

# May



**Reminder:** The center is closed Monday, May 29th in observance of Memorial Day!

## Dover Bethany Early Learning Center Newsletter 2017

**Summer Camp** The field trips have been scheduled for this summer! Our trips begin earlier than in past years and more trips have been scheduled this year than any previous year! We are very excited to be offering weekly field trips to some new places and some old, favorite, and still very fun places. Field trips are open to all children ages 3 and up who are potty trained, but field trips are not mandatory for children in the older toddler, preschool, and pre-kindergarten classes. If you are not interested or comfortable sending your younger child on field trips, alternative activities will be provided here at the center. School agers must attend field trips and must pay the field trip fee. Field trip schedules and fees are listed by age group on the back of this page. Fees may be divided into 2 installments (this amount will vary with the age of your child), with the first installment due by May 30th and the second installment due by July 3rd. For kids in the older toddler classroom, that fee is \$80 for child (installments of \$40), for preschoolers and pre-kindergarteners that fee is \$135 per child (installments of \$67.50), and for school-agers that fee is \$150 (installments of \$75). Field trip permission forms are also due by May 30th, in order to attend trips. The summer fee covers the cost of entrance and transportation to all field trips, while regular tuition payment covers staffing, food, utilities, and equipment. This summer, we will be taking ten field trips (school-agers will be taking an additional two field trips). Field trip information and permission slips will be posted at the parent board. Please attach your initial activity fee payment to this form and return them to me by 5/30. Parents chaperones are invited to attend certain field trips. Those trips are listed on the parent participation form at the parent board. For some of those trips, space will not be available on the bus for family members to join. Chaperones will be asked to drive separately. Please remember that parent chaperones may be asked to assist DBELC staff and students.



## Muffins with Mom



Dear MOMS:

Life is BUSY & sometimes chaotic. you work very hard. We know you can get tired & feel overwhelmed. Sometimes, you may even feel like this ----->

BUT, we love you very very much, MOM, and cherish every moment we get to spend with you. In our eyes and in our hearts, you will always be like this ----->

So, in honor of you and this Mother's Day, we would like to show you just how much you mean to us and how much we appreciate the love and work you do for us. It would mean a lot for us to have the opportunity to do what we can to make you feel like this ----->

We would like to cordially invite you to join us for "Muffins with Mom" on Monday, May 15th. From 7:00-9:00 am, we will be serving muffins, fresh fruit, coffee, milk, and juice. All moms (grandmas, aunts, sisters, or friends may attend if mom cannot) are invited to stop by at your convenience to share breakfast with us. We hope to see you there.

Sincerely and with love, YOUR Child :)



**Teacher Appreciation** Our teachers inspire learning, awaken curiosity, coax imaginations, and lead children to discovery. While teaching is incredibly rewarding, it is also a demanding and rigorous job. I am amazed almost daily by the dedication and determination our teachers show to this center and the children they care for. Teacher Appreciation Week runs this week, May 8th through May 12th. Please take a few moments some time this week to show your teachers how loved and appreciated they are!

**Paperwork Update** The time has come to update the emergency contact/consent information, which we do as a center twice annually. You will be receiving a blank copy of the emergency contact/consent form. Please complete the emergency contact information as thoroughly as possible, including the signatures requested in the area that states "PARENT SIGNATURE IS REQUIRED FOR EACH ITEM BELOW." We will never take children swimming. You are not required to sign that box.

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

The students and staff of DBELC would like to thank all of our families members who joined us for our Parent Appreciation Luncheon. It was wonderful for you to spend the afternoon with us. We would also like to thank all family and friends who have participated in our fundraising efforts. We are trying to raise funds to keep down the cost of field trips and summer activities!

### Older Toddler Class Field Trip Schedule

Date	Destination
5/31/17	Monkey Joe's & Lower Allen Park
6/7/17	Sky Zone & Adventure Park
7/5/17	Richard Nixon Park
7/12/17	Fairmount Park & Splash Zone
7/19/17	Mr. Q's Family Skate Park
8/2/17	Cousler Park
8/9/17	Hopewell Area Recreation Complex
8/16/17	Lake Tobias

The field trip fee for the Older Toddlers Class is \$80 per child and includes a free DBELC field trip t-shirt! Participation in field trips are not mandatory for the older toddlers.

### Preschool/Pre-K Class Field Trip Schedule

Date	Destination
5/31/17	Monkey Joe's & Lower Allen Park
6/7/17	Sky Zone & Adventure Park
6/21/17	Lancaster Science Factory & Long's Park
6/28/17	Indian Echo Caverns
7/5/17	Richard Nixon Park
7/12/17	Fairmount Park & Splash Zone
7/19/17	Mr. Q's Family Skate Park
8/2/17	Cousler Park
8/9/17	Hopewell Area Recreation Complex
8/16/17	Lake Tobias

The field trip fee for the Preschool & Pre-K classes is \$135 per child and includes a free DBELC field trip t-shirt! Participation in field trips are not mandatory for the preschool & prekindergarten classes.

### School Age Class Field Trip Schedule

Date	Destination
5/31/17	Monkey Joe's & Lower Allen Park
6/7/17	Sky Zone & Adventure Park
6/16/17	Laser Alleys Bowling & Laser Tag
6/21/17	Lancaster Science Factory & Long's Park
6/28/17	Indian Echo Caverns
7/5/17	Richard Nixon Park
7/7/17	Laser Alleys Bowling & Laser Tag
7/12/17	Fairmount Park & Splash Zone
7/19/17	Mr. Q's Family Skate Park
8/2/17	Cousler Park
8/9/17	Hopewell Area Recreation Complex
8/16/17	Lake Tobias

The field trip fee for the school-age classes is \$150 per child and includes a free DBELC field trip t-shirt & cinch bag! Participation in field trips is mandatory!

**VBS Hallelujah Hoedown** This summer, Vacation Bible School is scheduled for the week of June 12th through June 16th from 9:00—11:30. All DBELC students ages 3—12 will be participating.

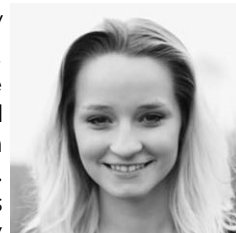
**Mr. Frosty** We are very excited for the summer to begin so that the Mr. Frosty ice cream truck will be visiting us again! The Mr. Frosty truck (although, we all know it's actually Ms. Frosty) is scheduled to visit us on Fridays at 9:10 am, beginning on June 9th. All children at DBELC will be offered the chance to purchase ice cream. The price of purchasing ice cream is \$2.00 per child, and children may pick vanilla, chocolate, or swirl, with or without sprinkles. An ice cream money collection box will be set up by the parent board. Please fill out an ice cream order form to indicate what your child would like to order and place the form in a plastic baggie with the \$2.00 (exact change only). All orders must be turned in by 9:00 am on Fridays to be counted in with that week's order. Children who do not purchase ice cream will be given a popsicle alternative.



**Lake Tobias Field Trip** Lake Tobias is our last scheduled field trip for the summer of 2017. I have designated this trip as our end of the summer bash for families and staff. All families and students (children under 3 must be accompanied by a family member) will be invited to attend this field trip. We will rent multiple buses and transport every one to and from Lake Tobias. The cost of this trip, including the safari tour, petting zoo, reptile show, a small bag of animal food, and transportation is \$20 per person for anyone over the age of 3. Children 2 and under would only need to pay the transportation fee of \$5 per person. All children who participate with field trips and have already paid the field trip fee will not be charged an additional fee. In the next few months, we will be embarking on some fundraising ventures. Part of the goal of our fundraising ventures is to cover the cost of the bus rentals (which average \$400-\$500 per trip). If we get enough participation in our fundraising ventures, hopefully we will be able to decrease the cost of the transportation fee for this trip. Therefore, I do encourage all DBELC to participate in any fundraisers we hold! A sign up sheet for the Lake Tobias trip will be posted at the Parent Board!

**Pre-Kindergarten Graduation** Pre-K graduation will be held on Sunday, June 4th at 8:00 am. We will have a graduation ceremony during Sunday Service at 8:00 am followed by a graduation celebration and brunch for all graduates and their families. Only the children who will be attending kindergarten in the fall will be "graduating," but DBELC students are invited to celebrate graduation with their friends! We do request that all graduates be here at DBELC to get ready by 7:40 am.

**Welcome, Ms. Paige** DBELC is very excited to welcome Ms. Paige to our center! She is coming to us with years of experience working in a home-based child care center and with an eagerness to continue her education in the field of early childhood education. Ms. Paige will be working primarily with the infants and toddlers. Please join me in warmly welcoming her to the DBELC family!



# Classroom Updates

**Infants** We are excited about have the opportunity to enjoy the nice spring weather, to see the pretty flowers bloom and watch the earth worms emerge from the dirt. Unfortunately, the beginning of May has not been fully cooperating with us. We were able to get outside a few times in April to bask in the sun and have been taking walks when the weather has been warmer. We would like to congratulate Alex and Everett who have transitioned to the young toddler class. We would like to welcome Ricki and Delainey who have recently joined our class. Last month, we enjoyed playing with egg shakers, seeing how much noise we can make with them and playing hide and seek with them. This month, we are learning the sign for flower with the song, "Ten Little Flowers." The older babies have fun attempting to imitate the motions. We would like to remind parents to please cut the babies' nails. As our babes get older, they have been taking an interest in their teachers and each other, especially faces. We like to give the babies the opportunities to explore their surroundings through the senses, as infants need to do, but uncut and unfiled nails can lead to scratches.



**Young Toddlers** We would like to remind all YT parents to bring in sunscreen and the sunscreen permission slip. We cannot apply any sunscreens or lotions to your child's skin that you do not provide and we do not have written consent from you to apply. We go outside multiple times a day through the spring and summer.

We would like to welcome Alex and Everett to YT classroom. They have been exploring the new classrooms, toys, and friends, and fitting right in. It has been a busy spring. We had the love the Easter egg hunt and exploring spring colors. We got to use our bodies, kitchen utensils, food coloring, and water to make colors! Getting messy is fun! The weather is changing, so please make sure your child has a variety of clothes in his or her cubby. Also, please label clothing, cups, and jackets with your child's initials. We try our very best to keep track of each child's belongings, but they move so quickly! :) There are times when we have multiple matching items or other teachers may be in the room that makes keeping items organized a bit more of a challenge.

**Older Toddlers** April showers bring May Flowers! This month we will be focusing on springtime, mothers, baby animals, and plants. We are so excited that warmer weather will soon be here. We are taking advantage of being outside whenever we can. Being outside is the best place to play and be kids. Our room has been very busy growing larger. Last month we welcomed 3 new friends to our room. Chance and Brailyn transitioned from the young toddlers and Cambria joined our room. This month, James has joined our room. We love when new friends join in on the fun we have.

This month we will start learning about seeds and how they grow into plants. We will be planting a variety of seeds to start plants for our garden. It will be so much fun to dig in the dirt and take of plants; we will be learning so much. Our friends like to be such big helpers, so this is a wonderful way for them to help while learning. In honor of Mother's Day, we will also be talking about baby animals and matching them to their mothers. We are working on a secret project for someone extra special in our lives. Shhh! It's a secret and we can't tell, but you'll love it!

As a reminder, please make sure your child has extra clothes in their bins and they are weather appropriate. Sometimes we get a little messy playing or we might have an accident and need to change. Also, there are some days it might be chilly in the morning for a light jacket even if it won't be needed later. Please make sure your child has weather appropriate outside clothes.

## Congratulations to...

- \* Ms. Nicole for earning her Bachelor's Degree from York College in the field of psychology and family counseling.
- \* Ms. Amber for graduating from H.A.C.C. to pursue her career in phlebotomy.
- \* Ms. Brittany for completing her student teaching at Weigelstown Elementary School and earning her Bachelor's Degree from York College in Early Childhood Education.

We are so proud of you and excited for the bright futures ahead of you!



**Preschool** During the month of April we welcomed our new friends Paige and Makenna. They are doing an amazing job getting acclimated and our friends have been showing them "the ropes" over the last few weeks. We have been exploring how things change in the Spring, taking care of nature, and learning how things grow from seeds. It has been a great topic to cover and we have had made all kinds of cool discoveries. We "planted" colored gems and beads in the sand table and used garden tools to cover/uncover them over and over. We got out flower pots and flowers to arrange in our dramatic play area. We read lots of interesting stories about things that we can do to help clean-up our neighborhood, recycle, and reuse things to have less garbage. Our friends had a field trash pick up party. It was great to see them hunting for anything they could throw into our bag. Although we didn't find very much (which is great) they were excited to be making a difference. We had fun getting watered with a spray bottle as we pretended to be tiny seeds planted in the ground. It was very cute to see the giggling plants start to grow shoots. As they got taller, they just giggled more. We also made flower arrangements using the green playdough as the ground to stick them in. We have now completed the alphabet during our classroom time and we will be working on identifying numbers. We will be reviewing the letters and you can do activities that reinforce letter recognition at home. We also encourage your child to practice writing their name at home with your help if they can't already. We will be getting buggy during the first few weeks of May. Ms. Meagan is still searching for the right container for a worm viewing station. If anyone has a large clear barrel type container with a lid (ex. party size hard pretzels or cheese balls come in) you can spare we can get that rolling.

As the weather is getting warmer and we will be getting outside more please make sure that you have sent in your child's sunscreen along with the permission to apply form so that we can safely enjoy the nice weather as a class.

**Preschool/Pre-K Summer Placement** This summer, the preschool and pre-k classes will be joining forces with Ms. Shana and Ms. Rola. All students enrolled in the preschool class will transition to pre-k to join their class. Beginning next week, May 15th, the preschool class will be visiting with Ms. Shana, Ms. Rola, and the pre-k students to start the transition process. The transition process will be completed and the classes will be joined by May 27th

**Pre-Kindergarten** We are excited for the return of spring and the fresh air and warm sun it provides us! We would like to welcome our three new friends, Brianna, Brayden, and Emma! They are transitioning well and making friends quickly! We love having them with us.

We have concluded our alphabet unit for the year, but we are continuing to practice our alphabet in preparation for kindergarten. We encourage you to continue to identify the capital and lowercase letters at home as well as the letter sounds.

We loved reading our April homework assignments to one another. It was a great opportunity to share a very special personal experience. We do not have an assignment in May, but we would love to hear any feedback or suggestions regarding the yearly assignments. Which one was your family's favorite? How would you change any of the assignments? Thank you for supporting our classroom and your child's learning by completing those assignments with your child.

As we conclude the academic year, before graduation and summer camp, we are focusing on our Earth, life cycles (we can't wait to see our caterpillars turn into butterflies), animals, and insects. Please check your monthly calendar for specific show'n'tell items relating to our topics. We are also reviewing and identifying numbers 1-10 by counting, tracing, and writing them in our journals. We will also make numbers using sensory experiences and dramatic play scenarios. Again, we encourage you to practice at home in preparation for kindergarten!

**School-Agers** It's hard to believe but summer is almost here! Summer camp preparations have begun. This year, our school-aged program has grown so tremendously, that we will be dividing into two classrooms, with the younger school-agers with Ms. Meagan and Ms. Amy and the older school-agers with Ms. Brittany. The two school-aged classrooms will get to spend some time together and the class teachers will be working as a larger team. Classroom assignments will be announced closer to the beginning of summer camp.

In preparation for summer camp, we have a few reminders. This year, field trips are mandatory for campers. All school-agers enrolled will be required to pay the field trip fee and attend field trips. Staffing is not available to stay behind with children not attending field trips. By the beginning of summer camp, each camper will have a designated hook or cubby in the assigned classroom. With payment of the field trip fee, each camper will also receive a DBELC cinch bag. In that cinch bag, we would like all campers to have a supply of extra clothing and a towel. Please label all items with your child's name or initials. Field trip permission slips and completed emergency contact/consent forms are required to be completed before the first field trip. By May 30th, all field trip fees and forms must be returned to Trish in order for a child to attend the field trip on 5/31. Also, remember to return sunscreen forms and bring in sunscreen!

Until summer camp begins, we are still working to fill our buckets. Check on your child's progress! We are also working on using our manners, especially at meal and conversation times. Let us know if you notice a difference at home. We have been enjoying building things lately and are looking for donations of paper towel tubes, small boxes, cardboard oatmeal containers, yarn, and newspaper.