

# April 2021 News

Building Blocks Learning Center

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## Spring... A Time For New Beginnings

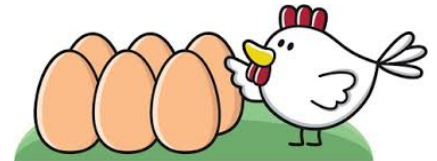
Every year, it is our BBLC tradition to bring a chick hatching project to school. This year...it almost didn't happen! Apparently, there is a great egg shortage in our area and our supplier simply ran out of incubated eggs! However, our Hilltown location came to our rescue and will share their batch with us! Eggs will arrive when we return from spring break! They will stay in an incubator under our care, and are expected to hatch the next week. We will then care for the baby chicks for a few days here at school.



In anticipation of this project, your child has brought home a paper chick to decorate with your family. Instructions for this chick decorating project were included. Paper chicks should be returned to school by April 8/9 so that we can display them before our brood hatches.

From the first day the eggs arrive, there is a buzz of excitement and enthusiasm. Caring for the eggs throughout the embryonic development process provides excellent learning experiences and also an upfront and personal opportunity with nature. We will not only learn to care for the eggs and chicks, but also gain vocabulary like incubator, hatch, and brood. We read books about chicks and chickens, and visit the eggs/chicks often.

Seeing new life firsthand, and all the awe and wonder it brings proves this project to be another excellent extension of our curriculum. Look for the birth announcement at the drop-off door when the eggs hatch, and be sure to check our Facebook page for updates!



## Summer Camp... "Oceans of Fun"!

BBLC's Summer Fun program will begin registering when we return from Spring Break...a blue info/registration booklet will come home in folders. On June 9 & 10, all students are invited to a wonky, super-fun BEACH BLAST! Campers will be involved in crafts, games, and activities revolving around our "Oceans of Fun" theme. We'll even bring in some Pirates and Mermaids to join us on our beach-tastic adventure! There's also an opportunity to attend a BEACH YOGA class! Children need to be completely and independently potty trained to join, and no buses will run during camp. Camp registers on a first-come, first-served basis, and spaces are limited. If interested, be sure to return registration forms and fees super-promptly! See ya at the Beach!





## Lunch Bunch (please note!)

So happy to announce that Walk-In Lunch Bunch for all preschool classes will begin the week of April 19th! We look forward to having your child join us for lunch and some extra socialization time! In order to allow for proper social distancing, we've had to be a little creative. Step Two classes will be able to lunch together on Mondays; Step One classes will lunch together on Tuesdays; AM PreK classes will lunch together on Mon/Tues/Wed and PM PreK will lunch on Wednesdays. Class calendars will note dates for each class. This optional add-on is a one-hour pay-as-you-go extension and the cost is \$8 (cash or paper check directly in the lunch box). Discount Lunch Bunch cards may be used and new ones can be purchased for \$35 (for 5 punches). A separate info sheet will come home in folders with all the details! Let's do lunch!

## Donation Item of the Month--3-ounce plastic cups

Thanks so much for your consideration in donating a pack. We use fresh cups each day for snack. We certainly go through many of these plastic (not paper, as paper are not durable enough for little grips), bathroom-sized (to fit in little hands) cups each week. Children who donate will be entered in the Donation-Item-of-the-Month Book Drawing. (These 3 oz. cups usually come in clear or white plastic.)



## Thank You

Thank you for your kind and thoughtful donations to our Safe Stuff Collection. Many will benefit from your generosity! Thanks for the wonderful response!

## Tuition

For many families, April will be the last month to pay tuition, as May was collected at time of registration. A few families will receive a May invoice and a pro-rated June invoice, as well.

## Memory Books

We have noticed that over the recent years, some families are starting "school memory books" for teachers to sign at the end of each school year. We are more than happy to do this; but please start sending in those books NOW. As you can imagine, our school days are very busy. It may take teachers several days to return your books with handwritten messages; we want to avoid the last-minute rush! Books, if desired, should be sent in by early May (in a large Ziplock).

## Extended time

Because our winter was so very wintry, please don't forget that our preschool classes will be having some extended school time in April. Please check classroom calendars for amended dismissal/extra times. Kindly pass this information along to all those who transport your children, so that we can avoid confusion. Amended times are also listed again here:



**Step 1** dismisses at 12:15 on 4/13 and 4/15

**3-Day AM PreK** dismisses at 12:45 on 4/12, 4/14, 4/16

**3-Day PM PreK** has a class on Tues 4/20

**Step 2** dismisses at 12:30 on 4/12, 4/14, and 4/16

**5-Day PreK** dismisses at 12:45 M-F 4/12 to 4/16

## Continued Vigilance

I think we all are aware of the increasing COVID numbers in our community. Now is not the time to let our guards down...please keep all safety precautions at the forefront of your thoughts when sending your children to school. Very simply--ill children should be kept home; families who have taken risks (traveling/gathering with those outside of your household) should plan to keep children home a few extra days for monitoring; wearing masks and maintaining social distance are still necessary. At BBLC, we continue to practice many, many layers of precaution, just as we have done since September. Please help keep our school healthy and always err on the side of caution.

## Important Dates

- April 1--April Tuition Invoices arrive
- April 1--No Preschool classes; Half day for Kindergarten w/bus; Parent Phone conferences
- April 2 & 5--School Closed--Spring Break
- April 6--Eggs arrive
- April 8--April Tuition due
- April 8/9--Decorated paper chicks due
- April 12--Chicks hatch??
- April 19--Walk-in Lunch Bunch begins for preschool (check classroom calendars)
- June 3--Last official day of Step One
- June 7--Last official day of all other classes
- June 9&10--optional Summer Fun Camp days

