

Building Blocks Learning Center

November 2020 News

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

On Thursday and Friday, November 5 and 6, 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 of milk and cookies! (If you prefer that your child not have milk, please be sure to notify me!) In addition, BBLC will participate in our 11th 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! **PINK** or **BLUE** 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 11/6 (simply hand them to me at the arrival door):

- Baby clothes, size 0 to 2T (new or VERY gently used--no stains)
- NEW receiving blankets, rattles, or board books
- Hypoallergenic baby detergent
- Diapers (any size)
- Wipes



Conference Days

For our fall conferences, all families should have already received an email with a link to SignUp Genius. This is your reminder to sign up for your phone conference, if you have not done so already.

Conferences are not mandatory, but highly recommended. Once you sign up, be sure to mark your personal calendars with your conference time. Please make sure you are available and your phone is on and with you at the time your registered for. A reminder of your conference time will be automatically generated a few days before. As a reminder--there are no preschool classes on Friday, 11/13 and half days for Kindergarten Thursday, 11/12 and Friday, 11/13 to accommodate conferences.



Donation Item of the Month--Suspended

Thanks for all of the napkins! We will use every one! Congratulations to the winner of the October drawing--Reece 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 on 11/4-11/6. Your school and your community thank you!

November School Holiday

We will celebrate Thanksgiving at BBLC on November 23/24 with discussions of the First Thanksgiving and being thankful, and with the creation of sweet edible turkeys! If you generously volunteered to send in supplies, a reminder will go home in folders shortly. There will be no classes from November 25 (Wed) to November 27 (Fri) due to the Thanksgiving Break. We hope you safely enjoy a wonderful holiday! Please be extra-cautious when returning to school. If your family is traveling, please be aware of the states on the PA advisory list. Families who visit those states will be held to the 14-day quarantine guideline, as it relates to returning to BBLC. There are currently about two dozen states listed. <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Travelers.aspx>



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 just before the Thanksgiving Break for your review. **For all currently-enrolled families, just the \$75 non-refundable registration fee is required with the completed registration form. The May 2022 tuition deposit can be delayed up to March 1st, if needed.** Early return of your form will greatly help with enrolling in your preferred class. For the 2021-2022 school year, we hope to offer multiple Step One and Step Two classes, a 3-Day PreK class, a 5-Day Pre-K class, and a Kindergarten class. More info to follow. I may even send out some "feeler" emails to assess interest, as I always strive to meet the needs of our families. Please discuss appropriate class placement with me or with your child's teacher during the upcoming parent conferences, if needed.

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.

Lanyards/Mask Cords

Each child is required to have a cord attached to his/her mask each school day. It is a challenge for us when a cord is not worn. BBLC has supplied one elastic mask cord to each student at the start of the year. Some families have purchased additional cords, of differing styles, as well. If your child is using a lanyard/cord supplied from home, PLEASE, PLEASE make sure that (1) it is adjustable in length with a toggle. Some lanyards are simply too long, allowing the mask to hang down to the children's chests, which is a safety issue for us at recess. The mask should hang just below your child's chin when not in use. And, please make sure that (2) the cord is securely fastened to the mask. Some varieties use an "S" hook, rather than a snap or a closing mechanism, which can easily slip off the mask during the day. Here is the link for the sturdy, adjustable, washable school-supplied cord, if you are looking to order replacements: <https://www.amazon.com/Adjustable-Non-Slip-Extension-Dust-Workers-Food-Workers/dp/B0891XTHLJ>



Santa at BBLC!

He's coming...Mark your calendars for a very special (outdoor) "Saturday with Santa" event from 9:00 am to 11:00 am on Saturday, December 19, weather permitting! Santa will be seeing BBLC families (with a mask and social distance) in our front courtyard. Santa will sit on one bench and your family on the other--Santa will talk with the students and have a special moment or two with your family. This will be a sign-up-in-advance activity, and please know that, depending on interest and with keeping safety in mind, we may not be able to accommodate all who wish to visit with Santa. We'll do our holiday best! More info to follow.



...some important tidbits....

- The mornings will be getting quite chilly! Please remember that we do go outside for recess, even on cold days. **It might be time for the warmer 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.
- Classroom windows are open for safe ventilation--don't forget to pack a zip-up sweatshirt in the backpack in case your child is chilly.
- I am trying out REMIND for any potential class/school announcements. This gets info out to our families quickly, via text. Info on enrollment in the program, if desired, was included in a recent email. Thanks to all those who have already enrolled!



Outdoor Pumpkins and Scarecrows

Thank you for helping to make our driveway festive and spook-tacular! The creations were simply fabulous! Please scoop up your pumpkin/scarecrow to take home with you by Monday, 11/2. Any creations left after that will be discarded. (Step One classes--since there is no class until next Thursday, please let me know if you'd like me to hold on to your pumpkin until then for you.)

Important Dates

November 1--Look for electronic tuition invoice

November 3--School Closed--Election Day

November 4/5/6--Baby Drive--please hand donations in at the arrival door

November 5--Comfy, Cozy PJ Day for Step 1, 5-Day PreK, and Kndg--please wear fresh, two-piece pajamas to school (with sneakers)

November 6--Comfy, Cozy PJ Day for Step 2 and 3 Day PreK classes--please wear fresh, two-piece pajamas to school (with sneakers)

November 8--November Tuition due

November 9--Progress Reports for Pre-K and K go home; please sign and return within 3 school days

November 10-- Online Scholastic Orders Due

November 12/13-- Half days for Kndg w/ bus (12:00 dismissal, no lunch) Phone conferences

November 13--No Preschool classes--fall phone conferences

November 25 through 27--No classes; Thanksgiving Break

November 30--School resumes

Thanks for your attention and thank you for sharing your little ones with us! The sparkles in their eyes are what keeps us coming in to school each day...

-Michele

