



# penny lane

WINTER/ SPRING 2022

# NEWSLETTER

hello winter



As the new year starts, we find ourselves in this never-ending pandemic. The challenges persist from all angles. I continue to ask families to remain patient and considerate with all Penny Lane teachers. We are trying our best to follow CDC and FSSA guidelines to continue providing high-quality childcare in our community. I highly encourage parents to show our teachers appreciation for their strong work ethic and constant perseverance. Your gratitude is motivational and puts a smile on our faces.

♥ Ms. Kelly

## 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 to provide quality care and education in Monroe County. Both Penny Lane centers have extended their accreditations with NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children) and Paths to Quality over this duration of hardships. Together, these endorsements promote quality care for children and families throughout our community.

Our teachers are consistently maintaining their classroom and curriculum to fulfill accreditation requirements. Their hard work and obstacles earned us extended support of such high-quality certifications. We are always striving to improve our program. If you have any comments or suggestions, please let us know.

Indiana winter weather has finally made its arrival. With the temperatures dropping, it is imperative that your child be dressed accordingly. Although it is cold, we are still authorized to take the children outside for a short amount of time. Children must be offered outdoor play daily, weather permitting and above 25°.

Winter coats, hats, and gloves are highly encouraged for daily wear. Families are more than welcome to leave spares in their cubbies for assurance. Therefore, please bring in extra weather appropriate clothing for their cubby bins.

Due to health protocols and limited space, we ask that you reduce your child's personal items to linens, weather wear, and extra clothing. These items should fit in their cubby and CANNOT be touching others' belongings.



**BuildLearnGrow**

Stabilization Grants

*Build, Learn, Grow* Stabilization Grants are designed to provide critical funding to early childhood providers to support their program's operating expenses across six categories and help rebuild their programs for the future. Both Penny Lane centers were awarded round 1 of the Stabilization grants. We have used the grant to increase staff benefits and plan upcoming building renovations. We are grateful for this opportunity as it has strengthened our program during the pandemic.



## REMINDERS

- ✓ Check cubbies for personal items to take home-parent notes, artwork, soiled clothing, blankets, etc.
- ✓ Be sure your child has extra (weather appropriate) clothes
- ✓ No food or drinks in cubby.
- ✓ Please bring a water bottle to always keep in the classroom.
- ✓ Label your child's personal items.
- ✓ Communicate with teachers at least weekly; contact us when your child is absent or coming in late (before 10:30am).
- ✓ Complete/Update all paperwork as needed and return to teacher and/or Director.
- ✓ Please follow **SICK POLICY** guidelines to ensure everyone stays safe and healthy. Our COVID-19 protocol is consistently changing with CDC and FSSA guidelines.



Scholastic orders will start back up soon for winter/spring! Catalogs will be available up by computer (clock in/out), and information on how to order is on the back of the forms. If you have any questions, please ask.

Kindness is a  
gift everyone  
can afford  
to give



### [UPCOMING DATES AND EVENTS]

Memorial Day (May 30<sup>th</sup>) – **CLOSED**  
Pre-Kindergarten Graduation- *To be determined*  
Monday, July 4th- **CLOSED**



## LET'S TALK



There are several ways of communicating with our staff and teachers. If you have not done so already, go like our “Penny Lane Childcare” Facebook page, which usually posts general program and community information. Our website, [pennylanechildcare.net](http://pennylanechildcare.net), contains ample information about our program, including links, forms, events, etc. The “Bloomz App” is also imperative for parent and teacher communication. Therefore, we invite all parents to join the classroom app by entering a simple code. If have not received an invitation or code, please talk to your child's teacher. All teachers are very busy in their classrooms, so be patient with us when trying to communicate through the app.

## Seeking Parent Council Members

Penny Lane thrives on parent feedback, suggestions, and support. To maintain our high-quality accreditations, we manage a parent council board that is revised annually by adding new members. Being a member simply involves giving your input and suggestions on how to improve our program to continue providing 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 through our Bloomz app. This makes communication easy and at your convenience.