



September 2010

Play and Learn at Community Place
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From the Director

Welcome to the super month of September! We are excited to begin another award-winning school year and look forward to the opportunity to enrich the lives of your children.

Play and Learn at Community Place is kicking off the new school year with a pizza fundraiser. We will be selling Joe Corbi's pizza and other yummy treats. The packets will be distributed on Friday, September 3rd, and the fundraiser will end on Wednesday, September 22nd. Orders will be delivered on Wednesday, October 6th. The proceeds will be used for workshops for teachers and parents throughout the school year.

Smile and say "Cheese"! Fall portraits will be taken in plenty of time for the holiday gift season. Teddy Bear Portraits will be taking photographs of all ages on Monday, September 13th, beginning at 7:30 am and concluding at 11:30 am. Please refer to the poster and reminders in the center to dress your child in special attire!

We will be taking a walking field trip to the Fair in Crownsville for the Kids Day celebration on Friday, September 17th. Children 3 and older may participate. Parents are welcome to attend. Permission slips will be distributed in early September.

Finally, join me in welcoming new staff member, Miss Brandee, to the Play and Learn family! Miss Brandee recently completed her Bachelor's degree. In addition, please welcome Ms. Beth, who also comes to us with a Bachelor's degree. Ms. Beth will be working with Ms. Robyn once Ms. Marlene moves to the Pooh Bear room. Both new teachers will be wonderful additions to our teaching team.

Enjoy the final days of summer!

Mrs. Jacob and Super Star Staff

Parents' Corner

Play in the Early Years: Key to School Success (an excerpt)

There is a well-established consensus among early childhood professionals that play is an essential element of developmentally appropriate, high-quality, early education programs.

- ◆ Play is not a break from the curriculum; play is the best way to implement the curriculum.
- ◆ A growing body of research shows that every competency important to school success is enhanced by play. For example, high-quality pretend play is related to children's abilities to begin to think abstractly and to take the perspectives of others. Connections between the complexity of children's pretend play and early literacy, mathematical thinking, and problem-solving are documented in research literature.
- ◆ For example, through dramatic play with objects, people, and imagined situations, children develop their oral language skills and capacity for narrative, or "thinking in stories." Oral language skills and narrative form the foundation for reading comprehension, the ability to produce coherent writing, and the ability to understand subjects such as history, social studies, and science.
- ◆ Teachers use keen observation to assess and support children's learning and development through play.
- ◆ Teachers facilitate play through responsive interactions with children, based on an understanding of how play contributes to academic and social learning.

<http://www.4children.org/images/pdf/play07.pdf>

Important Dates

(See Calendar for more information)

September 6 - Labor Day - Center Closed

Parents -

Please check for the posted Parent Resource List, as well as the Parent Resource Binder. We hope you find this information to be useful!