

September 2026 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. Enjoy the first few weeks of school. Listen as your children share their new stories and celebrate the joys of starting school again!

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.

Here are some reminders:

- Make a "goodbye" plan with your child and stick to it! 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. If your child simply cannot wait, please park and walk your child into school to bring him/her to the bathroom.
- Backpacks and green folders are needed every day (don't forget to pack the extra set of clothing!). Check folders daily, as important forms will be coming home in the first few weeks.
- Please be super-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 their 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 their photo ID in hand and ready for display at pick-up for the first few weeks 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.



The Driveway Loop

Patience and cooperation with the driveway loop are appreciated; we have many new families doing this for the first time. The parking lot opens at **8:50** for those using the loop and those parking and walking up. Remember that all cars must approach the lot from the cemetery side on Spruce. You should see the tombstones before entering our parking lot and there can be **NO STANDING TRAFFIC** on Selner Lane. This creates anxiety for our neighbors; please take a courtesy lap around the block.

Lunch Bunch

If you'd like your child to stay for Lunch Bunch (one hour walk-in extension, offered M-Th), be sure to pack all items (including \$\$, beverage, utensils, and 2 napkins) into a name-labeled lunch box. The fee of \$10 per day or \$45 for a discounted punch card can be placed directly in the lunch box, preferable in an outer pocket. Step Two Lunch Bunch will dismiss at 12:45 and AM PreK Lunch Bunch will dismiss at 1:00. The driveway loop will be open for pick up. Foods of all kinds are welcome, except items that can cause a child to choke—lollipops, whole grapes (please cut them up), sticky candies like Laffy Taffy, Jolly Ranchers and Airheads, etc. This program begins on 9/21 for Step Two and AM PreK students, and in November for our Step Oners.

REMIND texts

Please download the REMIND app and be sure that you have enabled push notifications within the app. If a message is sent from the school, you will receive a notification to check the platform. Without the app, you may not be alerted. (REMIND has changed their operations and the only way to receive school messages is to download and enable notifications within the app.)

Important Dates for September

****Please note classroom calendars for special timing for Step One and Full Day PreK classes**

- 8 Classroom Orientations for Step One and Full Day PreK (one adult per child/no siblings/infants in carriers are OK, kindly bring Sept tuition)
- 9 Classroom Orientations for Step Two and AM PreK (one adult per child/no siblings/infants in carriers are OK, kindly bring Sept tuition)
- 10 First independent day for Step One and Full Day PreK
- 11 First independent day for Step Two and AM PreK
- 21 Lunch Bunch Begins for Step 2/AM PreK
- 21 We are OPEN, even though CB is closed

Thanks so much for your attention. If you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to contact me. I am available both by phone and 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

