



Remember to sign your child in and out daily—required by DHS. Thank you—



THE LEARNING CENTER

Management Team

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Martin Luther King Day (TLC closed)	January 19
Speech-Language Screening	February 3
Valentine's Day Parties	February 13
Spring Break (TLC closed)	March 16-20
Good Friday (TLC closed)	April 3
Teacher Appreciation Week	May 4-8
Muffins for Moms	May 8
Last Day of Spring Session	May 22

Tuition Payments



Tuition is typically due the **first of each month** and considered late after the fifth. Since we return January 5, you will have until Friday, January 9 to pay tuition. Late fees will be assessed after that. We are pleased to announce that credit card payments can now be accepted! There will be a **\$10** service fee to cover the cost of processing. You will have the option to use your credit card (Visa or MasterCard) or pay with a check. We hope that this will provide you with more convenience and less hassle. We are now part of the 21st century. How exciting!

January Birthdays

Braden Laster	1/5
Addie Austin	1/21



Arrival Time is 9-10 a.m.

Some of our families have asked why the 10 a.m. arrival cutoff is necessary, so we want to address this. Children are creatures of habit and function as a group better when there is routine and consistency. One of the areas where we can provide that structure is with time. We go outside, eat lunch, have rest time, etc., at basically the same time every day. Group time allows the children to settle and know what to expect for the day. When someone comes in late, it changes the group dynamics and can be unsettling. We know there are times when you have an appointment, traffic is bad or something else has come up. Just give us a call and we'll work it out together when you're running late. Thank you for respecting this time.



Tippi Toes

Tippi Toes Dance Company is our dance program at TLC. Children, ages two and older, are eligible to participate in this elective activity. Dance promotes self-confidence and healthy habits! Each Monday our dance instructor, Miss Kylie, gathers the children for a 25 minute lesson. There will be a spring recital held for families and friends to see the unfolding development of our children. You are welcome to try a class for free before enrolling. It is \$35 a month per child. Boys and girls enjoy creative movement.

Amazing Athletes

Our new program that we launched in September is called Amazing Athletes. It is an introduction into the basic fundamentals and mechanics of nine different sports and focuses on self-confidence, practicing teamwork, and improving seven key areas of motor development. Young children need guidance in building their balance, agility, strength training within a non-competitive, learning-based environment. Each class will focus on two different sports and incorporate activities proven to increase children's overall cardiovascular fitness, muscle tone, hand-eye coordination, reaction time and more! Teaching children life skills through sports. FUN! Classes are \$40 a month and lessons are each Thursday. We will have an introductory class on Friday, January 9, for our new children. Hopefully we will



Happy Work Anniversary Miss Mary



We are so fortunate to have the opportunity to recognize Miss Mary Proctor on her work anniversary at The Learning Center. **January 6, 2007** she joined the program as an infant teacher. Her eight years here have provided us with wonderful continuity in the infant room. She is such a joy to work with and we appreciate her gentle ways very much. Thank you Miss Mary for all your contributions to make our program so special.

"If there is anything we wish to change in the child, we should first examine it and see if whether it is not something that could better be changed in ourselves." -Carl Jung



Monthly Fire Drill



The December fire drill was held on the 9th at 2:30 p.m. The children exited the building in less than two minutes. It was fortunately a warm afternoon. Nice job everyone! Thank you Pam, Delaney and all the extra hands.

Each class also practiced their evacuation routine for tornadoes. We have a tornado drill every three months. Safety is always our priority. FYI

Family Survey Results



Thank you all for participating in the Family Surveys. It is one of the tools we use to measure our effectiveness and to see where improvements are needed. There were many good things that you told us you appreciated and that was nice to see.

We did learn that families were not receiving information related to our day to day activities or curriculum. Daily sheets are to be provided so that you know what your child worked on, what story was read, how long your child slept or rested, etc. For younger children who are diapered it is important to know when they were changed.

If there is a particular interest you have about your child's day please let your child's teacher know and we will be happy to provide that for you. Dailies should be in children's folders in their classrooms or just outside their doors. Art work or projects are placed in these folders too, so make sure you grab yours daily please-

Comprehensive results of the family surveys will be distributed so you may see what others have written. Your input is very important to us!

A person can grow only as much as his horizon allows.

- John Powell

Curriculum News

Our focus this month for the 0-2 year olds is "Riding Around" and "Snowy Days." They will use a lot of white and pink, discuss opposites (hot, cold) and explore the multitude of wheels that surround us. Wheels are on all kinds of toy vehicles, but your child may also discover wheels on the furniture legs, a rolling cart, or other places. Look for wheels outside, too. Of course there are wheels on cars, trucks, and buses, but your child may also spy them on wheelbarrows, lawnmower, and more! The cold weather will also be a hot topic (no pun intended.) They will read stories, do some activities exploring hot and cold, and make some different dips for fruit.

Our focus for the Jaguars is similar. "Wheeling About" will emphasize the importance of things such as cars, trucks, bikes, airplanes, shopping carts and toys. The children will learn how wheels help things get from one place to another. Some of their key concepts are letters m, n, o; color white; shape of octagon; and numbers 11 and 12. The other theme for this month is "Sparkles and Shivers." Winter is cold and icy in some parts of the world. There are fun things to do in the snow, as long as we are wearing warm clothes! We will learn all about snowflakes, frost, and icicles, too.

Here are some books to read for these themes:

Big Book of Cars by Trevor Lord

The Rusty, Trusty Tractor by Joy Cowley

Wheels! By Annie Cobb

Cars and Trucks and Things That Go by R. Scarry

Stella, Queen of the Snow by M. Gay

The Tiny Snowflake by Art Ginolfi

The Snowy Day by Ezra Jack Keats

Snowballs by Lois Ehlert





Prevent Blindness Screening Results



In December we screened 60 children for any red flags in their vision. Out of the 60 we had five children who received a referral for further diagnostic checks. It has been noted that early intervention is so important in young children's development. We are pleased to say that fifty-five children see just fine and five more will soon. Thank you for supporting this new screening process. On February 3 the INTEGRIS Cochlear Center will provide us with speech-language screenings.

Church Update-New Pastor arrives in January 2015

Nichols Hills United Methodist Church announces the new Senior Pastor, Reverend Dr. Trevor Smith. Trevor and his lovely wife, Allyson, have two daughters, Charlotte and Avery. He is a graduate of Putnam City North, Oklahoma City University and Duke Divinity School. We are so fortunate to have him and his family and look forward to the future development of our church. Please join us in welcoming them to TLC.

Tax Statements available upon request. We have amount paid from August to December. Let us know if you would like a statement. Takes just a second to do-



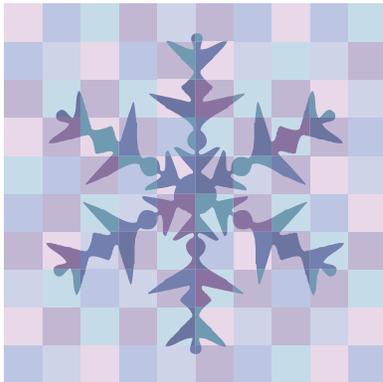
Staff Development

Over the holidays the staff completed training on the Early Learning Guidelines for children 0-3 years old. We met for 14 contact hours plus lunch. It was very helpful training to make sure that when we prepare our lesson plans we are including all the domains of young children's learning. It truly is more than abcs, 123 or red, yellow, green, etc. As we approach learning holistically we must think about the physical, emotional, intellectual and social development. We will make sure to include information on your dailies to let you be aware how we are meeting these guidelines set by the Department of Human Services.



Nature has given us two ears, but only one mouth.
-Benjamin Disraeli

~JANUARY 2015~				
			1 CLOSED	2 CLOSED
5 Veggie Straws Water	6 Animal Crackers Water	7 Fruit Cup Mix Water	8 Graham Crackers Water	9 Chex Mix Water
12 Applesauce Water	13 Cheese Sticks & Crackers Water	14 Nilla Wafers Water	15 Cereal Bars Water	16 Yogurt Water
19 TLC CLOSED MLK DAY	20 Cheese crackers Water	21 Animal Crackers Water	22 Mandarin Oranges Water	23 Gold Fish Water
26 Veggie Straws Water	27 Fruit Snacks Water	28 Cheerios Water	29 Cereal Bars Water	30 Fruit Cup Water



INCLEMENT WEATHER PLAN

Please watch for OKC school closings when we have ice or snow. The Nichols Hills United Methodist Church will come up as closed when this plan is in effect. Watch the main news channels 4, 5, or 9 to see the list of closings. We will text and email you all to the best of our ability. The phone line should have a message declaring a snow day as well. When in doubt you may always text your teacher, Christie or Denise. We hope to eliminate the confusion or inconvenience when the inclement weather arrives. It looks like it is going to be an active winter weather wise. Let us know if you have any questions.

