

# September 2017 Newsletter

## Building Blocks Learning Center

125 Mechanics Street, Doylestown, PA  
(215)348-0929 [office@bbclinc.com](mailto:office@bbclinc.com)  
[BuildingBlocksPA.com](http://BuildingBlocksPA.com)



### Welcome Back!

We're off to a wonderful start to the school year! Orientation went well and we hope you all enjoyed the bright and cheerful classrooms and staff that greeted you and your child.

The purpose of this monthly electronic newsletter is to highlight current and future school-wide happenings. Please save and refer to it for important school information. Specific dates and details are noted. I do my best to keep it as brief as possible, but feel that keeping our families fully informed is a priority. Please set aside a few minutes to read through it thoroughly and don't hesitate to contact me with questions.

Enjoy these first few weeks of school--take a moment to talk about the treasured projects and listen to the new stories your child has for you! Don't forget to send the white BBLC folder to school each day. Please be extra patient as we all learn new routines and get accustomed to school life once again!

### The Driveway Loop



Going forward, all classes will be in session, which means that the driveway loop will be a **very busy** place. Patience and cooperation are appreciated; we have many new families doing this for the first time. The arrival door will open at 9:00 sharp. If you are the first car in the parking lot, **please do not enter the driveway until 9:00**. There is a large group of families that chooses to park and walk up; they will be waiting in the driveway for the door to open. The first few cars need to be very cautious of this group. By 9:05, things substantially slow down, and the loop runs quickly and efficiently. Congestion is lessened. The door is open until 9:15, so you might want to plan to arrive a bit later than 9:00 to avoid the initial rush. **Please remember not to be on your phone, and to hold your child's hand the entire time you are in the driveway.** It takes a few days for everyone to learn and master this routine, but I promise, it does work!

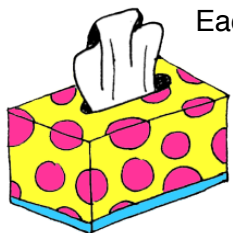
### Add-Ons

Step 2 and Pre-K students are invited to participate in our "Fun Frolics", "Tales and Treasures", and "Charming Champions" school day extensions. Yellow information sheets were provided during orientation. Be on the lookout for registration forms coming home in folders about 2-3 weeks before each new session. These programs are very popular--please sign up early to avoid disappointment. The price of each extension includes the Lunch Bunch fee. Please note registration due dates and confirmations will be sent. If classes fill before due dates, an email will be sent out communicating that the maximum number of students has been reached.

## Tuition Envelopes

September tuition is now due and should be paid using the white envelope provided. Checks are to be written solely in **blue** or **black** ink. I encourage families to set up "recurring payments" with your bank to **arrive on the first of each month** (not be **sent** on the first); many families find this to be more convenient. Just send me an email, letting me know that you prefer this option, and I will hold your tuition envelope at school and return it to you at the end of the school year with check numbers and amounts noted as your receipt.

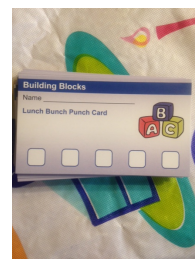
## Donation Item of the Month--Tissues



Each month, BBLC will highlight a specific item for donation. These items help to keep our students healthy, safe, and comfortable at school. This is always absolutely voluntary. If you choose to donate, simply send in the named item with your child. Each child who donates gets entered into our monthly "Free Lunch Bunch" drawing. The winner will be selected at the end of each month. Throughout the month of September, we will be collecting **boxes of tissues**. Thank you so very much for your consideration and generosity. (If a Kindergartner wins the drawing, he/she will win a set of books.)

## Preschool Lunch Bunch

The fees for regular Lunch Bunch this year will remain **\$5** for all preschoolers. Lunch Bunch extends your child's day by one hour. Children eat for approximately 30 minutes and play for 30 minutes. We do encourage children to eat their "main foods" first, and sides and treats thereafter. Please remember to include payment inside of your child's lunchbox each time you use our Lunch Bunch program. Lunch Bunch Punch cards may also be purchased for \$25, giving you 5 pre-paid lunch bunches. Cards are kept inside lunch boxes and punched each time your child stays. Multiple cards may be purchased at once--\$50 for 2 cards, etc. Don't forget to include all needed items including **beverages, utensils, and napkins. Thermoses should be completely leak-proof, and housed inside of lunch boxes.** The driveway loop is open for dismissal. Lunch Bunch will begin September 14 for Step 2 and Pre-K students, and on October 3 for Step 1 students. No note or call is necessary--if children come in with lunch and fee, we know they are staying for an additional hour to eat lunch and play with their friends!



## School Bus Safety

There are three yellow school buses that transport our Kindergartners to BBLC each morning. The buses stop at the side entrance of our building, on Church Street. It is state law that cars must stop both in front of and behind stopped buses with flashing lights. Please adhere to this law and do not pass a stopped bus. If you are in the parking lot, awaiting your turn into our driveway loop, please do not go behind the bus -- wait until the bus has turned off its flashers. The safety of our students is an absolute priority. Thanks for your cooperation with this important issue.





### Passive Fundraising for BBLC...Giant A+ Rewards

At BBLC, we do not ask our families to participate in any active fundraising efforts...no bake sales, no wrapping paper or candles, no popcorn...We do kindly ask that any family who shops at Giant Food Stores to register their bonus card with the Giant A+ School Rewards Program. Beginning September 11, visit [www.giantfoodstores.com](http://www.giantfoodstores.com) and select *Savings & Rewards*. Follow the prompts to create your online account. You'll need your 11-digit BONUSCARD number and the **School ID #24569**. If you use your BONUSCARD each time you shop, you will earn cash for our school. This does not affect your ability to gain gas points, percentage-off discounts, turkeys, etc. It's simply a passive way to help our school! I thank you in advance for participating. (You do not need to re-register your card, if you have done so last year.)

### Important Dates

September 14-- Lunch Bunch begins for Step 2 and Pre-K students

September 12 & 14 -- Step One classes dismiss at 11:00

September 15-- Scholastic Book Order due

September 29 -- Tales and Treasures; Pre-Reg needed; NO REGULAR LUNCH BUNCH



### General reminders:

- Coins can no longer be accepted as payment at BBLC. Paper bills/checks only, please.
- Socks/sneakers are the best choice for safe play. Please, no flip flops, sandals, or crocs.
- Backpacks should be large enough to carry all of your child's belongings. It is safest for our students to be hands-free while walking in our building.
- Lunch boxes need to be big enough to house all necessary items.
- Bye Bye colored frosting...we tried, but we have to ask you not to come back...

Thanks so much for your attention. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me. I am available both by phone or email. And of course, if your child (or you!) is a bit teary at drop-off, please call, as I am happy to check on him/her and give you a full update!

Looking forward to a fun remainder of September! --Michele Burchell, Director