



Parent E-News

Volume 4, Issue 4

Summer 2024

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Greetings from the Executive Director

Dear Families,

When I arrived 4 years ago in the middle of the pandemic, I only dreamed of having the quality center that we have today. We had a partially enrolled center in Montour Falls and our school age program was inoperable due to space restrictions for social distancing. Through the hard work of our staff, our board of directors and the generosity of our donors we have moved into our new facility here in Watkins Glen and we have reopened our school age care program. While I often do get the credit for our organization’s victories, please know it has always been an enormous team effort. As I transition out of the organization, all of our others who have worked so tirelessly to bring us success will continue to do so and the children of Schuyler County will continue to get quality care in safe, nurturing and playful environments.

This is also the 4th year that Schuyler County has celebrated Month of the Child! Each June we shine a light on all the wonderful people, places and things that make this such an amazing community to be a child! This is also a valuable fundraising opportunity to gain additional funds for summer programming. Thank you to everyone who donated and/or shopped at our yard sale June 1st. We earned \$529, which is oddly also the name of a tax free investment account families can set up for educational expenses, go to <https://www.nysaves.org/> to learn more. Grill tickets are still available.

I’m looking forward to spending an awesome summer with all of you. Let’s get to playing!

Stay Playful, Keep Learning,
Ms. Kris

Dates to Remember

- June 1st-June 30th—Month of the Child
- July 3rd —Grill drawing
- July 4th—CLOSED
- September 2nd—CLOSED

Greetings from the Assistant Director

Welcome friends and families to the My Place SUMMER Newsletter!

It sure has been a hot start to our summer here in the Glen. The kiddos have really been enjoying all the outside water play time, popsicles at the lake, ice cream field trips, and more. Please be sure that you are dressing your children in weather appropriate clothing with extra's available. We also ask that you provide us with your child's sun-screen and/or proper sun protecting clothing to avoid sunburns. With the kiddos going on walks, climbing on the playground and running a lot throughout the day please be mindful of appropriate footwear to avoid any injuries.

The classroom teachers have a lot of fun things planned for the upcoming summer months. With all the fun to be had we will also continue our focus on literacy. Early literacy plays a key role in enabling the kind of early learning experiences that research shows are linked with academic achievement, reduced grade retention, higher graduation rates and enhanced productivity in adult life. Early literacy means helping children develop a rich vocabulary, self expression, and reading comprehension-all tools they need to become successful readers and lifelong learners. It is so important to build vocabulary at an early age and with your help each week we will have these kiddos on the right path for success! Please take note of the weekly vocabulary words listed on the classroom lesson plans. The classrooms will be adding these into their daily conversations and have them around the classroom, we hope that you too can talk at home about these words each day. We also have numerous boxes of books in the vestibule area of our lobby, please feel free to take what you would like. Also, be sure to check out the little free libraries in the parks, My Place will be adding books for community enjoyment and to spread our love of reading!

As always, we are diligently working on active communication with families, please be sure that all of your information is up to date within our ProCare app. It is important that you have an active and working app, to sign your children in and out daily as well as communicate with the classroom staff, Kris, and I. We have moved our staff tablet to the lobby for your convenience. If you are unable to use your phone you can clock your child in and out with your pin there. Kindly let me know if you are having any issues with the app.

We are required to have all up to date physicals and immunizations on file for all children. When your child receives a yearly physical or any immunizations, please provide me with a copy for their file.

Thank you all for your continued support. I hope you all enjoy these fun filled summer months.

Best,
Ms. Noel



Month of The Child Fundraisers

JUNE 2024



June 16-23rd:
Community Support from:

- Grist Iron Brewing Co
- Solera Tap House
- Hector Wine Co
- Lucky Hare Brewing

June 13-16:
Camping for a
Cause
@ Finger Lakes
RV Resort



Burdett Fireman's
Breakfast: June 16th

Raffle sponsored by The
Village Marina: Ongoing,
drawing 7/3/24

Benefiting My Place-A Play and Learning Center
and
Watkins Glen Summer Swim Lessons

Classroom Happenings

Infant Team -

Assistant Teachers— Ms. Ashley & Miss Mady

Teacher Aide— Ms. Makenzie

Happy Summer! We love this time of year in the Infant Room, because there is so much more to do with the babes. Some things we have to look forward to this summer are, LOTS of buggy rides, water play (splash pad, sprinkler, etc.), outdoor circle time, and much more. We recently updated our daily schedule to make it more suitable for all of the children in the classroom. We now have a gross motor room time, and we also have a playground time as well!

Something that we are always working hard on throughout the center is communication. This looks a little different for the Infants as they don't have much communication skills yet, but something that we use daily in sign language. The signs that we use the most are "more", "all done", "please", and "thank you". These are super simple, but are so crucial for babies and waddlers, so they can try to communicate to us more effectively. If you'd like a flier demonstrating these signs, please let one of us know and we will print one off and send it home with your babe.

We hope that you all have a summer filled with fun, and have the best time making memories with your babes!



Waddler Team - Lead Teacher—Miss Mattie
Assistant Teacher's—Miss Tammy
Teacher Aide—Miss Sierra

This summer the Waddlers have LOTS of fun plans! From fun themes like Ice Cream, Lake life, and Disney to field trips such as popsicles at the pier and a trip to the splash pad at Clute Park! We will be spending lots of time outside on long buggy rides in the mornings observing community life and lots of water & dirt play in the afternoons getting all the sensory play in! We have and will continue to observe our My Place Garden and enjoying the yummy vegetable's that come from it! While having all this fun we will also be focusing on gearing up for our big move up the toddler room at the end of the season, working on using our words and gentle touches has become a huge focus along with using cups for the first time. We are excited to watch our sweet wads grow into strong tods but wish time would slowwwww down!



**Toddler Team - Lead Teacher –Miss Taylor
Assistant Teacher—Miss Bria
Teacher Aide Miss Bre**



As we embraced the beauty of spring, the toddler class has been actively engaging in a variety of enriching activities that foster social-emotional growth and exploration of fascinating themes. We've focused on nurturing important social-emotional skills such as sharing, empathy, and communication. Through interactive play and group activities, our toddlers are learning how to express their feelings, make friends, and navigate social interactions in a positive way. We have been exploring themes of Spring, here's a glimpse of what we have done this past spring. Our little explorers have been fascinated by the concept of life cycles, from discussing caterpillars transforming into butterflies to observing seeds sprout into plants and watching baby birds hatch and grow from a nest on our own playground! With spring in full bloom, our toddlers have eagerly rolled up their sleeves to plant seeds, water plants, and discover the magic of gardening. They've learned about caring for living things and the joy of watching their efforts grow! From sunny days to thunderstorms, we've been learning all about weather patterns. Our toddlers have enjoyed creating weather-themed art, singing songs about rainbows, and exploring the different ways weather affects our daily lives. We celebrated the love and support of our families by creating heartfelt crafts dedicated to our moms, dads, grandparents, and all special adults in their lives! These activities have helped our toddler's express gratitude and love for their caregivers in special and meaningful ways. As we continue to explore enriching themes throughout the summer season, we are excited to dive deeper into new adventures and discoveries.



Three School Team - Lead Teacher, Miss Kayley Assistant Teacher— Ms. Mya

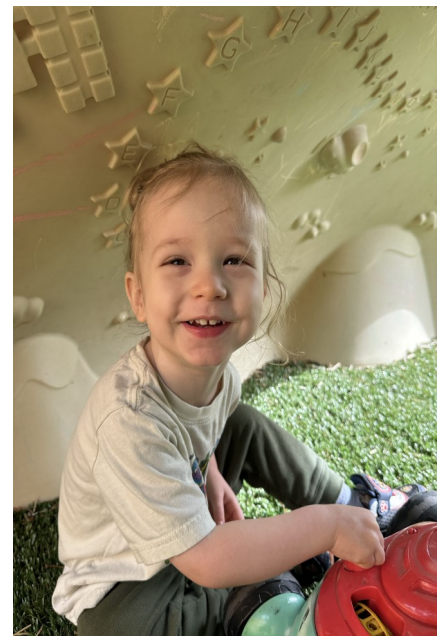
Happy Summer!

We are so thrilled that we've said goodbye to the yucky weather, and that the nice weather is finally here for the summer! We've already done lots of water play and field trips. Some of our field trips have been the police station, the fire station, and the ice cream shop. Field trips are super important for this ages learning and development, this is because we don't use buggies - our children actually walk everywhere we go. This is super crucial to their gross motor development. The field trips also allow the children to learn some geography, most importantly about the town they live in.

We are still very diligently working on our potty training. Each child who is not yet potty trained has a sticker chart, and every time they sit on the potty they get to pick out a cool sticker for their chart. Once their chart is filled, they get to take it home! I highly encourage you all to start a sticker chart or some sort of reward system at home, to motivate your children to master potty training.

We are also working on communication, specifically manners. I think it's very important for children to use manners at a young age. These kiddos will be in "big kid" school before we know it, and a simple "please" or "thank you" can gain them the utmost respect from their peers and teachers.

I hope you all have a wonderful summer!



**Preschool Team - Lead Teacher, Miss Tee
Assistant Teacher— Miss Mikayla & Miss Maddy
Teacher Aide- Miss Jaida**

“Let the summer begin with adventures that never end”.

It has been a great year in Preschool, but our time is winding down together. I will miss the students tremendously that are headed off to “big kid school”/ Thank you for allowing me to be their teacher and I will cherish all the memories we have made together! I wish them the best of luck and I know they will do great things all throughout life!

This summer is going to be full of fun in the sun! This will include field trips, fun activities, special treats, learning fun, and water play activities. Please make sure that your child always has an extra pair of clothes or a swimsuit to leave here in their cubby for when we do water play activities! Also, with the nice weather let’s be sure they have appropriate clothing as we go outside often. Clothing such as hats, sunglasses, and safe shoes to walk in are helpful during the season!

Staffing update!!! Miss Maddy, Miss Jaida, Miss Mikayla, and Miss Myah will be in the classroom during the summer months as I will be done June 14th to prepare/enjoy the arrival of my little babe! I hope you all have a safe and healthy summer.

♥ Miss Tee



My Place 2024 Preschool Graduates

The greatest gifts we can give children are the roots of responsibility and the wings of independence.

-Maria Montessori



School Age Team - Program Director—Miss Cass Teachers—Ms. Niki, Miss Kirsten, Miss Kelly, Miss Sara, Miss Makenna



Exciting Summer Ahead at My Place After School Program!

This past spring, we faced and overcame many challenges, leading to significant growth and new opportunities for everyone involved in the My Place After School Program. One of our proudest achievements was our participation in a comprehensive Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB) program. Through this initiative, we were observed, trained, and supported to build a more successful and well-rounded program, ensuring a welcoming and enriching environment for all our children.

As we step into summer, we are thrilled to announce several new projects that promise to make this season our best yet. Our new STEM Makers station will empower children to unleash their creativity, allowing them to design and build a variety of innovative creations. Coupled with our 3D Printer Exploration, kids will dive into the fascinating world of 3D printing, bringing their imaginative ideas to life.

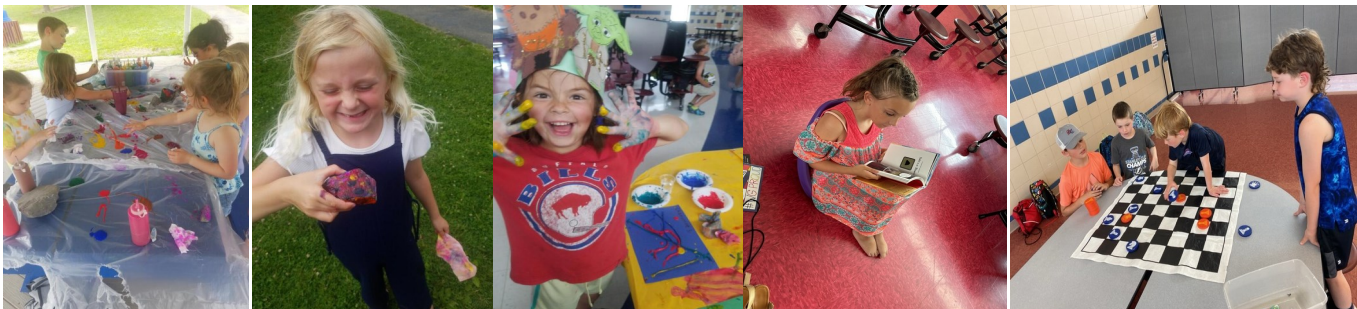
To keep everyone cool during the summer heat, we've introduced a hydration station featuring a mister fan. This fun addition will help everyone stay refreshed and comfortable without getting soaking wet.

Additionally, starting July 1st, we will be rolling out updated behavior and supervision policies to enhance the safety and enjoyment of our program for all participants.

We are also proud to announce that we have been awarded a 5-year contract totaling \$1.75 million through the OCFS LEAPS grant. This incredible opportunity allows us to continue expanding our program with a strong focus on academic success, social-emotional wellness, and community engagement.

With these exciting new projects and our ongoing commitment to excellence, we're looking forward to an unforgettable summer at My Place After School Program!

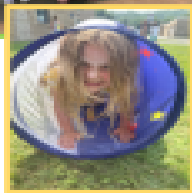
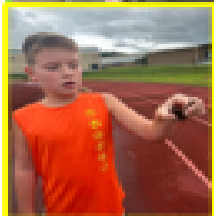
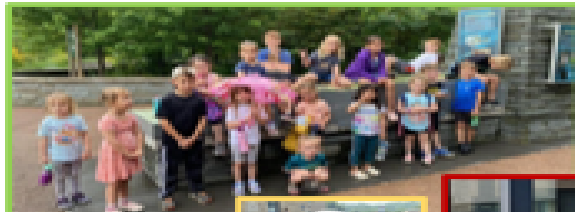
Miss Cass



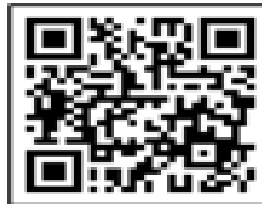


Summer Enrichment Program 2024

The My Place After School Program, which is licensed through the Office of Child and Family Services will be offering a Summer Enrichment Program for ages 4-12. We will be operating Monday-Friday at the Watkins Glen Elementary School from 7am-6pm. We will be accepting limited enrollment for \$258 weekly or \$60 per day. Each additional child per family will receive an 8% tuition discount.



My Place does accept the Childcare Assistant Program through your local DSS. Please use the QR below for the application.



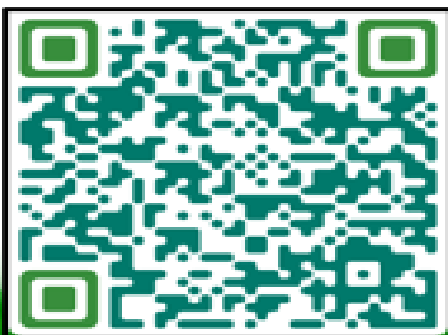
Family Size	~Annual Income Limit
1	\$81,818.18
2	\$87,489.17
3	\$83,379.31
4	\$99,259.26
5	\$115,139.29
6	\$131,019.33

During hours of care, children are offered a variety of age-appropriate activities, field trips, outdoor play, access to the school's gymnasium, summer swim lessons, Run Club, as well as a nutritious breakfast, lunch, and afternoon snack. We are also planning to have weekly focus themes where the children will get to take a deeper dive into the topics listed above.

<p>July 1st-5th:</p> <p>Camping</p>	<p>July 8th-12th:</p> <p>Commotion in the Ocean!</p>	<p>July 15th-19th:</p> <p>A'Hooy Matey!</p>	<p>July 22nd-26th:</p> <p>Color Wars</p>	<p>July 29th-August 2nd:</p> <p>Sports</p>
<p>August 5th-9th:</p> <p>Superheroes!</p>	<p>August 12th- 16th:</p> <p>Once Upon A Time</p>	<p>August 26th-30th:</p> <p>Outer Space</p>	<p>Already Enrolled? Tell Miss Cass your summer needs here!</p>	



Scan Me!



← New Student Summer Enrollment Application

