Building Blocks Learning Center November 2019 News

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BuildingBlocksPA.com

Comfy Cozy Day...an opportunity to help others in need!

On Thursday and Friday, November 7 and 8, we will be celebrating "Comfy Cozy Day". How fun! We'll have some cozy pajama fun in the classrooms and enjoy a special sleepy-time snack! In addition, BBLC will participate in our 10th annual **BABY DRIVE**! The Baby Bureau supports young families in need throughout our community. The agency lets us know what their specific needs are, which vary from year to year. This is a great opportunity to teach our little ones about helping those in need. We are always astounded by the generosity of our families! Pastel-colored info sheets already came home in folders with more details. **Here is a list of the specific items needed**. Please consider sending in any of the following items between 11/4 and 11/8:

- Baby clothes, size 0 to 2T (new or VERY gently used)
- NEW receiving blankets, rattles, or board books
- Hypoallergenic baby detergent
- Diapers
- Wipes



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Conference Days

Fall conferences are being held later in November. We'd love to see you! There will be half days for Kindergarten (with bus service) and no Lunch Bunch on November 14 and 15 to accommodate conferences. We welcome you, and are eager to share your child's accomplishments! For our fall conferences, all families should have already received an email with a link to SignUp Genius. This is your final reminder to sign up, if desired. Once you sign up, be sure to mark your personal calendars with your conference time. Please be extra-prompt, as conferences are scheduled back-to-back. These conferences are certainly not mandatory, but highly recommended. If we don't hear from you, we will deduce that you choose not to have a conference. Formal conferences will be held again in the spring. Conference itself. If your conference is scheduled for 11/14 or 11/15, please enter through the left-most front door on Mechanics Street, nearest our driveway exit. I will have this door clearly labeled; this is NOT the door under the bridge.

Donation Item of the Month--Suspended

Thanks for all of the paper towels! We will use every roll! Congratulations to the winner of the October drawing--Keira in Step 1! For the month of November, we will suspend our school donations in favor of our Baby Drive. We are so very thankful for your efforts to help US--this month, let's help OTHERS! Please consider donating an item or two from the list during the week of 11/4. Your school and your community thank you!

November School Holiday



There will be no Preschool classes from November 27 (Wed) to November 29 (Fri) due to the Thanksgiving Break. Kindergarten will have a half-day field trip on the 27th. School resumes on Monday, December 2. Please enjoy the Thanksgiving Holiday with your families! Best wishes to all for a wonderful, cozy, delicious day! Take a moment to reflect on how truly blessed we are.

Registration--IMPORTANT NEWS

Registration for next school year, for children presently enrolled in our program and their siblings, will begin in December. Registration forms will be sent home with the children the week before the Thanksgiving Break for your review. Completed forms and checks will be accepted, <u>starting at 6:00 AM on December 2</u>, and not before. (More details about how this will work are coming soon.) For all currently-enrolled families, just the \$75 non-refundable registration fee is required with the completed registration form. The May 2021 tuition deposit can be delayed up to March 1st, if needed. We realize that December may be an expensive month, and forwarding an extra tuition deposit may be a financial hardship for some families. Your child's seat will be held until March 1, and confirmed when full payment is received. After March 1, if no deposit is received, your child's seat may need to be forfeited to an awaiting family.

Early return of your registration form will greatly help to get your first choice of classes--first come, first serve. <u>Please heed this advice</u>. Some classes will fill quickly. As of now, for the 2020-2021 school year, it looks like we will most likely have THREE classes of Step 1, TWO classes of Step 2, TWO classes of 3-Day PreK, ONE class of 5-Day Pre-K, and ONE Kindergarten class. If you have specific questions about your class choice for next year, please call the office very soon to help with this decision. Now is the time to ask!

Registration opens to the public January 1. Any seats not filled by children of our in-house families will be offered to waiting new families at that time. **Please avoid disappointment and return paperwork promptly; there is no guarantee of a seat in ANY class after December.**

If your child is entering Kindergarten next school year, please consider registering for our Kindergarten program here at BBLC. Our familiar, nurturing environment and low staff to pupil ratio offer a wonderful, well-rounded licensed Kindergarten experience which is recognized and accepted by public school districts. Please call the office for more information.



Holiday Cards

Please, please keep BBLC in mind when you distribute your Holiday Cards! We would love to add your family holiday photo to our bulletin board. If you have an extra, just send it in with your child so that we can all ooohhh and ahhhh over the cute photos and share in the Holiday Spirit!

Thanksgiving at BBLC

Here at school, Thanksgiving will be celebrated on November 21st and 22nd by all preschool classes during morning class time. As the children will be "feasting", there will be no Lunch Bunch for Step 1 on the 21st, and no Lunch Bunch for any class on the 22nd. Feasts will have the air of the First Thanksgiving, with classes dressing as

Pilgrims, Native Americans, and turkeys. Children from MWF and M-F classes will gather at tables in the gymnasium to enjoy their feasts. Step One children will enjoy their feasts in individual classrooms. Feasts are for the children only; this is not a family event.

Lastly...some important tidbits....

- With Halloween quickly approaching, I think it's important to address candy in lunch boxes...a piece or two is, of course, up to you. However, **we cannot allow Ziplocks full of candy. Hard or particularly sticky candy** such as lollipops, Jolly Ranchers, Airheads, etc., should also be avoided, as they do pose a choking risk. These treats are best enjoyed at home. And as always, treats are kept in lunch boxes to be eaten after all other foods are consumed.
- The mornings are getting quite chilly; the forecasted high temps of the days are not reached until the afternoons. Please remember that we do go outside for recess, even on cold days.
 Cotton sweatshirts may not be enough--time for the warm coats! Don't forget to name-label everything, including HATS and MITTENS (so much easier for us to get on than gloves with fingers!). Band-aids or medical tape for labels inside mittens and hats work fairly well.
 Labeling is a MUST. Please be sure to remember this.
- There are other groups utilizing the DPC parking lot and are having difficulty entering the lot between 9:00 and 9:15. This is due to BBLC parents blocking the parking lot entrances. Please be mindful of this and keep entrances clear.
- One more time--please avoid arriving to our parking lot too early. We have cars "camping out in line" in the lot from about 8:40 a.m. This causes a a huge jam as more and more cars arrive. The arrival door does not open until 9:00, and stays open until <u>at least</u> 9:15. If you need your child to enter school right at 9:00, please park in a space and walk up. Remember that overflow cars must line up back toward the cemetery, not toward Church Street, and stay on the correct side of the road. Please be cooperative with this, as we are receiving complaints from community members and neighbors. Folks are having difficulty leaving their residences. Let's be respectful of the rules of our space and those who share it.

Please scroll down to see Important Upcoming Dates

Important Dates

Week of November 4--Baby Drive November 5--We are OPEN, even though CB is Closed November 7/8 -- Comfy, Cozy Day--pjs to school; check calendars for your day November 6, 13, 20 and Dec 4 -- Fun Frolics--New Dance Workshop November 8-- Scholastic Orders Due November 11--Progress Reports for Pre-K and K go home November 14/15--Many Parent Conferences; no LB; Half days for Kndg w/bus November 18--Mindful Monday; No walk in St. 2 LB November 21--Thanksgiving Feast for Step 1 students in classrooms; No Step 1 Lunch Bunch November 22--Thanksgiving Feast for other students; No Lunch Bunch (no lunch boxes for K) November 27 through 29--No Preschool classes; Thanksgiving Break November 27--Kindergarten trip to Churchville Nature Center in the AM; no class in the PM November 28/29--Thanksgiving Break for K

And...coming in December...

December 2 -- In-house Registration for next school year begins; 6:00 am (more details to follow)

December 17--Step 1 Holiday Hullabaloo at 10:40 a.m. --mark your calendars! **One adult per child invited.**

December 18--K, Pre-K, Step 2 classes Winter Show--mark your calendars! All invited. We will have two shows--9:45 and 11:15. Info sheets with your child's show time will go home in late November. Events will last approximately 45 minutes and children will go home with parents immediately afterwards.

