



Parent E-News

Volume 2, Issue 2

Fall 2023

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Dates to Remem-ber

- December 22nd & 25th—School Age CLOSED
- December 25th & 26th —Center CLOSED
- January 1st—CLOSED
- January 15th— CLOSED

Greetings from the Executive Director

Happy Winter Everyone!

It feels like summer just barely left and here we are welcoming winter. There are countless reasons why I love working in Early Childhood Education but experiencing season changes with little children is definitely at the top of my list. Each season is magical and has all sorts of treasures to explore. Our talented teachers have been very busy planning fun and playful sensory and art experiences to kick off the new year. The best way to explore the world is through the eyes of a child. I appreciate that you share these wondrous years with us.

My favorite winter hobby is reading, its just so cozy! Last year we were introduced to Conscious Discipline. In theory, as calm adults we can help children identify and start to manage their own behaviors. This is a research-based curriculum by Dr. Becky Bailey. If you are a big fan or reading or podcasts, you might want to check her out. 'Easy to Love, Difficult to Discipline' is a great read for parents.

As you may have noticed on the 2024 we do close for 4 professional development days through the year. Our training day this year will be on Monday, January 15th. We will complete our annual refreshers then dive into the Random Acts of Kindness training, Cultivating Resilience through Kindness.

Ms. Kris



Greetings from the Assistant Director

Welcome friends and families to the My Place Winter Newsletter! Winter is the most wonderful time of the year! It's the season of festivity, warmth, and generosity.

The kiddos will be learning through all kinds of fun winter play that their teachers have planned. Aside from all the fun to be had, please take note of the weekly vocabulary words listed on the classroom lesson plans. 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!

With the weather changing be sure that you are sending in weather appropriate clothing (and lots of extras). Per OCFS we are required to go outside daily even if it is a shortened amount of time. Please be sure that your child has a snowsuit/pants, jacket, gloves, hat, etc. each day, each classroom has room to keep these items if you have the extras to leave.

Enrollment has been superb this year, we have been full in all of the classrooms throughout the center and have a waitlist for all. Enrollment drives all other components of the center, staffing facilities, and financials. Your referrals and enthusiasm keep our enrollment thriving. Thank you all for spreading the word!

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. Kindly let me know if you are having any issues with the app. We will be adding your place of employment to our records for emergencies, be on the look out for that form.

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 have a magical holiday season and an amazing start to the new year!

Best,

Ms. Noel





Holiday Staff Party 2023

During our staff party we recognized My Place Anniversary's that have been celebrated since July 1st.

Miss Maddy—1 year
Miss Cass—2 years
Miss Jess—1 year
Ms. Noel—7 years
Ms. Kris—3 Years
Miss Amber—2 years

You all play a very important roll in the day to day operations of My Place and we are happy that you are here!

Classroom Happenings

Infant Team - Lead Teacher, Miss Mary
Assistant Teachers— Miss Ashley
Teacher Aide- Miss Makenzie



In the infant classroom, many things have been moving and changing. We have many new walkers. Three of our friends began walking this past month. What an accomplishment, and we all couldn't be prouder. We are improving our eating skills, playing skills, and much more. Our favorite class song is "Chipmunk At The Gas Pump." We are so excited about the holiday season and are all looking forward to experiencing the snowy weather.



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



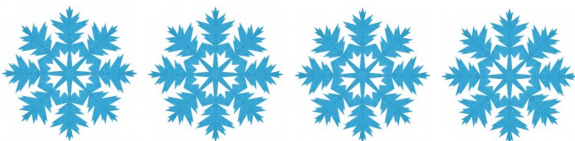
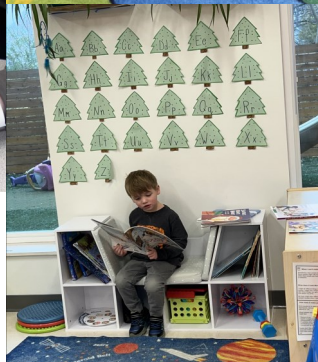
I hope this all finds you well and ready for the holidays. I cannot believe we are about to enter 2024!

During the fall season we learned about a lot of great things and went on a couple fun field trips. A few of our favorite highlights of the season was the field trip to the fire house, trick or treating at Jefferson Village, the first snow fall, making cookies and yummy treats, and learning about hibernating animals while exploring their fur just to name a few.

A look ahead at winter, we will be introducing scissors, how to properly use them, and starting to practice with them. There are some new friends we will be welcoming to the classroom and we will work on showing them our classroom rules, daily schedule and expectations. Preschool loves to get outside, even in the snow! Please make sure your kiddo has all appropriate wear to play in the snow and cold weather! Deep breathing and recognizing our emotions is another huge focus in the Preschool room. We have been practicing this with our breathing buddies, utilizing the calming cube, and our quiet area with books. We will also be focusing on tracing names, sharing, numbers, letters, and much more!

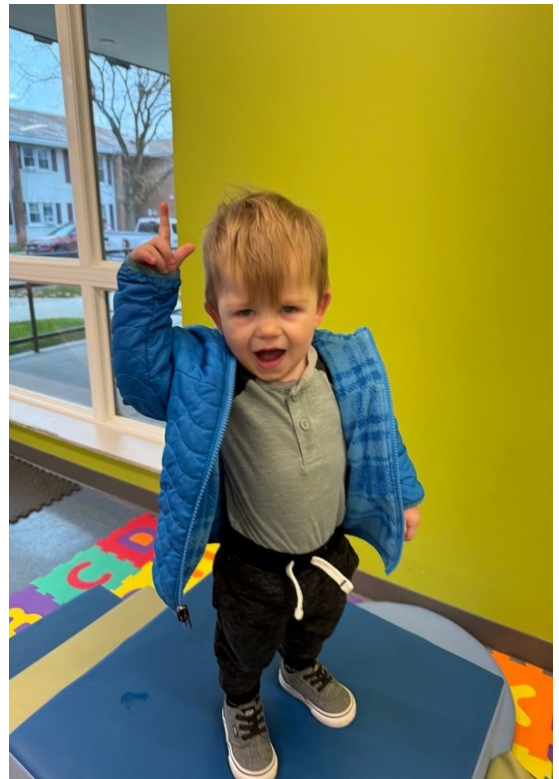
Please remember our main communication is through the ProCare app. If you ever have any questions and/or concerns please reach out.

My email is:
tristine.carocci@myplace-aplc.org



Waddler Team - Lead Teacher—Miss Jess
Assistant Teacher—Miss Bria; Teacher Aide—Miss Kim

Hi families! It's hard to believe that it's already December. This year is almost over even though it feels like it just started! We've had a fun winter so far learning about all the holidays, practicing being a good friend, and most importantly we love having dance parties! We look forward to seeing what the new year brings where things will hopefully be slowing down as we learn about snowmen and cold weather clothing. We will help the kiddos in learning how to dress themselves by encouraging them to put their own coats, hats, mittens and more on all by themselves! I hope you all have a wonderful holiday season and a happy new year!



Tiny Tots Team - Lead Teacher, Miss Kayley Assistant Teacher— Miss Mady



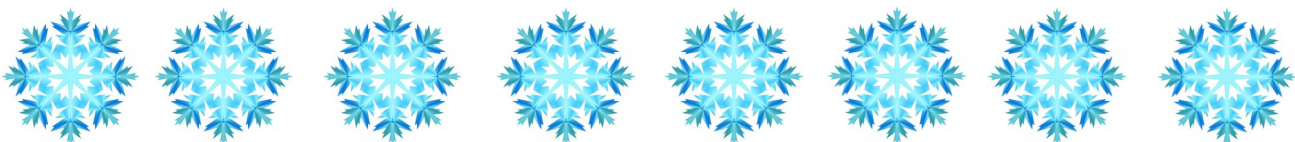
Hello, families! For those who don't know me, I'm Miss Kayley, the "new" Tiny Tots lead. I just recently returned from my maternity leave in November. I've been with My Place for almost 3 years now and have spent most of my time in the Infant Room. With that being said, I probably have already loved your babe before! I'm glad to be reunited with all of my old kids. For the kiddos I haven't previously had, I am so excited to form bonds with them and learn all about them!

Although the weather isn't the best, this is one of my favorite times of the year, especially at a daycare. There is so much to learn about and it is so fun watching the children get so excited over learning new things. Some things we plan on learning about this winter are: Holidays, Snow, Friendship, Valentine's Day, Arctic Animals, Nutrition, Dental Health, and so much more! :)

Aside from our theme focused learning, we have been working super hard on potty training. Each child has a potty chart that they get to add on to every time they try the potty. We also are working on being mindful of our feelings. We work really hard to encourage the children to let their peers and teachers know when they need space, what emotions they are feeling, etc. Some phrases we use often are "I need space", "I'm feeling sad", and "It hurts my feelings when you ____". We encourage the children to "stomp their anger out" on our sensory boards when they are angry.

I'm so happy to be back doing what I love, surrounded by the best kiddos and staff. I'm so excited for my first winter as a Toddler Teacher! If any of you have any questions, comments, and/or concerns - please email me at kayley.potrzebowski@myplace-aplc.org, or send me a message through the ProCare app.

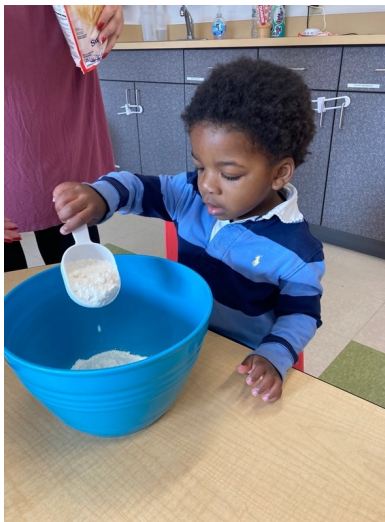
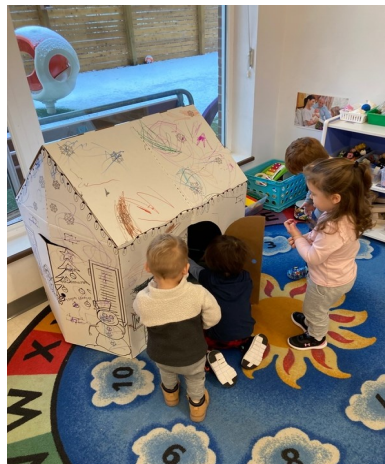
I hope you all have a wonderful winter! Stay warm! 😊



**Toddler Team - Lead Teacher's -Miss Taylor & Miss
Mattie
Assistant Teacher—Miss Kelly
Teacher Aide— Miss Bre**



Throughout this fall the Toddler class has grown so much! We had so much fun enjoying fall and all that comes with it. Celebrating holidays, like Halloween and Thanksgiving. Prepping for Christmas and other holidays that are celebrated around this time of year. Enjoying the cool weather and all that comes with it! Leaf piles to jump in, snow to play in, and talking about all the animals preparing for winter and hibernation! We've talked a lot about our emotions and what to do when we are feeling them. Having calm down corners certainly help by having a space to freely express those big emotions we all feel. We've worked hard on our routine and will continue to work on these things throughout winter! Although fall has been so much fun! It's time for winter which will bring so much joy! Christmas cheer, Valentines Day and so many fun themes coming our way!



School Age Team - Program Director—Miss Cass Teachers—Mrs. Niki, Miss Kendra, Miss Chloe, Miss Jai- da & Miss Mariah

The last three months at the school age program have been transitional and exciting! We started the school year spending majority of our time outside on the playground, exploring nature, spending time with friends, learning new games and skills, and soaking up the last warmth that 2023 had to offer. We love our new space in the large cafeteria and we're able to comfortably serve more children and families. We've onboarded almost an entire new team, and we're becoming stronger daily! In the upcoming months, we will continue our focus on social emotional development through conscious discipline as well as provide the children with new, engaging physical activities. I look forward what to what opportunities and fun are ahead of us.

