

September 2022 Newsletter

Building Blocks Learning Center

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Welcome Back!

A hearty WELCOME to our new families and a great big WELCOME BACK to our returning friends! We're looking forward to a wonderful school year! As always, we strive to provide our super school students with a safe, nurturing, and inviting learning environment. We are creative, fun, and engaging, as well as diligent, cautious, and thorough. Thank you for making yourselves familiar with our procedures and routines.

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 the first few weeks of school. Listen as your children share their new stories and celebrate the joys of starting school again!

Here are some reminders:

- The parking lot opens at 8:50 for those cars getting in line for drop off, as well as for those wishing to park and walk to the arrival door. Please do not enter the parking lot until 8:50.
- Before you leave for school, kindly monitor your child for ANY symptoms. Know that a child may not be at school while displaying symptoms unless a neg test or doctor's clearance is provided.
- Make a "goodbye" plan with your child and stick to the plan! Uncertainty can creep in when these plans are changed. Be confident and upbeat, and your child will follow your cues.
- Keep your cell phones ON and with you; this is the most convenient way we have of reaching you, if needed.
- Remember to have your child use the bathroom right before you leave for school. For safety, all staff members need to be at their posts until the arrival door closes, and are not available to bathroom your child during the arrival process.
- Please be extra patient as we all learn new routines and get accustomed to school life once again!

Donation Item of the Month--Paper Towels



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/bring in the named item with your child. Throughout the month of September, we will be collecting **rolls of paper towels**. Please consider donating a roll or two. Thank you so very much for your consideration and generosity. Each child who donates will have his/her name entered in the monthly drawing to win a free Lunch Bunch or bouquet of books.

Dismissal--ID Needed



Even if you've been with BBLC for years, we are respectfully asking that every adult who comes to pick up a child have his/her photo ID in hand and ready for display at pick-up for the first full week of school. New class assignments most likely mean new teachers, who may not easily recognize parents and caregivers. We will be taking our time at dismissal, doing all the checking and identifying we need to. Having photo ID in hand, just in case we need to see it, will help move this process along more smoothly.

Oh, NO! We're LATE!!

If you miss the open arrival door, please pull your car up to the driveway's exit. Bring your child to the front door on Mechanics St, near the paver courtyard. There is a GREEN "BBLC Enter Here" sign adjacent to the door. Call the phone number posted on the door (not the school's landline) when you arrive. If you need to pick your child up early for an appointment, please give us advanced notice and use this door, as well.

The Driveway Loop

Starting Monday, 9/12, all classes will be in session. Patience and cooperation with the driveway loop are appreciated; we have many new families doing this for the first time. The loop begins in our parking lot-- approach the lot from the cemetery side on Spruce. There can be no overflow of cars standing on Selner Lane. This creates anxiety for our neighbors.

School Bus Safety

There are four 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 attempt to squeeze in behind the bus** -- wait until the bus has turned off its flashers and pulled away. Also, please make sure your car fits **completely** in our driveway and doesn't "hang off" into Church Street, blocking the buses or car traffic. The safety of our students is an absolute priority. Thanks for your cooperation with this important issue.



Important Dates

September:

8/9 Classroom Orientations for all Preschool Classes

12/13 First independent days for preschool classes

13-15-20-22-27-29 Step One classes dismiss promptly at 11:00

26 We are OPEN (even though CB is closed); K buses will run

26 Lunch Bunch Begins for Step 2/PreK (M-Th)

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 an exciting and productive September with you and your little ones! Let the magic of school begin...

-Michele Burchell, Director

