

October 1, 2009

Happy Thursday everyone! The weather outside is dreadful, but is a good reminder for you to bring in some cooler weather clothing for your children. Make sure that you are dressing them in layers for inside, but to have sweatshirts, extra socks and pants for playing outside.

Make sure that they have good shoes for running and walking around outside in cooler, damp weather. Hats and gloves are also a good idea for those particularly cooler days. Please remember that we are closed tomorrow for our inservice day. We plan one inservice day each semester for the teachers to prepare for business related items or for professional development. Tomorrow will be our inservice day for fall semester and May 7th will be our Spring inservice day. Many teachers are attending the state IAIEYC conference and others are working on school related business and taking a professional development day later in the semester. I am attaching the babysitting list for you to utilize if you still need to find child care for tomorrow. Please do not give this list to anyone that is not a family of the CDC. Please note that the After School Program will still operate as usual tomorrow.

I am also attaching the notes from the Policy Board meeting that was held last month. We are in need of two additional policy board members to fill vacant positions. If you are interested please see me and I can give you more information. We typically meet once per month on the 3rd Wednesday per month from 3:30 to 4:30 pm. All parents are welcome to attend, however, our meeting space is limited and you cannot actively participate in the meetings unless you request to be on the agenda. I will continue to forward the notes from these meetings to you and you may feel free to respond to any information directly to me and I will make sure your comments are disseminated to the policy board members.

On October 7th from 4:30-6:00 pm we will be having our first Family Fun Time event. Kindergym will be doing physical fun activities for you and your child. We will have a simple project to make and you will be given information and activity ideas for your child. There will be a snack provided, too. Weather permitting, we will do most of this outside or will be in the cafeteria if the weather is bad.

We will not be having our Shade Structure Installation party on October 10th. I did not have any volunteers to help with this project. I am trying to pursue other means for getting the shade structures installed before winter hits.

Our Haircut fundraiser will be on Sunday, October 18th from 12-6 pm on the porch of Price Lab School near the playground. Stylists from Champs Hairstyling will be coming with their chairs and will be offering \$5 haircuts, first come first serve. Haircuts can be for men, women, and children. No colors or perms can be done this day. All proceeds will go to the Child Development Center. Bring your friends and family.

Then we will be having our picture day on Wednesday, October 21st for the 3-4 room and 4-5 room. And on Thursday, October 22nd for Infants, Teeters, Totters, and 2-3 room. Sibling photos can be done on either day and evening program friends are welcome to come in on either day that is convenient. Look for pricing information to come home soon. Krissi Lea Gates will be doing our photos this year and she will be donating 10% of all sales to

benefit the Child Development Center. She will also be taking group photos and candid photos of the children. You can check out her website at www.krissileaphotography.com. Once the photos are taken, edited, and downloaded, families will be able to view online and order pictures on line. We are so excited about this new opportunity.

Please remember that you are not to use the back service entrance to drop off and pick up your children or park in the side service drive to bring your children inside. You can use Campus street at the front of the school and place your blinkers on or if you have a permit you can utilize the 30 minute parking slots in the B lot. It's important not to block these entrances as you can be heavily ticketed and/or towed. The UNI Police have indicated that they will be starting to ticket cars left parked for any amount of time in these areas. If you have a handicap tag, you may park in the back to access the ramp entrance.

The CDC has begun our composting project. Last weekend, we obtained two compost bins from the CFU energy fair. The children are learning what can be composted and what cannot. We then will use this amazing rich soil in the spring when we plant our gardens.

Many of the classrooms have begun to use blogging. If you haven't had a chance to check out your child's classroom blog, please do so. We hope to have blogging up and running in all the classrooms soon. These blogs are very useful for disseminating information to classroom parents and a wonderful opportunity to see your children in action.

Since it is October, I will take this time to mention our Holiday policy from our handbook:

***Observation of Holidays**

The Center does not observe any holidays. We welcome family participation to share specific holidays or traditions in order to supplement the learning activities in the classroom (i.e. preparing a special snack or providing a game indicative of the culture). We do not allow candy or sweets to be brought anytime. Although we do not promote Valentine cards or Halloween costumes, dress up and card giving is always encouraged on any day. We do not stifle or discourage any classroom discussion prompted by children. On occasion a classroom may choose to learn about various cultures, which could include holidays.*

If your child wishes to wear their Halloween costume anytime, we have no objections, but make sure that it isn't too scary or too difficult to get into and out of for bathroom purposes. However, **NO CANDY** or **TREATS** will be allowed.

I think that's about it. Let me know if you have any questions, comments, or concerns about anything regarding your child's time here at the CDC.

Candice