



Children's Center Chatter

Mustang Weekend a Huge Success, Thanks to all that Participated!

Mustang weekend took over the campus on October 3-5 with tons of activities for the campus and community.



The Children's Center was present during the Saturday events. On Saturday morning families, Board Members and staff decorated a float then rolled out to lead the parade. This year's theme of "Made in Morrisville" allowed The Center to stress the importance of early learning claiming its role in Early Care and Education. Banners trimmed the float, Future Graduates "Made" in Morrisville at The Children's Center.

Following the parade, volunteers set up the football concession booth.

Mustang's homecoming came kicked off at 1 pm and the grill was hot while chilly volunteers scurried around the tent to be ready for customers. With all the donations of items from local vendors, parents and staff, The Center rose of \$1,000.00.

Thank you to all that helped.



The day ended with a fantastic show performed by John Porcino. John traveled from Massachusetts and went on stage at 6:15. The "Little Theatre" was packed with over 200 viewers of all ages. The hour show brought laughter and amazement to its viewers. Center families brought friends, relatives and then sat back and enjoyed.

Immediately following the show was the Alumni ice cream social. College and community members gathered around to enjoy Morrisville's own Molly Ice Cream. With a sweet treat in their bellies, many headed outside for another treat. The college Student Activities Committee sponsored a display of fireworks. They were great!

An enormous thank you goes out to the numerous parents, Board Members and staff members that volunteers, made donations and came to the show. The weekend was a lot of fun and the feedback has been so positive. So hears to next year and all the fun to be had.



Fall In-Service Training Day

The Center and School Age Program will be closed on October 13th, Columbus Day, for our fall in-service training day.

The staff will travel to Syracuse and participate in a full day of training

organized by Child Care Solutions. This year's training is structured around the NAEYC Young Children article, "The 12 Characteristics of Effective Early Childhood Teachers." Jennifer Britton will be this year's keynote speaker.

The Children's Center at Morrisville State College, Inc.

Fall 2008 Issue

October 8, 2008

Special points of interest:

- ☺ Parent Advisory Committee Meeting, October 21
- ☺ Updated Shot Records needed
- ☺ Fall In-Service Training 10/13
- ☺ Center and School Age Closed 10/13, 11/27-28
- ☺ Fall Family Survey 11/21 & 11/22

Inside this issue:

Literacy Opportunity	2
Updated Shot Record	2
Family Surveys	2
Upcoming Events	3
Screening & Assessments	3
Parent Advisory Committee	3
Parking Safety	4

Literacy Opportunities for you and your family!!!

We would love to take this opportunity to introduce you to the wonderful benefits of Scholastic Books. Scholastic offers books at a friendly price. We encourage our families to take this opportunity to make reading a part of your child's life and enrich their language skills.

We will be sending home Scholastic booklets each month with your child. If you are interested in ordering please make checks out to Scholastic Books and drop them off with Robin, Jen or Torrey.

Make reading a part of your

family time. Reading to your children will encourage them to love books and become great readers.

In addition to Scholastic Books, The Center participates in "Books Are Fun". Books Are Fun is a local business that delivers a display of books and gifts at a very affordable price. They set up new displays every couple of months. We are expecting a new delivery very soon.

In April The Center will host a spring book fair. Lots of great deals on books for all ages.



Two ways to purchase books at an affordable price!

Torrey Lansing,
Assistant Director of Programming

Updated Shot Records for State Survey

As a licensed Child Care Center, we play a crucial role in ensuring that children's immunizations are up to date. Each year, to fulfill a state requirement, The Center completes a state wide immunization survey.

The survey requires that The Center verifies each child is under the medical care of a physician and all immunizations are up to date.

At the time of enrollment, The Center required a medical form

be completed by your child's physician. A section of that form is specific to immunizations. We encourage families to update that form when their child is seen for a well child visit. Young infants that are seen more frequently, and receive a majority of their immunizations before age three, should submit a copy of their shot record at least twice a year.

This year's report is due to the NYS Department of Health by

October 31, 2008. Please be sure to drop off an updated copy of your child's immunization record as soon as possible.

Thank you for your cooperation.



Fall Family Survey

Each year The Center asks families to participate in a Family Survey. The survey was created by NAEYC (the National Associate for the Education of Young Children).

The survey is a great way for families to share feedback. This year's survey will have additional room for comments and suggestions.

Tables will be set up in the

hallway on November 21st and 22nd. Please plan to take a few minutes at drop off or pick up to complete the survey. Once you have completed your survey (anonymously) you will be eligible to enter a drawing to win a prize.

Results from the survey will be reviewed by The Center's Program Committee and staff members. A

report, including results, will be available following the review. Thank you in advance for your cooperation and support.



Upcoming Events and Dates to Remember

The Children's Center distributed this year's calendar at the start of the fall semester. Extra copies are available at the front desk. Here are some dates to remember and a reminder of upcoming events:

The Center and School Age Program will be closed on Monday, October 13th (see front page). There are no college classes October 13th or 14th (MSC fall break).

The Lead Teacher and Torrey have planned a few more fall activities for October. On October 27th The Center will create a pumpkin patch on the playground for all the children to

"pick" their pumpkin. There will also be a Halloween Parade on campus October 31st. The Center will "trick or treat" on campus as a group. Any parents wishing to join us are welcome. Robin organizes the parade route with campus offices and they love to have treats ready for the children.



There will be a few days of extended care at the School Age Program in November. Please look for sign up sheets. Both The Center and School Age Program will be closed on November 27th and 28th in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday.

The Center's Harvest Feast will be on Tuesday, November 25th. Families will be invited by their child's classroom to join them for a special meal or snack. This is an exciting time for children and we hope are able to join us. Watch for details as the event gets closer.

Happy fall!

Screenings and Assessments: How you can get involved!

The Children's Center is preparing for the fall screenings and assessments.

Every child enrolled in The Center is screened within their first three months of enrollment. This screening checks for any obvious developmental delays or concerns that may need to be further evaluated. Any concerns are immediately shared with the child's parents or guardians.

In addition to the screening,

children are formally assessed twice a year. Observation notes, daily journal entries and samples of their "work" are used along with a checklist of developmental milestones and stages of typical development. These results are shared with parents and guardians at a parent-teacher conference in November/December and May. In the May conference, parents are presented with a portfolio of their child's year and accomplishments.

You can help us by alerting us

to any developmental concerns or difficulties that you may have at home.

During parent-teacher conferences, please ask questions and feel free to request meetings throughout the year whenever you need to talk with your children's teacher. Building stronger partnerships with parents, helps better prepare us for caring for your child.

Thank you for all of your support.

Parent Advisory Committee

Great news for families, The Children's Center has just developed a Parent Advisory Committee. The PAC will meet for the first time on October 21st from 5:15-7. The meeting will begin with a mix & mingle for parents followed by an introduction of ideas and plans for the committee followed by a presentation. Gretchen Kinnell, Education Director at Child

Care Solutions, will be at The Center from 6-7 pm that evening to discuss the sensitive issue of biting.

Parents are encouraged to participate. Rhonda Davis, Board Treasurer, have volunteered to the Board liaison. Hayley Kairewich, a center par-



Parent Advisory Committee Meeting October 21, 2008 5:15-7 pm

ent, has volunteered to help The Center get the new committee up and running.

The PAC meetings will be used to brainstorm fundraising ideas, review recent policy changes (center or OCFS), invite guest speakers and build a network that supports partnerships.

**The Children's Center at
Morrisville State College, Inc.**

Bailey Hall, RT 20
P.O. Box 901
Morrisville, NY 13408

Phone: 315-684-6400
Fax: 315-684-6424
E-mail: brittojr@morrisville.edu

Licensed and Nationally Accredited



The Children's Center at Morrisville State College is a licensed and nationally accredited child care center serving children ages six weeks to twelve years.

The Center offers priority to the faculty, staff and students of Morrisville State College. Community families are served as space is available.

The program is offered year round to children. It offers a safe, home-like environment for children when they must be away from home.

For more information about enrollment or to schedule an appointment to tour The Center, please call 684-6400 and ask for Jennifer or Robin.

Children's Center Parking and Safety Reminders

The Children's Center is fortunate to have four parking spaces reserved for parents and families. These spaces assist in an easier and faster drop off and pick up for children enrolled at The Center.

As we begin to see snow and cold weather approach, it is all the more important that those spaces be available for family members transporting children to The Center. Each parent should have a Parent Parking Pass for their dashboard. This indicates to University Police that you are legally parked for drop off or pick up. If for any reason you don't have one, please stop by and get one at the front desk.

From time to time, parents have abused the privilege and used the space for longer periods of time for

campus commitments. Please do not leave your vehicle parked in either of the four spaces for extended periods of time.

University Police does their best to ticket and tow away violators. They have asked me to remind all parents that if they notice parents abusing the spaces, even if they have a pass on their dashboard, they have the right to issue parking tickets.

Thank you for your support. Any parking problems or concerns should be brought to our attention. Keeping the children safe during their transport to school is important.

Children's safety in the parking area is our concern. Please encourage your child to wait for you before entering the parking lot. Drivers are not always watching for little ones.



One last very important reminder, please don't ever leave your child unattended in your vehicle for any reason. If you need any assistance or have an emergency in the parking area, please don't hesitate to call into The Center (if you have a cell phone) and ask for help. If someone is available, we would be more than happy to offer assistance.