

# Penny Lane Childcare Spring Newsletter

Spring 2024



## 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.

### The Resilient Classroom

Each center is participating in a pilot program for a new social emotional learning curriculum, known as the Resilient Classroom. Children ages 0-5 years will be assessed using the Devaraux Early Childhood Assessment (DECA) prior to and after the Resilient Classroom curricula is implemented. Selected teachers will partake in training through modules to understand the program's content and learning objectives. Early Learning Indiana has granted both Penny Lane centers the funds to purchase the materials needed for our participation. Upon completion, each center will be receiving an incentive for their efforts.

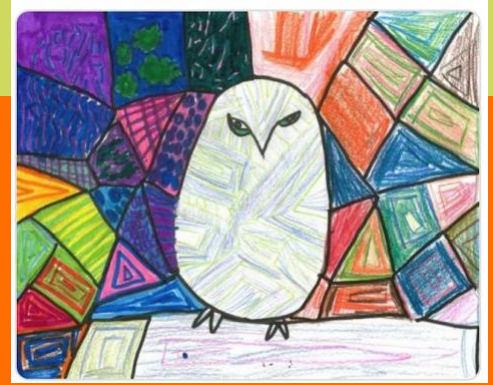
### Solar Eclipse 2024

So, the big event will be here soon **Monday, April 8th, 2024**. Since there are several places closing locally, including MCCSC, we would like to get more input from parents. Neither Penny Lane center is planning on closing at this point; however, we are getting more information from the community about places, even roads that will be closed. This can affect staffing. In order to prepare for this event, both centers need to get a count by the end of March for attendance on 4/8/24. Please let your child's teacher know if your child will not be attending on this day. We will keep you updated on BLOOMZ App!



### 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 our academic 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 6<sup>th</sup>- May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024]
- ✓ Kindergarten Readiness Indicators (KRI) [ Pre-K participants *only*]  
**April 1<sup>st</sup> - May 1<sup>st</sup> , 2024**
- ✓ Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) Screenings **May 13<sup>th</sup>- May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024**
- ✓ Annual Pre-K Graduation is **May 17<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm**
- ✓ Parent/Teacher Conferences offered week of **May 28<sup>th</sup> -May 31<sup>st</sup> , 2024**
- ✓ **CLOSED** Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup> for Memorial Day
- ✓ **CLOSED** Thursday, July 4<sup>th</sup> for Independence Day



## What is National CACFP Week? (March 10- March 16, 2024)

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 their [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 6- April 12, 2024)

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.

