



# Breezy Knoll Child Care Center

311 Stillwater Road  
Smithfield, RI 02917  
(401) 232-7177



## DECEMBER 2010 NEWSLETTER



Happy Holidays from the Staff!  
All of the staff at Breezy Knoll  
would like to extend  
our best wishes to  
each and every one of you.  
We thank you for your continued  
support in all of our efforts.  
We wish you the best of health  
and prosperity throughout  
the coming year.

### REMINDERS

\*If you plan to share a special holiday treat with the children, we ask that you consider some healthier options besides sweet/baked treats. Fruit and dip, pudding/yogurt, and jello jigglers are a few suggestions. We appreciate your offering snacks, and we are thinking of the health of your children. It's so easy to overload on sugary treats during the holiday season!



\*There will be a slight increase (1%) in tuition fees beginning in January. We will also increase fees by the same amount in June 2011. Please note that we have not increased tuition fees since 2008. Please see page 5 for the new fee schedule.

### HOLIDAY HINT: Poison Plant Protection



Excerpt from Child Health Alert

Here is a list of plants that can cause problems. Readers should keep in mind that many plants are poisonous if parts of them are chewed or swallowed; most cause only vomiting and diarrhea, but some can be far more toxic, causing convulsions and even coma. Toxic plants include the following: Mistletoe: All parts are toxic, but the small white berries are particularly dangerous. Jerusalem Cherry: The fruit is very toxic. Yew: All parts are toxic. Boxwood: Leaves and twigs are especially toxic. Poinsettia: The American Poinsettia, the more common variety in the US, is mildly toxic, causing intestinal problems. There are European varieties that may be more toxic, so it's a good idea to keep all poinsettias out of a child's reach.

Parents should avoid bringing poisonous plants into a home with small children, and they should also know the names of the plants that they do have. If there is any doubt, and a poisoning is suspected, call your poison control center. Attach the telephone number to the phone. RI Poison Control Center is (401) 444-5727.



### STRESS REDUCTION

Yes, it is possible to have a stress-free holiday season. Taking steps to reduce stress and anxiety around the holidays will help you and your family to more thoroughly enjoy the festivities. Following your normal routine as closely as possible leading up to the holidays can help reduce chaos and anxiety.

- Limit your children's television viewing. Play games or do holiday crafts together as an alternative activity.
- Formulate a realistic spending budget and stick to it. Having a plan and following it will keep spending down and diminish financial worries.
- Take time for yourself! A hot bath, a walk outdoors, or quiet reading time on a regular basis can go a long way to recharge your energy and calm your nerves.
- Talk to your children about the true meaning of the season. Regardless of your religious beliefs, the winter season is filled with celebration and community.
- Practice saying "NO"! Don't over commit yourself. If your schedule is overfull, your chances of being stressed and anxious are much higher.

### REGISTRATION

Please remember to return the registration form to reserve enrollment for your child for summer and fall of 2011. We are reserving enrollment for our families before offering openings to our waiting list. If you need another form, please see Jeannette.



### DATES TO REMEMBER

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| Thurs, Dec. 2 | Hanukkah begins                          |
| Fri, Dec. 24  | BK closed to celebrate Christmas holiday |
| Sat, Dec. 25  | Merry Christmas!                         |
| Dec. 24—31    | Kindergarten recess                      |
| Fri, Dec 31   | Open Mon 12/27 — Th.12/30                |
|               | BK closed to celebrate New Year holiday  |
| Sat, Jan. 1   | Happy New Year!                          |
| Mon, Jan. 3   | Kindergarten class resumes               |
|               | Tuition increase begins                  |
|               | See new fee sheet on page 5              |

### SNOW CANCELLATIONS



The Rhode Island Broadcasters Association's member television and radio stations have unified for notification of the cancellation/delay process due to inclement weather. You will still receive the information as in the past on your favorite radio and television station and their websites. Attached is a complete listing of participating stations.

If you choose, you can register to be personally notified on your home or cell phone, PDA or email address. The simple registration form is available on the websites of participating radio and television stations. Please see attached list on page 4.

## KINDERGARTEN NEWS

\*Dec. 17 Friday—Kindergarten Music Performance at Heritage Hills Nursing Home. Leaving Breezy Knoll at 9:15.

HOLIDAY HOURS:

OPEN Mon. 12/20—Thurs. 12/23 / NO letter of the week  
 Breezy Knoll CLOSED Fri. 12/24.  
 Kindergarten vacation 12/24/10—12/31/10 .  
 OPEN Mon. 12/27—Thurs. 12/30.  
 Breezy Knoll CLOSED. Fri. 12/31  
 Class resumes on Monday, January 3, 2011

REMINDERS: Please check your child's spare clothes to be sure they are suitable for the cold weather. Label everything! Boots, hats, mittens, snow pants, and a coat are needed for outdoor play when it snows. Dry shoes are needed for the classroom on snowy days. Please consider taking home backpacks as the hooks will be needed for jackets and snow pants. Thank you!



Art  
 Reindeer puppets  
 Holiday gifts  
 Elves  
 Gingerbread men  
 Menorahs

Math  
 Estimation  
 Addition  
 Money values  
 Graphing  
 Counting by 2/5/10  
 Surveying



Writing/Reading  
 Holiday cards  
 Sight words  
 Fact/fiction  
 Rhyming  
 Punctuation  
 Beginning sounds

Science/Social Studies

Winter  
 Winter Holidays  
 Migration  
 Antarctica  
 Eskimos



### THANK YOU

We extend our thanks to all of you for donating items to our food drive. The Smithfield Welfare Office is very grateful for our donations. We will continue the drive through the Christmas holiday.

**PAPER**



We are in need of paper of any kind. In the past, we have received donations from companies tossing out paper that they didn't need. Even if there is writing on one side, children can use the other side. Thank you!

### GIVING TREE



This holiday season, Breezy Knoll is working with the Smithfield Welfare Department in their Adopt-a-Family program. We will provide Christmas gifts for multiple families. We have set up a "Giving Tree" in the front hall. If you want to help, simply take an ornament from the tree and attach it to the wrapped gift you are donating, (very important!), then return it under the tree. This program ends on Friday, December 17. All gifts are due by that date to ensure delivery in time to the Welfare Department. We thank you on advance for your kindness and generosity.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY



This month, we wish a Happy Birthday to:  
 Cristina T. (12/4), Benjamin C. (12/10),  
 Ethan C. (12/12), Makenna G. (12/14),  
 Avery J, (12/23), and Max R. (12/29).



### FUN FAMILY ACTIVITIES—RIELS

Mathematics—When children hand out napkins to each person at the table, help you cook applesauce by measuring ingredients, pour sand from one container to another, complete a puzzle or tap their foot to the beat of a song, they are learning math skills that help them make sense of the world around them.

#### MAKING BATH TIME FUN

During bath time, encourage your child to learn math skills while having fun.

- \* Count fingers and toes. You could even try to count by twos, then fives.
- \* Add toys, plastic cups or bowls to the bath water. Count together with your child as you put the items into the water. Ask your child, "Which is bigger? Which is smaller?"
- \* Encourage your child to pour water into and out of containers, making them full and then making them empty. Have your child compare and decide which containers will hold more or less than the other.
- \* Help your child to notice the bath toys that sink and those that float. Use a plastic bowl that floats and add items, one at a time, counting as you go. Ask your child to predict how many items it will hold before it sinks! At the end of bath time, have your child remove the items one by one, counting as you go.



There are two ways of spreading light,  
 to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it.

Edith Wharton

### BLOOD DRIVE

Thanks to all who donated blood during our November blood drive. The RI Blood Bank notified us that six people were donors. This number makes it possible to save up to eighteen lives! Our next blood drive will be held on January 11, 2011. We thank you for your participation.

### Optional Lunch Milk/Juice Money

If you would like Breezy Knoll to serve milk/juice to your child at lunch time, please enclose 25 cents for each day of the month your child will receive milk/juice. Please place money in an envelope and drop in the tuition mailbox.

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Milk/Juice money enclosed for month of (circle one) :

Jan    Feb    Mar    Apr    May    Jun    Jul    Aug    Sep    Oct    Nov    Dec

Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_



## TODDLER NEWS



The month of December is planned with great activities! With the exciting holiday season upon us, we will enjoy some soothing activities, such as finger painting and exploring the sand table, balanced with energetic fun, such as parachute play. We will, of course, celebrate the spirit of the season in giving and sharing. If you have any holiday traditions to share, kindly jot them down and leave them in Julia's, Lori's, or Alyssa's mailbox. If you plan to bring in snacks for the children to share, please consider the nutritional value of the snacks. Please include the list of ingredients so that we may check for allergies. If you need some suggestion, please ask us. Thank you! Please remember to bring mittens (more than one pair, if you can) and hats daily and label everything. Also, remember to wash all quiet time items weekly. As winter quickly approaches, so does the cold and flu season.

We wish all of our Toddlers and their families a very happy holiday season.

### FAMILY TRADITIONS

From Supplement to Early Childhood News



Customs contribute to family closeness and create a sense of "home." They help give you a sense of who you are as a family. Customs and rituals are a part of every family's life. Some of them occur on holidays or special occasions.

Many family customs are handed down from one generation to the next. Others may be invented by your family as you create your home. Often, in fast-paced lifestyles, some traditions fade away. Consider modifying or simplifying traditions, allowing them to be preserved. Sometimes, too many customs can be overwhelming. Incorporating everything from your parents' families is difficult. Families can outgrow certain traditions.

Family customs and traditions are important resources. When wisely used, they can strengthen family bonds and contribute to family closeness and unity.

### KIDS QUOTES

Kindergarten child: "I have something just like it, but it's different."

Child in the Honeybees, after washing his hands, "Oh, no, we're out of hand toilet paper."



### IT SURE IS COLD OUTSIDE

Children lose body heat much faster than adults! When sending your children outdoors in the winter, keep the following in mind:

\*\*\*Give them something to eat before they head outdoors to play. Their body will turn the food into heat which will help keep them warmer longer. \*\*\*Bundle them up! Think layers. Dress them with long johns, a sweater, thick socks and an outer waterproof layer. \*\*\*Don't forget hats and mittens! 50- 60% of their body heat can be lost through their head and hands. \*\*\*Limit the amount of time you let your children play outdoors in the cold weather. Check on them after one hour to be sure their inner layers are not wet and they are not shivering. \*\*\*When the wind chill is below 0 degrees, keep your children inside.



### NOAH'S ARK

If you are looking for an inexpensive gift idea for a child, please consider a cuddly stuffed animal from the company Noah's Ark. Our Honeybees teacher, Jamie, is a representative, and she would be happy to show you the variety of adorable characters they offer. There are even two holiday characters, "Ginger Friend" and "Raphael Reindeer." For a nominal price, your child receives an animal and stuffing, a wishing star, a birth certificate, and a take-home bag, ready for decorating. Ask about their Party Workshops, too.



### THIN ICE ISN'T ALWAYS OBVIOUS

When it comes to frozen bodies of water, you can never be too careful!

To keep your children safe, teach them:

- \* Never use ice for a shortcut.
- \* Never skate alone or without asking your permission first.
- \* Never skate on ice that has not been tested by the Fire or Recreation Department.
- \* Never go out on the ice to help another child or animal. Get help!

The only safe ice is at an ice skating rink.

For more information on ice safety and a listing of skating rinks, contact:

State Park Ice Information Line  
Division of Parks & Recreation  
2321 Hartford Avenue

Johnston, RI 02919



### PRESCHOOL NEWS

In December, we will focus on these learning goals: self-organization, developing successful relationships, communicating needs clearly and increasing vocabulary, understanding that spoken/written words have meaning, and recognizing and generating rhymes. In Math, children will name common shapes and use language to describe the position of objects. Children will continue to demonstrate self-care skills and explore a wide variety of sensory input. We will discuss family traditions and celebrations and focus on a theme of giving and sharing.

Some activities we will plan into the curriculum to reflect the goals and expectations

#### Math

Classroom shape search  
Jingle bell sort  
Light Bright  
Sorting jewels

#### Literacy

Letter Bingo  
I Heard Said the Bird  
The Rhyme Game  
Guess the Letter

#### Science

Mixing colors  
Hot or cold?  
Ice cube melt  
Bowls of water

#### Physical Development

Toss It In!  
Decorate the classroom  
Show and Tell  
The Stand Up Song



RHODE ISLAND BROADCASTERS ASSOCIATION  
INCLEMENT WEATHER CANCELATION PROGRAM

TELEVISION STATIONS

WLNE-TV/ABC 6	(www.abc6.com)
WJAR-TV/NBC 10	(www.turnto10.com)
WPRI-TV/CBS 12	(www.wpri.com)
CW 28	(www.cw28tv.com)
RI PBS/Channel 36	(www.ripbs.org)
WNAC-FOX	(www.fox64.com)

RADIO STATIONS

FM DIAL:

92.3 WPRO	(www.92profm.com)
93.3 WSNE	(www.wsne.com)
94.1 WHJY	(www.whjy.com)
95.5 WBRU	(www.wbru.com)
98.1 WCTK	(www.wctk.com)
99.7 WSKO	(www.scoreamfm.com)
100.3 WKKB	(www.latina1003.com)
101.5 WWBB	(www.b101.com)
102.7 JAZZ	(www.festivaljazz1027.com)
105.1 WWLI	(www.litrock105fm.com)
106.3 WWKX	(www.hot1063.com)
1450 WLKW	(www.wnbh.com)

AM DIAL:

1590 WARV	(www.warv.net)
630 WPRO	(www.630wpro.com)
790 WSKO	(www.scoreamfm.com)
920 WHJJ	(www.whjjam.com)
1110 WPMZ	(www.poder1110.com)
1180 WCNX	(www.wcnx1180.com)
1240 WOON	(www.onworldwide.com)
1290 WRNI	(www.wrni.org)
1540 WADK	(www.wadk.com)
1590 WARV	(www.warv.net)



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**Rates Effective January 3, 2011**

**Registration Fee:** A \$75.00 Registration Fee is due at the time of registration. If your child is withdrawn from the program at any time and re-enrolls during the same year, the registration fee will be re-charged. This fee is separate from the tuition fee and is non-refundable. Note: Children not yet toilet trained will pay the 18-36 month fees. Breezy Knoll staff will be accountable for determining **when** a child is toilet trained. Please refer to the Parent Handbook for details of our Toilet Training Policy.

**PROGRAM TUITION FEES PER WEEK:**

Full Days	18 to 36 Months	3 to 5 Years	Breezy Knoll
	Toddler	Pre School	Full Day Kindergarten Prog.
Two	127.00	113.00	\$216.00 <b>current year</b>
Three	174.00	153.00	Class of 2011-2012:
Four	200.00	180.00	To be determined
Five	222.00	194.00	
Half Days		3 to 5 Years	Half Day Kindergarten Prog.
Two	N/A	83.00	\$165.00 <b>current year</b>
Three	N/A	112.00	Class of 2011-2012:
Four	N/A	135.00	To be determined
Five	N/A	149.00	

Half Days Note: half day equals 4 hours and pick up must be by 12:15 pm. Any time exceeding 4 hours will be billed at a full time rate. Special arrangements must be made for afternoon half day placements.

**BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM**

		School Age Vacation Fees Weeks in Dec., Feb., & Apr.	
Before School	\$64.00 Per Week	Summer Camp	
After School	\$78.00 Per Week	Weeks in June, July & Aug.	
Before and After		Two days	109.00
		Three days	146.00
		Four days	176.00
		Five days	193.00
EXTRA DAY FEE FOR SCHOOL AGE: \$36.00 Extra			

**Public Kindergarten Program:** drop off from La Perche School, Smithfield, or parent drop off at 12:00pm will be billed at the half day rate of \$149.00 per wk. \***Note: EXTRA DAY FEES** are to be added if your child attends on a closed (public) school day due to inclement weather (snow day) or other reasons.

**HOURS:** Breezy Knoll will be open for drop off at **7:00 A.M.** and will close for the day at **5:30 P.M.** Any child picked up after **12:15pm (half day) or 5:30pm (full day)** will incur an extra charge of **\$10.00 per child PER 15 MINUTE INCREMENT** (see *Parent Handbook*). The Half Day Program equals 4 hours. Any placement exceeding this time will be billed at a full time rate.

**PAYMENT:** All weekly payments are due on the **first day** of the week that the child attends. Please understand that you will be making a commitment to us, and we in turn, will be making a commitment to our staff. It is, therefore, important that weekly payments be made on time. Payments can also be made bi-monthly and/or monthly. You are responsible for the time that you have registered your child (School Age included), which includes illness or personal vacation. Please note that fees paid reserve and pay for your child's enrollment in our center. Reimbursement will not be made when your child is picked up early, or is absent due to vacation, holidays, illness, snow days, personal, or any other reasons. There will be **NO** switching or exchanging days missed due to absenteeism. Please make checks payable to **Breezy Knoll Child Care Center**. For your tax purposes Breezy Knoll's identification number is **EIN #05 044 0033**. Weekly, monthly, or annual receipts are available upon request. Kindly submit request with your child's tuition.

**LATE FEES AND SERVICE CHARGES:** Payments that run more than **FIVE** days past due will incur a **\$10.00 LATE FEE** charge. Accounts two weeks in arrears will be cause for termination of service to your child. Any checks returned to us for non-payment or insufficient funds will incur a **\$35.00 SERVICE CHARGE FEE**. Continual problems without contact from you will be cause for dismissal.

**DAYS THE CENTER WILL BE CLOSED:** Labor Day; Columbus Day; Veterans' Day; Thanksgiving and Friday following; Christmas Eve Day (closing at 12:00 PM), Christmas Day, New Year's Eve Day (closing at 3:00 PM); New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Day; Presidents' Day; Good Friday (for staff development); Memorial Day, July 4<sup>th</sup> and Victory Day. On Friday, August 26, 2011, the center will be closed to prepare for the new school year. Tuition payment remains the same.