

Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) Corner

Dear Parent's,

Do you want to be involved with your child's school or have suggestions on how to improve it? Why don't you come out and join us for a PAC meeting on the first Tuesday of every month? Your child will be glad that you did it. ☺

PAC Meeting Dates for CY 2004:

- 5 October 04
- 2 November 04
- 7 December 04

1700 at Leighton CDC. The PAC Meetings are on 1st Tuesday of each Month. All are welcome!



Hale to:

Tony Evans, Heather Morey & Bobby Moseby

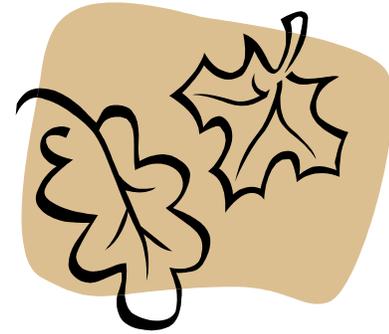
Welcome Back to:

Adrian Anderson

Farewell to:

Julie Colon, Maria Martinez &

Kathleen Sullivan



From our friends at EDIS:

The Development of Writing Skills and Activities to Encourage Interest

(adapted from Pre-Writing Skills by Marsha Dunn Klein)

By the time children reach Kindergarten or first grade, they have spent five or six years learning the pre-writing skills that prepared them for the task of writing letters, numbers, and words. Writing skills develop through a sequence of random and unrefined movements and marks, to scribbling in specific directions (horizontal, vertical, and circular), and finally to precise imitation and control for making specific shapes. Once children can imitate and copy simple strokes and circles, they may begin to show interest in learning to color pictures and to color in picture areas.

Learning to write or color does not have to take place at a table with crayons, pencil, or paper. A variety of activities that involve the basic senses (vision, hearing, touch, smell, sound, and taste) can be used to increase the child's interest. Here are some suggestions:

- ❖ Writing on aluminum foil, construction paper, different kinds of paper (paper bags, wax paper, wrapping paper)
- ❖ Write on sandpaper with different crayons, paintbrushes, or chalk
- ❖ Use lotions, pudding, gel, oatmeal, or whipped cream to finger paint
- ❖ Put gel colored with food coloring into a zip loc bag and practice drawing on the bag
- ❖ Use scented markers
- ❖ Use scented lotions for finger painting
- ❖ Use a musical toothbrush to paint
- ❖ Have music playing in the background and encourage child to paint or draw with the music—fast, slow, small

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strokes when music is quiet, large strokes when music is loud

- ❖ Finger paint in whipped cream on a flat tray of jell-o
- ❖ Draw in peanut butter or cream cheese spread on crackers

Here are some fun recipes to encourage interest in writing:

(from The Ultimate book of Kid Concoctions)

Scratch and Sniff Watercolors

1 T. unsweetened powdered drink mix
1T. warm water
Several small containers (muffin tins work well)

Mix water and unsweetened drink mix together in a small bowl. Repeat this several times using various flavors of drink mix to create different colors of paint. Allow finished works to dry overnight before scratching and sniffing.

Bathtub Finger Paints

1/3 C. clear, mild liquid dish detergent
1T. cornstarch
Food coloring

Mix liquid dish detergent and cornstarch together in a small bowl until blended. Pour the mixture, in equal parts, into several sections of a plastic ice cube tray. Add 1-2 drops of food coloring to each section of the tray and mix with a spoon.

Super Sidewalk Paint

¼ C. cornstarch
¼ C. cold water
6-8 drops of food coloring

Mix cornstarch and cold water together in a small plastic bowl. Add food coloring and stir. Repeat this process to create different colors of Super Sidewalk Paint. Paint can be easily washed away with water.



If you have questions concerning your infant or toddler's development, contact the EDIS Early

Intervention Team at 0931/804-3503 (CIV) or 350-3503 (DSN).

TaCs' CORNER
with your TaCS,
Lizzie Sexton

Intervening on Behalf of a Child in a Public Place

Part 1: Is It Our Business?

By Jan Hunt, M.Sc.

We see it everywhere. A tired parent, at the end of a stressful day, loses it - and a child suffers. We'd like to help if we could, but we hesitate. Is it our business to intervene? And if we do, will we embarrass and antagonize the parent, imperiling the child even more? Will we make the mistake of harshly telling a parent to be gentle with her children? Isn't it more tactful to walk past without comment? After all, none of us is a perfect parent.

There seems to be a common assumption in our society that intervening on behalf of a child in a public place is necessarily hurtful and critical. It need be neither. There is a world of difference between officious, hurtful criticism ("How dare you treat your child like that?") and helpful intervention done in a caring way ("It can be really hard to meet their needs when you're so busy. Is there anything I can do to help?") There is nothing inherent in intervention that requires one to be offensive. The sheer act of offering assistance to the parent, or comfort to the child, need have no offending qualities at all.

I have successfully intervened by offering to find a mother's groceries, helping a child pick up dropped toys, and helping a mother dress a tired toddler. All of these women were genuinely grateful, thanked me for helping, and immediately began treating their children with greater compassion. I always carry colorful stickers, which I have found can work magic for distracting a tired, bored, or fussy child whose parents may just be too exhausted to be patient. When the child is happier from this unexpected gift (not just the sticker but the gentle attention and eye contact) the parents often relax

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and can even be a bit energized from the experience. We can intervene in a positive way, and give the message that we care about *both* the parent and child.

Many in our society make a second common assumption, that the choice we have is to give a message to the parent (and the child) or to give no message at all. But "giving no message" is not, in fact, one of our choices. We give as clear a message by walking past a distraught child as we do by intervening. Walking past, we give the message to the child that no one cares about his suffering, and to the parents we give the message that we approve of their actions.

I have been asked if I advocate intervention in every case of potential abusiveness, including, presumably, that of a merely sad-looking child; of course I do not. But there is a big difference between a child crying for no apparent reason and one who is crying because he has just been hit hard, insulted, or completely ignored. But even if a baby is crying for mysterious reasons, the parent might still welcome an offer of assistance. A simple offer to help, spoken pleasantly, is nonjudgmental and, in my experience, always welcomed. How unfortunate that the taboo against public intervention has prevented parents from helping each other in stressful situations.

Babies cry for many reasons; we should not assume that the parent is at fault with only circumstantial evidence. Yet my friends and I have witnessed some really harmful acts: slapping, hitting, shoving, arm-yanking, pinning against a wall, severe verbal abuse, negative labeling, hurtful comparisons to siblings, and so on. These children accept this treatment because they are too helpless and inexperienced to stand up for themselves. Should we, who are older and wiser, simply walk past an obviously abusive situation? At exactly what point *should* we step in? Should we wait until the child is the victim of a severe physical assault? But assault takes many forms. Just because emotional abuse leaves no outward scars should not excuse us from helping these children. Those of us who can recognize damaging treatment have an obligation to step in (and again, this can be done in a compassionate and helpful way).

There is one more reason for intervening that is nearly always overlooked in these discussions, but which I consider to be the most significant: the lifelong effect it can have on the child. Many adults in counseling sessions still recall with gratitude the

one time that a stranger stepped in on their behalf, and how much it meant: that someone cared, and that the child's feelings of anger and frustration were recognized and accepted. These adults have stated to me (and to other psychologists) that this one intervention *changed their lives* and gave them hope. Are we to bypass the opportunity to make such a profound difference in the life of a child?

Even in the unfortunate - and hopefully rare - case where the parent is offended, the intervention may still act as a reminder to the parent to be more attentive to the nature of their interactions with their child.

Psychiatric case histories clearly show that today's psychopathic adults were yesterday's hurt children. There is no time machine we can take to help yesterday's children. But we can help today's children to become secure and responsible adults who will treat their own children with dignity, love, and compassion.

http://naturalchild.org/jan_hunt/intervention1.html

Meeting Minutes from September PAC Meeting

MEMORANDUM THRU Director, Community Activities, 417th BSB, Unit 26137, APO AE 09031

FOR Commander, 417th BSB, Unit 26137, APO AE 09031

SUBJECT: Parent Advisory Council (PAC) Minutes – September, 2004

1. The meeting was called to order at 1700 hours.
2. The following room representatives were in attendance:

TAC	Lizzie Sexton
Asst. Director	
Chairperson	Excused Absent - Hyoa Sharrock
Vice-Chairperson	Beverly Davis

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Secretary	William Leaphart
Newsletter Rep	Michelle Nolasco
Infant A	April Schwab
Infant B	Teresa Dunlap
Infant C	Joy Rankin
Toddler C	Cheryl Campbell
Toddler D	Amber Lopez & Evie Davis
Preschool A	
Preschool C	Leslie Atkins
Preschool D	Mildred Perry
Kindergarten	N/A

3. Welcome- The Vice-Chair, Mrs. Davis opened the meeting: Mrs. Sharrock, the PAC chairperson, was absent from the PAC meeting. Any information that would normally go to her can instead be sent to the Vice Chairperson, Mrs. Davis. Old business from the previous meeting was reviewed.

a. Previously vacant positions for LCDC Director and Asst. Director are now being filled. Elena Smeltz, the previous Training and Curriculum Specialist (TACS) for the center, is now the Asst. Director. The Director position should be filled by the end of September.

b. Scan cards for those who do not already have them have been ordered. The process may take a few weeks.

c. A tentative date of 29 September has been suggested for a holiday photo shoot at the LCDC. The assembled members could not agree on what colour background to suggest for the shoot, but, of course, the devil is in the details. Further information may be gleaned from Mrs. Atkins, the POC for the project.

d. The deadline for newsletter submissions remains as previously stated. Those wishing to submit should send all contributions as a Word document to facilitate better editing.

4. New Business:

a. A CYS job fair will be held on 24 September. The usual hiring process is streamlined for this event and in some cases, applicants will be hired on the spot.

b. Additional staff will be on board from around 15 December to April 2005 to augment centre staff during block leave. Further information can be obtained from Theresa Ikstrums, the CYS coordinator.

c. It was also announced that Preschool B and Preschool C will combine to form a modular preschool room. Both sides will be open to facilitate a free flow/choice of activities between both sides of the classroom.

5. Questions, Comments, Concerns: Why are parents not given more of a “heads up” with constantly changing personnel within the classrooms?

6. The meeting was adjourned at 1750.

7. Point of contact is the undersigned at DSN Beverly Davis PAC Vice Chairperson

HAPPY HARVEST!



OCTOBER

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
				1 Payment Due
4	5	6	7 Grace Period for late fee payments ends	8 \$10 Late Fee assessed per child for late fee payments Training Holiday
11 Columbus Day Center Closed	12	13	14	15 Payment Due
18	19	20	21 Grace Period for late fee payments ends	22 \$10 Late Fee assessed per child for late fee payments
25	26	27	28	29

November 2004				
1 Payment Due	2 PAC Meeting 1700-1800	3	4	5 Grace Period for late fee payments ends
8 \$10 Late Fee assessed per child for late fee payments	9	10	11 Veteran's Day Center Closed	12 Training Holiday
15 Payment Due	16	17	18	19 Grace Period for late fee payments ends
22 \$10 Late Fee assessed per child for late fee payments	23	24	25 Thanksgiving Day Center Closed	26 Training Holiday
29	30			

Parents' Night Out, 20 November, 1800-0000; Kitzingen CDC

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
December 2004				
		1 Payment Due	2	3
6	7 PAC Meeting 1700-1800	8 Grace Period for late fee payments ends	9 \$10 Late Fee assessed per child for late fee payments	10
13	14	15 Payment Due	16	17
20	21 Grace Period for late fee payments ends	22 \$10 Late Fee assessed per child for late fee payments	23	24 Center Closed
27	28	29	30	31

Parents' Day Out, December 18th, 1000-1600; Leighton CDC

INFANT A "BUTTERFLY ROOM"



Primary Caregivers: Mrs. Lina, Mrs. Shelita, Mrs. Vivian

Infant A Birthday List: October 10: *Elizabeth*
October 18: *Tenaisia*
October 19: *Mrs. Tammy*
October 27: *Mrs. Vivian*
October 28: *Maddy*

Happy Birthday!

We would like to welcome our newest butterflies!
Kaniya and Ethan!

Latest news about our butterflies:



Elizabeth is transitioning to Toddler A!



Maddy is transitioning to Toddler A!



Leo is scooting faster across the floor and saying "bye-bye"!



Jayanna is babbling and scooting forward!



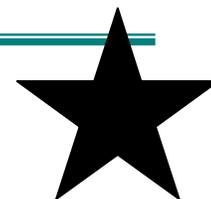
Tenaisia is standing alone!



Jamaal is walking!



The Infant A Staff would like to thank and recognize our wonderful Parent Representatives, Mrs. Kelley and Mrs. Evans!



INFANT B Little Stars

Welcome to our room these new stars:
Gabriela ~ Neveah ~ Conner

We would like to say farewell and good luck in Toddler A to:
Ajaycia & William

The month of October will have a Harvest Theme. The children will be doing Pumpkin associated sensory activities throughout the month.

We would like to give a big thanks to our room providers
Keynisha ~ Joan ~ Sherly
and welcome back to
Adrian



-Reminders-

Because of the cold weather we all need to make sure that our Little Stars have appropriate clothes and shoes in their cubbies. Unfortunately it's bye-bye to the lovely summer weather and hello to hats and gloves.

We will soon be starting to use the mail hooks at the room entrance to disperse the children's artwork and any information that needs to be put out. We have also been asked by our providers to update our emergency contact numbers.

Please and Thank You!

Little Stars' Staff

Ladybugs

Infant C

Caregivers

Mrs. Kathy, Mrs. Patricia, Mrs. Rachel and Mrs. Tricia

Hail

Karvon is the newest ladybug to join Infant C. Welcome!

Farewell

Ariana will be departing soon. We wish you the best.

Look at me now...

Ariana is moving towards crawling. She has learned to get on her hands and knees and likes to rock back and forth. She's also being more vocal by screaming out loud.

Paul will soon join the walkers' club. He's standing alone and trying to move forward.

Sayyid and Alela are trying to talk. Alela is very helpful with the younger infants. Sherdrick is mimicking words and has enjoyed throwing the ball.

Jemell is ready to experience the world on his feet. He is learning to pull up and stand supported.

Karvon and Gavin are new best buds. Gavin has learned to roll over and enjoys practicing his new move constantly. Karvon is cooing and smiling and is also trying to roll over.

Madison has gotten accustomed to tummy time. She's sitting up and saying "da-da".

Reminder

The Ladybugs enjoy outside play. Please bring a jacket or warm clothing so that your little one can participate.



The Tortoises of Toddler C



Care Providers:

Mr. Kenny

Ms. Maria

Ms. Luz

Birthdays:

None in the month of October

Hail:

The Tortoises would like to Welcome Caleb, Jerrard and Tyanna to our class. We are very happy to have you with us!

This Month

We will continue to work with leaves and sticks collected from outside. Also, we will concentrate on the fall colors, such as orange, yellow, red and brown.

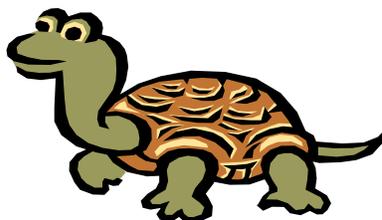
To the Parents

Parents, please don't bring in toys, other than soft *lovies* for naptime, into the classroom—they often cause conflict among the children. Please bring in a light jacket for your child in case the weather gets a little chilly.

Thanks to all of you who brought in supplies for your child!

Please remember, our doors are open for your visits and participation.

Toddler C Staff



TODDLER D

Garden Room



Care Providers Name:
Mrs. Raquel
Miss Amanda
Miss Nina

PAC Representative:
Evie Davis

This Month:

This month we will continue looking at the different colors, shapes and textures of leaves and sticks and focus on fall colors. We will discover the wonder of the changing season and pick out our new colors as we discover them in the changing foliage around us.

Information:

Here is a reminder again for those of you that missed it about our toddler room. Our toddler room will now teach children from 2 years to 3 and ½ years old, they then will transition to pre-school. Also, don't forget that we will combine with toddler C during the hours of 9-11am and 3:30-6pm. This will allow the children to explore both rooms. We have also added new items in our room such as a new gross motor area and a little gym in Toddler C. This is working out well and our toddlers are getting to know each other and explore a larger world!

Hello and Goodbye:

We would like to give a big welcome this month to Davis, Gray, and Thomas. We are glad you are with us! We would also like to say good bye to Mr. Wesley and Miss Tracy. Miss Tracy and Mr. Wesley are moving to Toddler A. We will miss both of you in our room, but are happy for those times we can combine with your classroom!

Reminder:

We would like to remind parents to please bring appropriate clothing for your children, like hats, coats, and gloves. With the unpredictable weather and the constant change in temperature, we need to be prepared and ensure that our children have what they need to protect them from the cold. While it is still fine to wear shorts and summer clothes, just remember that we are still going outside and we want to keep our little ones healthy and happy.

Thank You:

We would like to thank our parents for signing in and out properly. Great Job!

Pre School A

Lion's Den



Care Providers' Names:

Mr. William

Mrs. Ashley

PAC Representative Name:

Evie Davis

Tiffany Parker

Welcome and Good Bye:

A healthy welcome this month goes out to Christian and Megan. It is great to have you all here with us. Also, we would like to welcome Mrs. Ashley to our room. We all look forward to working with you.

Happy Birthday

October Birthdays:

Tyre and Cyrillon will both celebrate birthdays this month.

Congratulations guys!

Information:

We have begun activities and discussions this month about preparing for fall. We have also stressed the themes of sharing and cooperation in our daily routines. We all look forward to the coming months, because of the gradual change of the season, and the many opportunities for new discoveries!

Reminder:

Please make sure that your child has the appropriate outdoor clothing for the next few weeks. Much of our daily routine involves outdoor activities, so let's all make an extra effort to keep our little ones safe from the cold.

Thank You:

Thanks once again to all of our parents for diligently signing their children in and out on a daily basis.

Great Job!

PRE-C



DRAGONFLIES

Caregivers: Ms. Erica, Ms. Paula, Ms. Jackie, Ms. Louann and Mr. Bobby

PAC Rep: Leslie Atkins

Welcome:

Pre-C would like to give a big Welcome to CJ and Tyler. We look forward to having fun with you. We would also like to welcome a new staff member, Mr. Bobby. Mr. Bobby comes to us from SAS.

Monthly Theme:

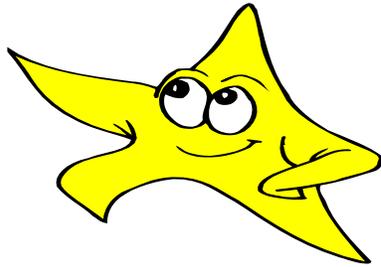
This month we will continue to learn about Fall. We will watch the leaves change from week to week and decorate the classroom with fall inspired art projects.



Information:

Pre B/C will be going to a Modular Environment. Please read the poster outside the classroom for detailed information about this classroom concept. If you have questions, please ask the classroom caregivers.

Preschool D Superstars



Providers: Mrs. Rhonda, Mrs. Helena, Mrs. Julie
PAC Representatives: Mildred Perry, Tanja Leaphart

Dear Parents,

For the month of September, Preschool D will be observing the changes of the season and discussing “Fall.”



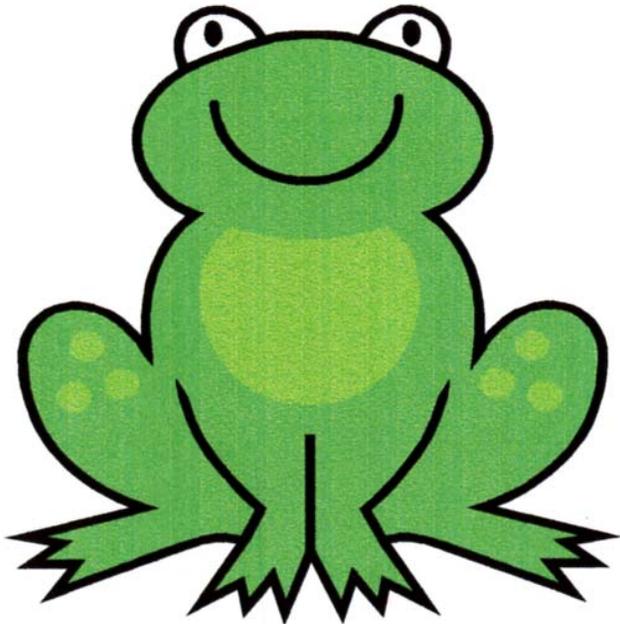
We will be taking nature walks to collect leaves, twigs and acorns to begin our fall display. We will then sort and classify our collection by color and size. The children will also be taking daily temperatures to display during our morning group time and discussing appropriate clothing to be worn during the cooler fall days. As always, our doors are always open for your visits and participation.

Thanks for all you do!
Pre D Staff

Pre D welcomes
Mrs. Julie!

Happy Birthday to
Heaven!

Get a **JUMP** on Development



Questions about how your
child: ...TALKS?
.... MOVES?PLAYS?
....SLEEPS?EATS?
..WILL DO IN SCHOOL ?

Free screening for children, birth through five years-old

Giebelstadt School Age Services

Thursday, September 30

0800-1500

Call 352-7268/0933-487-7268

for appointment

Leighton School Age Services

Monday & Tuesday, October 18 & 19

0830-1400

Call 350-6175/0933-889-6175

for appointment

