oil in the vase, followed by water. We added food coloring to the vase and watched the colors burst through the oil bubbles. Then we added the alka seltzer tablets + watched the bubbles of the Lava Lamp erupt + rise to the surface!

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. This year we will be using a new tool to record, document, and share observations.

Kaymbu will provide a vehicle for teacher reflection, and we expect to be able to use the tool 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.

Kaymbu will add another dimension to this communication, not replace it.



International Pot Luck



CCC Dad, Liam Hurley visits the Star Room



Friendship Feast



This Fall we will be welcoming NAEYC validators to our school. This visit is a key component of the NAEYC Accreditation process. As one of the first programs in the country to participate in this program we have been accredited since 1985. NAEYC will assess CCC on 10 Standards and over 400 criteria.

The Standards include.

- **Relationships:** The program promotes positive relationships among all children and adults to encourage each child's sense of individual worth and belonging as part of a community and to foster each child's ability to contribute as a responsible community member.
- **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
- **Teaching:** The program uses developmentally, culturally, and linguistically appropriate and effective teaching approaches that enhance each child's learning and development in the context of the program's curriculum goals.
- **Assessment of Child Progress:** The program is informed by ongoing systematic, formal, and informal assessment approaches to provide information on children's learning and development. These assessments occur within the context of reciprocal communications with families and with sensitivity to the cultural contexts in which children develop. Assessment results are used to benefit children by informing sound decisions about children, teaching, and program improvement.
- **Health:** The program promotes the nutrition and health of children and protects children and staff from illness and injury.
- **Teachers:** The program employs and supports a teaching staff that has the educational qualifications, knowledge, and professional commitment necessary to promote children's learning and development and to support families' diverse needs and interests.
- **Families:** The program establishes and maintains collaborative relationships with each child's family to foster children's development in all settings. These relationships are sensitive to family composition, language, and culture.
- **Community Relationships:** The program establishes relationships with and uses the resources of the children's communities to support the achievement of program goals.
- **Physical Environment:** The program has a safe and healthful environment that provides appropriate and well-maintained indoor and outdoor physical environments. The environment includes facilities, equipment, and materials to facilitate child and staff learning and development.
- **Leadership and Management:** The program effectively implements policies, procedures, and systems that support stable staff and strong personnel, fiscal, and program management so all children, families, and staff have high quality experiences.