

# Fun & Friends Child Development Center

## 2008 SPRING NEWSLETTER

*Spring is when the earth's renewed, a very pleasant interlude, A new beginning bursts all over, Everything turns green as clover. March wind replaced by gentle breeze, flowers bloom and so do trees.*

**WELCOME TO SPRING!**

Here we are again entering into spring. All went well over the winter months as the children enjoyed their activities and staff were busy planning and carrying them out. Some items of interest were December brought Santa Claus to the Adult Day Care Center this year while BJ & Cody entertained us with a Holiday Show. In January Dean Alan presented his Abra COOL Dabra winter magic show and February was full of hearts and love and parties!

### **LOOK AT WHAT'S AHEAD:**

- ❖ We are looking forward to starting the spring season off with the ***Fit4Fun*** (formerly "KinderKickIt") enrichment programs beginning with soccer for the Cubs & Butterflies. Registration forms will be distributed soon. The fun will begin every Wednesday starting on March 12<sup>th</sup> @ 11:00(a.m.) & 11:30(a.m.). Fit4Fun also has two other programs that will include *parachute fun* and *dance*. It may be possible for the younger groups to participate in these activities, more information will be forthcoming. On March 24<sup>th</sup> the Senior Center will sponsor their annual ***Easter Egg Hunt***. The children will be able to look for the goodie filled eggs starting at 10:30(a.m.). This year it will be outside (weather permitting). Parents are welcome!
- ❖ Butterflies graduates will have their ***Cap & Gown pictures*** taken on April 2<sup>nd</sup> beginning at 8:30(a.m.). Cody & BJ will entertain us April 4<sup>th</sup> with a new musical show about the environment called ***One by One*** @4:00pm.
- ❖ Westgate Child Care Center(across the hall from us) will have their annual Book Fair in May and again will place "wish list" cards with names of books each of our classes would like to receive. The Fairfax County Fire Department will visit and do a "Fire Safety Puppet Show" on May 9<sup>th</sup>, the children will receive hats and may be able to see the Fire Engine. And of course let's not forget Mother's Day which is May 11<sup>th</sup>, we will be "warming" the mother's morning on May 9<sup>th</sup> with coffee, juice and bagels.
- ❖ The center will be closed on Monday May 26<sup>th</sup> for the Memorial Day Holiday.

- ❖ More exciting and fun activities will be coming, make sure you read the classroom bulletin boards and daily reports for more information.

### **CLASSROOM REPORTS:**

**DREAMERS** are looking forward to the warm weather and longer days approaching. This will mean stroller rides outside and occasional visits to the playground. In case you haven't noticed, the Dreamers classroom has a "new look" which is working out very well for the babies and staff. The room has been separated to allow the very youngest ones to enjoy their tummy time and nonmoving moments while the older ones can begin to sit-up, pull-up, and move around freely without disturbing a little one. All are doing well with the arrangement. Dreamers have also welcomed some new faces in their class, we are happy to have aboard new staff members *Louisa Cruces, Karla Garrido and Martha Campos*.

**LAMBS** have been steadily growing and most are walking now and even running. They have been very, very busy exploring the different areas in the classroom, "Home Living" has been visited the most by both the boys and girls. They have also enjoyed painting, looking at books, playing with play-dough and going to the playground.

**BBB's** make a wonderful impression with Ms. Shirley the Music Teacher. They look forward to her arrival every Tuesday. They are seated and ready and sing their best when she plays. They have learned lots of songs. Ms. Shirley says "they are the best!" Not only are they having fun singing but are always busy doing projects, stacking blocks, playing with the peg boards and listening to stories. BBB's welcomed two new staff- *Maria Andrade & Louisa Camacho*

**CUBS** classroom is always busy. The children are engaged in activity all through the day. They have wonderful art work on their bulletin boards and are very proud of their accomplishments. The staff have been working on numbers & colors in Spanish and introducing a little sign language. We welcome Ms. Yelisa to the Cubs classroom who moved there from the BBB's class.

**BUTTERFLIES** are approaching the end of another school year and will have graduation ceremonies before we know it. The Butterflies staff have been working on all skills (especially for those who will be graduating) that will prepare them for the next level of their development. They have been doing math, science, language, writing and literacy skills everyday. We sadly said goodbye to Ms. Marua, she moved out of the area as well as began another semester of college courses. We are missing her! Butterflies welcomed new staff member Anthony "Tony" Kirby. He is enjoying the children and the activities.

### **Staff News:**

Our teachers help children grow in so many ways. The staff teaches your children lots of things in their daily activities. To thank staff for all they do for you and your children, we will recognize National Teacher Appreciation Week from May 5- 9, 2008. Please try to recognize your child's teachers. A card is a great way to express your thanks.

During the President's Day holiday staff received Infant/Child CPR & First Aid as well as Health Screening. Licensing requires both.

All the staff attended Professional Development Day sponsored by George Mason University Child Development Center on March 8th. There were many "new" courses offered this year.

Congratulations on your anniversary!!

*January*

Jessy Gonzales – 1 year

*February*

Nelly Rosales-Merida – 2 years

***March***

Liza Lopez – 8 years

Ms. Shirley (Music Teacher) – 10 years

***April***

Shameika Hodges – 2 years

Ana Ayala – 1 year

Mayra Reyes – 1 year

Veronica Valera – 1 year

Jacqueline Linares – 1 year

**NAEYC Accreditation:** Thank you to all parents who participated in the surveys for our renewal process. Results are pending and will be shared with you upon receipt.

### General Information

Thank you to all our parents who have participated in some way, donated items or just had a kind word. We appreciate you and all your support.

Welcome to all our new families!

As always just a few reminders:

- ✓ Sign your child in and out everyday.

- ✓ Change out the clothes in your child's cubby appropriate to the season
- ✓ Be mindful of the 5 mph speed limit in the driveway and adhere to the parking signs.

❖ **You may have received notices regarding updates on physicals and immunizations. We ask for your cooperation in returning this necessary information as soon as possible.**

HAPPY EASTER!  
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!  
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