

# CCC Newsletter

Publisher: CCC

Volume No.12 Issue No. 6

Date: March 1, 2017

*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*

## March 2017

### Calendar

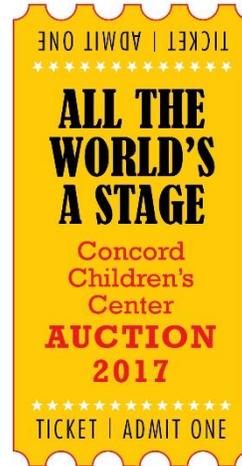
March 4 Babies and Books  
March 8 7 PM Board Meeting @ WC – Budget and Tuition Discussion. All are Welcome  
Optional Days Request Due  
**March 9&10 CCC Closed Professional Days**  
March 17 Enrollment Deposits Due  
March 22 Special Friends Requests Due  
*March 25 CCC Auction!*



### April Optional Days

If you are planning to send your child to CCC during our April Optional week (4/18-21), please

remember your child must be on the "list"! Sign up sheets will be posted March 1.



### CCC Auction Save the Date, Find a Sitter!

Our annual auction, the biggest fundraising event of the year for CCC, is coming up on **March 25!** This year's event will be held at 51 Walden, with the very appropriate theme of "**All the World's a Stage.**"

The CCC Auction is a wonderful "adult" event for our entire community, and friends and family of our entire community. Your invitation arrived in February, if it got lost in the vacation shuffle, you can easily buy tickets and get more information at: <http://concordchildrenscenter.org/purchase-auction-tickets-line/>

## International Pot Luck Dinner



*Anya and one of the Oragami Doll's made by children at the Pot Luck. Many thanks to Anya's mother, Madiha*

On February 23rd West Concord hosted our very first, International Pot Luck Dinner. Families brought a variety of dishes including; Chinese Noodles with Vegetables, Samosa's, Hoppi'n John, Beef Stew, Chili, Tabbouleh, Steamed Hotdogs and Pizza. We were joined by some alumni families including



*Ralphie Shaner with John and Penni Wagner, Ripley Program Director*

our Board Treasurer Stephan Bader, who brought Spätzle, and Ralphie Shaner who is currently the grandfather of CCC students. CCC has always valued the community we hope we create among all our families, past and present.



*Stephan Bader, CCC Treasurer and Kayte Bellusci, Quinns Mom and Decorations Committee co-chair for this years auction*

## February Vacation Week

During February vacation week three West Concord friends were very proud of the puzzle they completed together, with a little help from Diane. It was as they said a very “tricky puzzle”.



Cooperation, and perseverance, resulted in the successful completion of this “tricky” puzzle!

On Friday we had a visit from Harriotte Hurlie a good friend of Susan Hegarty’s. . Blind since childhood, Harriotte showed the children how her Braille writer worked, how she used her cane to navigate and answered their many questions about being blind.



At Ripley the after school group had a chance to snowshoe every day, the Pre-school’s theme was Wild About Space – Spaceships

were made and launched! The Toddlers had a Stay-Cation complete with a day of sailing, a camping adventure, and a Pajama Day with Pancakes for lunch.



At Emerson, CCC graduate, MiMi Bounar stopped by to volunteer. The toddlers enjoyed singing songs at meeting, listening to stories, and playing outdoors with her. Mi Mi, now in High School, is an alumnae of both Emerson and West Concord. MiMi’s mother Aicha has been a CCC teacher since 1998.

Wet days and leftover melting snow provided the perfect ingredients for lots of outdoor play and some very muddy snowsuits.

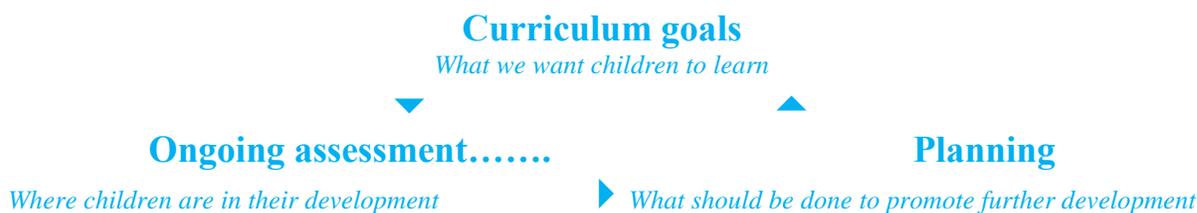


### Standard 4: Assessment of Child Progress states :

*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 benefit children by informing sound decisions, teaching, and program improvement. Assessments help teachers plan appropriately challenging curriculum and tailor instruction that responds to each child’s strengths and needs. Assessments can also help teachers identify children with disabilities and ensuring that they receive needed services.*

At Concord Children’s Center the assessment process is a team approach that is rooted in the teacher’s power of observation and our relationship with each child’s family. Methods used to evaluate a child’s abilities, interests and progress may include anecdotal notes, samples of drawings, artwork or constructions, records of conversations, talking with a child to learn more about their thinking, and developmental checklists. CCC teachers use the Teaching Strategies Gold Assessment tool as a guide our assessment process.

The cyclical process of assessment and curriculum implementation is outlined below:



## Why our school is closed on March 9 & 10

Professional development plays an important role at CCC. Our annual budget includes funds to send teachers to conferences, workshops, and to help pay for college coursework in the field of Early Childhood Education. In March and June we close the school for two days to allow for a full day of schoolwide professional development and one day of curriculum planning and classroom re-organization. In August we close for the week before the start of school for planning, workshops, and training in First Aid and CPR.



*Documentation of Curriculum Activity by Isabelle Raddassi, Heart Room teacher, describes the conversations and ideas the children developed in response to reading *The Three Little Pigs* and creating their own "story world".*

## Making Learning Visible Through Pedagogical Documentation CCC's

### March 2017 Professional Days

*Pedagogical documentation supports us in our work. It provides a mirror that reflects our practice. When we view this mirror with an open mind and heart, it quickly becomes a tool for learning- not only for us and for children but also for families and the caregivers who may wonder why we do things the way we do.*

Concord Children's Center teachers will visit area schools which were recommended as examples of schools which use a pedagogical documentation to "make learning visible" throughout their environment. Teachers will observe in the classrooms and meet with school representatives to learn how each school uses documentation to make learning visible and to deepen teacher practice.



*Eliot Pearson Children's School at Tufts University*





Wed, April 5, 2017  
 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM  
 Umbrella Community Arts Center  
 40 Stow St, Concord Ma.  
**Buy Tickets HERE**  
<https://suitcasestoriesconcord.eventbrite.com>

Join the International Institute of New England and honor the contributions of refugees and immigrants throughout the region through the timeless art of live storytelling. Local foreign and U.S. - born residents will perform first-person stories on themes of refugee resettlement and immigrant integration. All funds support International Institute of New England programming including refugee resettlement, English language education, workforce training, citizenship services, and more.



**Babies and Books - Saturday March 4 - 10-11 AM**

Come join CFN and CCC for a public book group for babies ages 0-24 months on March 4<sup>th</sup>. This book group is for babies and their parents or caregivers, and will feature a special guest each month. Free play begins at 10am with story time following at 10:30am. Please RSVP to Cecilia Carr at [ceccarr07@gmail.com](mailto:ceccarr07@gmail.com). In the event of severe inclement weather, we will post updates on our website and Facebook account and notify RSVPs via email.



**Winter 2017  
 Upcoming Program Information**

**Registration required for all programs:  
[imatthews@jri.org](mailto:imatthews@jri.org) or 978-429-8284**

**Tuesday  
 March 14  
 7:00-8:30  
 Congregation  
 Beth Elohim  
 Early  
 Learning  
 Center  
 Acton**

**“Threenagers”, presented by Elinor Springer, M.Ed. Early Childhood**

Often, around age 1 ½ to 3, children’s behavior becomes newly challenging and parents may wonder, “Who is this child?” Three year olds, and those approaching three, begin to fiercely assert their independence, while at other times they cling to adults and want help with tasks they have been able to do on their own for months. They can have BIG emotions that will frequently change, shifting from gleeful to devastated to furious within minutes. These characteristics make them like teenagers: hence the term “threenagers.” If your child is in this age range or you are anticipating its onset, join us to learn about this stage of development and what is going on with your child, as well as some ways to manage his or her behavior.

**Thursday,  
 April 13  
 6:30-8:30  
 Drumlin  
 Farm,  
 Lincoln**

**Strategies to Help Parents Teach Social-Emotional Skills to Children Age 2-6 presented by Maura Letourneau of the Early Childhood Training and Consultation Team at J.R.I.**

At the top of most teachers’ kindergarten readiness skills list will be the ability for your child to identify how he is feeling and to use appropriate behaviors to express these feelings. Our presentation will include how parents can identify teachable moments with their children and why this is important. The social and emotional teaching areas explored will include:

**SOCIAL EMOTIONAL**



- Friendship Skills
- Emotional Literacy
- Emotional Regulation
- Controlling Anger and Impulses
- Problem-Solving Skills

*This training was funded through a grant by CHNA 15 and was made possible by Determination of Need funds received from Lahey Hospital & Medical Center and Winchester Hospital.*