

# Penny Lane Childcare Spring Newsletter

Spring 2023



## Program Update

Both Penny Lane centers have maintained their level 4 rating with Paths to Quality! With another successful review in the books, we are proud to continue providing quality care and education in surrounding counties. This accreditation promotes quality care for children and families throughout our community.

Renovation at both centers will continue throughout the spring and summer. We appreciate all of your patience while these changes occur at our facilities.

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Since the pandemic, there have been so many changes in our lives, including the cost of living. Fortunately, Penny Lane received Stabilization Grant Funds to help us strive forward. These funds have helped with many aspects, such as staffing, employment benefits, professional development, family tuition, program improvements, curriculum, etc. With the cost of living on the rise, and new "Market Rates" evolving, Penny Lane will need to increase their childcare rates beginning September 1st, 2023. Fees will increase approximately \$10/week. Bloomington Day Care Corporation (Penny Lane) aims to keep our rates competitive, yet below the current market rates.

### **SEEKING PARENT COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Penny Lane thrives on parent feedback, suggestions, and support. We manage an advisory board that is revised annually by adding new members. Members give their input and suggestions on how to improve our program and provide quality care in our community. If you are interested in joining our board, please let us know! You will be added to our private group of advisory members on our Bloomz app. This makes communication easy and at your convenience.



## Parent Reminders

- ✓ Check cubbies for personal items to take home; parent notes, soiled clothing, blankets, etc.
- ✓ Wash items weekly!
- ✓ Be sure your child has extra clothes.
- ✓ Do not bring oversized items to put in cubby; no food or drinks (other than water) in cubby.
- ✓ Please bring a water bottle to keep in the classroom at all times.
- ✓ Label your child's personal items.
- ✓ Communicate with teachers at least weekly; contact us when your child is absent or coming in late (after 10:30am).
- ✓ Please follow **SICK POLICY** guidelines to ensure everyone stays safe and healthy.
- ✓ It is imperative to keep documents updated annually. (i.e. physicals w/ immunizations, contact information, feeding plans, etc.)

# Let's Talk...

## Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) and the Kindergarten Readiness Indicators (KRI)

All children are screened bi-annually, in the fall and spring of the school year. These questionnaires can be used to determine individual goals and create teaching strategies. The areas of development addressed are physical, communication, fine/gross motor, and social-emotional. Parents are asked to sign the “*Parent Acknowledgement Form*” to complete this screening process.

Following ASQ screenings and KRI assessments, families will be offered the opportunity to schedule a parent/teacher conference to discuss your child’s development.



## Upcoming Dates/ Events

- ✓ Teacher Appreciation Week [May 8<sup>th</sup>- May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023]
- ✓ Kindergarten Readiness Indicators (KRI) [ Pre-K participants *only*]  
**April 18<sup>th</sup>- May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023**
- ✓ Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) Screenings **May 8<sup>th</sup>- May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023**
- ✓ Annual Pre-K Graduation is **May 19<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm**
- ✓ Parent/Teacher Conferences offered week of **May 22<sup>nd</sup> -May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023**
- ✓ **CLOSED** May 29<sup>th</sup> for Memorial Day
- ✓ **CLOSED** Tuesday, July 4<sup>th</sup> for Independence Day



## What is National CACFP Week? (March 12- March 18, 2023)

CACFP Week is a national education and information campaign sponsored annually the third week of March by the National CACFP Sponsors Association. The campaign is designed to raise awareness of how the USDA's Child and Adult Care Food Program works to combat hunger. The CACFP brings healthy foods to tables across the country for children in child care centers, homes, and afterschool programs as well as adults in day care.

You can participate by helping spread the word about the CACFP! Visit our [Campaign page](#) to download resources for spreading awareness in your classrooms, your community, and at the state level.

## naeyc<sup>®</sup> What is the **Week of the Young Child<sup>®</sup>?**

(April 1- April 7, 2023)

The Week of the Young Child<sup>®</sup> is an annual celebration sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), the world's largest early childhood education association, with nearly 60,000 members and a network of 52 Affiliates.

The purpose of the Week of the Young Child<sup>®</sup> is to focus public attention on the needs of young children and their families and to recognize the early childhood programs and services that meet those needs.

NAEYC first established the Week of the Young Child<sup>®</sup> in 1971, recognizing that the early childhood years (birth through age 8) lay the foundation for children's success in school and later life. The Week of the Young Child<sup>®</sup> is a time to plan how we—as citizens of a community, of a state, and of a nation—will better meet the needs of all young children and their families.