



Breezy Knoll Child Care Center
311 Stillwater Road
Smithfield, RI 02917
 (401) 232-7177



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SEPTEMBER 2010 NEWSLETTER

PRESCHOOL NEWS



The month of September brings many changes. As school begins, we sadly say good-bye to some of our friends, but happily welcome some new ones, as well as welcome back others! Autumn begins, sparking new ideas and plans.

During the month, our focus for planning will be on social emotional development pertaining to a child's self-concept, self-control within the classroom, and ability to accept rules. Teachers will note how the children are able to communicate needs and participate in conversation. Different tools will be offered to enhance a child's creativity. Children will combine and use different senses depending upon the activity. Each teacher will plan curriculum according to the needs of her children to accomplish the learning goals for this month. Welcome to school!

GROUP NAMES/TEACHERS

We hope to clarify any questions you may have by providing you with the following list:

<u>GROUP NAME</u>	<u>TEACHER(S)</u>
Toddlers	Julia, Alyssa, Sarah
Older Toddlers	Michelle B.
Hummingbirds	Chrystal
Honeybees	Jamie/Pam
Dolphins	Deb/Gina
Kindergarten	Mrs. Dinerman
After School Kindergarten	Michele
Morning/Afternoon Floater	Michele
School Age	Rachael
Afternoon Teacher Aide	Wendy



PARENT TIP OF THE MONTH **Dynamic Classrooms Are Not Quiet!**

from National Association for the Education of Young Children Publication



Quiet classrooms do not mean that young children are learning. In fact, since oral language is very important during the early years, quiet classrooms may indicate that young children are not learning all they could be. Talking gives a child the opportunity to experiment with new words. It provides the vehicle for expressing ideas and current knowledge.

Using words and talking about how things work, making comparisons, and retelling experiences lead to increased intellectual development. When children reconstruct experiences, sequence events, and point out similarities or differences, they are clearly engaging in higher-level thinking skills. And when kids are encouraged to ask questions, they not only gain information from adults' responses, but also build their competence and confidence as active seekers of knowledge and understanding.

The vocabularies children use in reading and writing are based on the words they are familiar with from listening and speaking. But expanded vocabularies and other aspects of language growth occur through using language. Talking in the classroom may be a little noisy, but positive results are easily heard!

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Mon, Aug. 30 First day BK Kindergarten
- Mon, Sept . 6 Labor Day observed
 BK closed
- Thurs Sept.16 Blood Drive 2:00pm-6:00pm
- Thurs Sept 23 Autumn begins
 School Pictures—Gene Hutnak
- Fri Sept 24 Make up day—school pictures



BEGINNING PRESCHOOL

As your three or four year old enters preschool, you may both experience the anxiety of separating in a new environment. Here are tips for making the beginning of preschool a positive experience for all.

Share your feelings: When it's time to separate, allow your child to express any feelings he/she feels. Stabilize the situation by sharing your feelings in a reassuring, calm manner.

Always say goodbye: Give closure to your departure and reinforce trust with your child by letting him/her see you leave.

Develop a routine: Departure routines help reassure a child who is feeling stressed. Involve your child in developing a routine that might include a good-bye song, a special hug, or a "secret" signal. As with big steps in life, there may be moments of uncertainty. Keep your hugs and smiles ready and you'll both do just fine!



Because Christmas Day and New Year's Day fall on Saturdays this year, we will be closed on Friday, December 24 to observe Christmas Day and Friday, December 31 to observe New Year's Day.

WELCOME

We welcome four new people to our staff. Mary Anne Dinerman is our new Kindergarten teacher. Michelle Bowab will teach our class of older Toddlers. Rachael Autiello is our new School Age teacher. Wendy Boivin also joins us as an afternoon Teacher's Aide.

We are happy they have joined our staff and look forward to working with all of them.

TODDLER NEWS



Summer has come and gone all too quickly, and already the new school year begins! Some of our Toddlers will now join the Young Preschool groups. We have enjoyed watching them grow and develop their skills, and now we are sure they will enjoy new challenges!

We are happy to welcome some new friends and families into our Toddler Program. We look forward to spending time with you and getting to know all of you better. We have many exciting plans ahead!

The Toddler Teachers, Julia, Alyssa, and Sarah would like all of our parents to feel free to approach us with any thoughts, questions or concerns about your child's day. We are very serious about our responsibility to make both you and your child feel comfortable during your time at Breezy Knoll.

We would like to address some lunchtime concerns. Please do not send food for your child that could potentially cause choking, such as whole grapes, chunks of hot dogs, grape/cherry tomatoes, etc. We ask that grapes be cut into small pieces, and hot dogs cut into strips. We ask this with your child's well-being in mind. It is also very helpful to us if food that needs heating is ready to heat in a microwave-safe container. Preparing foods that require more than one step is difficult when there are many children to serve. We thank you for your help!

Just a few reminders: 1. Remember to label everything you bring to Breezy Knoll. 2. Please be sure that your child has an extra set of clothes to keep at BK. They will be stored under the changing table or in your child's cubby. A complete set of clothes includes pants, shirt, tee shirt and socks. 3. Kindly bring in a picture of your family. We will be making a family tree, which has become a favorite activity for our Toddlers for the past few years. 4. We will be using a digital camera and would greatly welcome photo paper and HP color ink cartridges #110. Please note the "projects needs" list in our room. We greatly appreciate your help!

FUN FAMILY ACTIVITIES—RI Early Learning Standards (RI.EL.5) Different Faces



Help your child learn to recognize and name their own feelings and the feelings of others. Play a game of "making faces." Take turns asking each other to make different facial expressions. "Show me a happy face. Now, make a sad face, then an angry face, and a surprised face."

Ask your child to name the feeling by telling a short story. "Let's pretend you just lost your favorite toy. How would you feel? If you found your toy again, how would you feel?"

Ask your child to draw a face of someone feeling happy, sad, surprised, and tired. Talk to your child about the reasons people feel these emotions and how you could help.



CLOTHING/SHOES

We would like to make a suggestion to the parents of the Toddlers and Lambs concerning your child's clothing and shoes. Because we are fostering a sense of independence in our young children, we ask that you send them dressed in clothing which requires little help from a teacher to pull on and off when using the bathroom. One-piece outfits are very difficult for a young child to manipulate; long straps sometimes end up in the water. Two piece outfits work best, especially those with elastic waistbands. Tying shoes is a difficult task for a child to learn and a time consuming one for a teacher when dealing with a group of children. Many children's shoes offer velcro closures which are easy and quick to fasten. These velcro shoes would help your child to develop some independence when dressing him/herself and further boost confidence in learning yet another task. Preschoolers are so proud to say, "I can do it myself!"



REMINDERS

*We ask that you leave all toys at home. Breezy Knoll has numerous activities to keep your child happy and busy!



*Please use the front door when entering to pick up your child. We ask that you not enter the back door (which will be locked) or the side gates, for security reasons. Your child's safety is our first concern!

*With the change of the season and cooler weather arriving, please be sure your child's change of clothes includes clothing suitable for fall. Please label all items!

*Please remember to sign your child IN AND OUT, using FULL NAME, not "Mom" or "Dad."

*All quiet time items need to be washed weekly. We remind you to label everything with your child's name.

BOOK ORDERS

We will begin placing book orders again in September from Scholastic Books. When ordering, fill out the form, include payment, and return both to April's mailbox. Please remember to make checks payable to Scholastic Books, Inc. If you would like to order scholastic books online, go to www.scholastic.com/parentordering.

Class user name: bkcccfriends - password: fun2read

PICTURES

With our curriculum framework, pictures play a very important role in our assessment practices. During the school year, the teachers will be taking photos of your child in activities which measure their progress in all domains of the RI Early Learning Standards. These photos will be used in portfolios and displayed in the classroom.

We are asking for donations of photo paper and ink cartridges. The type we use is HP Tri-Color Print Cartridge #110. We appreciate any help you can



KINDERGARTEN NEWS

Welcome to school, everyone!



We all look forward to a great year ahead. Kindly remember that Kindergarten begins promptly at 8:45 AM. Please make every effort to arrive in time for the beginning of class. Also, children need to bring in their homework folders daily. Please provide an extra set of clothes labeled with your child's name to leave at school. Thank you for helping your child to remember to leave all toys at home.

*On Tuesday, September 21 at 9:45 AM, the class will enjoy a field trip to Jaswell's Farm to pick apples. This is an eagerly anticipated annual trip! Chaperones are welcomed. More information will follow.

"Let's Find Out."

School feelings
School safety
Opposites

Social Studies:

The American flag
Multicultural art

Math

Graphing our features
Patterning blocks
Estimation

Science:

The five senses
Feelings

Language Arts:

"All About Me"
Creating alphabet books
Opposites

PARENT TIP from RIELS Fun Family Activities

Your Child's Social and Emotional Development

Being social is such a big part of who we are as people. Children should learn to join in and get along with others while feeling confident about who they are, as well as their place in the community. Children learn first by watching their parents and then their friends.

When your child share positive experiences and is accepted by others, your child is developing a strong foundation for school and in the future.



BLOOD DRIVE

Breezy Knoll will be sponsoring a third blood drive on Thursday, September 16 from 2:00 pm —6:00 pm. The van will be parked on the corner of Thurber Blvd. and Stillwater Road during that time. We are hoping many of you will choose to donate blood before picking up your child on that day. Donating blood is an easy and comfortable process. The entire donation process can be completed in 45 minutes to an hour.



REMINDERS FOR PREVENTING ILLNESS

Wash hands/Use alcohol gel.

Sneeze/cough into arm. Stay home when sick.

NUTRITIONAL LUNCHES



In the past, we have seen some not-so-healthy children's lunches. We will make some helpful suggestions and kindly request that you think about the nutritional value of the food items packed in your child's lunch. Remember, a balance in healthy, nutritional foods will make a lifetime statement and help your child become accustomed to making healthy foods choices.

Please avoid sugary and fatty items - "junk" food. Make sure that lunch offers a balance of the food groups. Think about yogurt (without gummies or candy). Remember that soda and/or candy are not allowed. Please provide fruit juice instead of fruit-flavored drinks or flavored milk. Be aware that fruit gummies and rollups are mostly sugar. Quiet time follows lunch, and it's hard for a child to settle down after eating/drinking sugary foods. We make these suggestions with your child's well-being in mind.



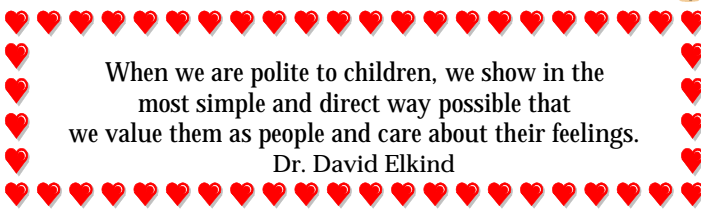
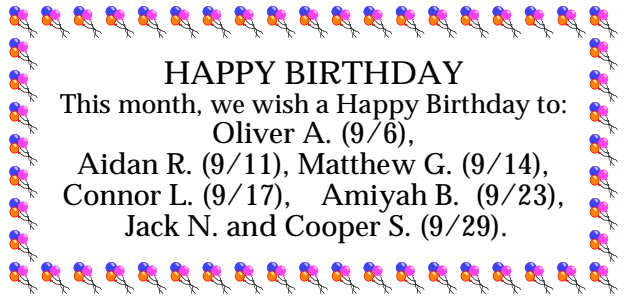
PICK UP/DROP OFF

When dropping off or picking up your child, we urge you to not leave any child unattended in a vehicle outside, even just for a few minutes. The risk of injury is too great. Depending upon availability, someone will gladly help you to your car with your children if you need assistance. If you expect to be more than a few minutes inside, please try to park in a place where you will not block another parent who may be in a hurry. And, please don't park in front of the mailbox, as we are unable to receive our mail delivery if there is a car blocking the mailbox. Also, we strongly request that you do not leave your car running when coming into the building for your child. This creates a potentially hazardous situation for others outside, and the fumes are unhealthy and unpleasant to inhale.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

This month, we wish a Happy Birthday to:
Oliver A. (9/6),
Aidan R. (9/11), Matthew G. (9/14),
Connor L. (9/17), Amiyah B. (9/23),
Jack N. and Cooper S. (9/29).



When we are polite to children, we show in the most simple and direct way possible that we value them as people and care about their feelings.

Dr. David Elkind

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 mailbox over the sign-in book. Thanks! Child's Name _____

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

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



SONGS AND FINGERPLAYS

Children are the world's most valuable resource and its best hope for the future.

John F. Kennedy

Zip-a-dee-doo-dah

Zip-a-dee-doo-dah, zip-a-dee-ay!
My, oh, my, what a wonderful day!
Preschool is fun—lots of learning and play.
Zip-a-dee-doo-dah, zip-a-dee-ay!

It's time for me to go now.
I'll be back on (Tuesday).
It'll be another fun day.
Zip-a-dee-ay!



The Apple Tree

Way up high in the apple tree
Two little apples looked down at me.
I shook that tree just as hard as I could!
Down came the apples.
Mmmm, were they good!



Going Home

(Tune: Mary Had a Little Lamb)
We had lots of fun today,
So let's all say "Hooray!"
See you all another day.
Let's be on our way.



Draw a Circle

Draw a circle, draw a circle,
Made very round.
Draw a circle, draw a circle,
No corners can be found.



Hug O' War

Shel Silverstein
I will not play at tug o' war.
I'd rather play at hug o' war,
Where everyone hugs
Instead of tugs,
Where everyone giggles
And rolls on the rug,
Where everyone kisses,
And everyone grins,
And everyone cuddles,
And everyone wins.



Good Morning!

(Tune: If You're Happy and You Know It)
Good morning, preschool friends
How are You? (Good. Good)
Good morning, preschool friends
How are You? (Good. Good)
It's time to start our day.
We will learn and work and play.
Good morning, preschool friends
How are You? (Good. Good)



Open, Shut Them

Open, shut them, open, shut them.
Give a little clap.
Open, shut them, open, shut them.
Put them in your lap.
Creep them, creep them,
Creep them, creep them
Right up to your chin.
Open up your little mouth
And do no let them in!



Mirror, Mirror

When I look in a mirror, I see my face.
And all of my parts are in their place.
I have one mouth, two ears, two eyes,
And one nose in the middle—just the right size!



KIDS' QUOTES

Here's a sign of the times!
While outdoors, a child in the
Dolphins group suggested to a
friend, "Let's play oil spill. We'll
get a crew together to stop it."

Children are apt to live up
to what you believe of them.

-Lady Bird Johnson

Snip, Snip, Snip

Open and shut,
open and shut.
That's the way we
cut, cut, cut.
The fingers are on the bottom.
The thumb is on the top.
Do not let the paper drop.
Open and shut, open and shut.
That's the way we cut, cut, cut.



What Will I Do?

I'll have fun at Preschool.
My friends and I will play.
And before I go home,
I'll paint a picture today!
Substitute other activities for
the one in bold print; sugg:
Mold with clay, sing a song, build
with blocks, hear a story, etc.

Plenty of Parts

(Tune: Did You Ever See a Lassie?)
Can you name the different parts of an apple, an apple?
Can you name the different parts of an apple for me?
Oh, this is the skin; yes, this is the skin.
Can you name the different pasts of an apple for me?



Quick Dip

Stir 2 cups low-fat or fat-free yogurt into one of the following:
1 envelope onion soup mix or
1 envelope buttermilk/ranch salad dressing mix.
Refrigerate for one hour. Serve with vegetable dippers.
Makes about 2 cups of dip



This is What I Can Do

This is what I can do.
You can do it, too!
This is what I can do.
Now I pass it on to you.



Who Are You?

(Tune: "Row Your Boat")
Who, who, who are you?
It would be so fine
If you tell me what your name is,
I will tell you mine!

Apples

Apples are so good to
eat.
To have one is a special treat.
Red, green, yellow, too.
All of them are good for you!



An Apple Surprise

Way up high in the apple tree,
A little brown worm smiled at me.
I winked my eye,
And what do you suppose?
A shiny, red apple dropped on my nose!

What Will I Do?

Everyone clean up
Everyone clean up
Heigh-ho, way to go!
Everyone, clean up!