



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



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Quality childcare is not expensive. It is priceless. . .

THE LEARNING CENTER

Our mission is *to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.*

2020 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

First day of spring session	January 2
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day closed	January 20
TLC Family Potluck Supper & Show	January 23
Classroom Photos	February 6
Valentine's Day Parties	February 13
Spring Break closed	March 16-20
Summer enrollment	March 23-27
Children's Photos	April 2
Good Friday closed	April 10
Teacher Appreciation Week	April 27-May 1
Muffins for Moms	May 11
Last day spring session	May 22

Pot Luck Supper & Science Show



Our first family event of 2020 will be a Pot Luck Supper and Science Show. The dinner will be served at **6 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall on **January 23**. Following the dinner we will have Mad Science demon-

strate some scientific experiences. More information about the Pot Luck Supper will be sent home soon. Mark your calendars for this family event.



One generation plants the trees; another gets the shade.
 -Chinese proverb



Weekly Specials 2020

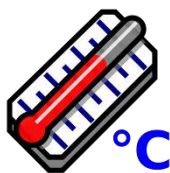


Mondays	Tuesdays	Wednesdays	Thursdays	Fridays
Amazing Athletes 9:30 Tippi Toes Dance* 10:45	Art 10:00 Children's Chapel 2:45	Children's Chapel 9:45 Munchkin Music 10 (Everyone does music)	Amazing Athletes 10:00 Children's Chapel 2:45	Amazing Athletes (Monkeys and older participate in this)
*cost extra \$40 monthly	Chapel is for 3 yrs & up	Chapel for 3 yrs & up	Chapel for 3 yrs & up	



Absences from School

We understand that people will miss school from time to time, but it helps us to know if you don't plan to attend. Call and let us know if your child is ill so we may let other families know too. Families benefit from the extra days when we know they will be available. Please help us with this process. Thanks!



Drop-In Charges Due

The next time you need to "drop in" (a day you don't normally attend) we will need the tuition to be paid at that time. All accounts must be paid **in full by the end of the month**. We appreciate your cooperation with this policy. Thank you!

DANGER in the Parking Lot!

Cars have been racing through our parking lot at speeds exceeding 20 miles per hour and this is a problem. Please remember that young children are at risk with speeding cars in the parking lot. We appreciate everyone remembering that there is precious cargo every where. SLOW it down.



Meet our art teacher

Our art instructor is Erica Oji. She is the owner of Heart Studios. Her passion is bringing creativity to the children who need it most. Our program will enable her to do just that. Her work with the Zebras, Jaguars and Cheetahs began October 1.



IMMUNIZATIONS must be kept current. Please bring an updated shot record to school.

Thank you!



INCLEMENT WEATHER

Please watch the main news channels, 4, 5, or 9, to see the list of school closings when there is **ice or snow**. Our school will be listed under **Nichols Hills United Methodist Church**. We will text and email you all to the best of our ability. When in doubt you may always text your teacher, home room representative or Denise. We hope to eliminate any confusion or inconvenience when the inclement weather arrives. It looks like it is going to be an active winter, weather-wise. Be safe!



If you truly love Nature, you will find beauty everywhere.

-Vincent Van Gogh



Attitude of Gratitude

The staff at TLC thanks you all for the Christmas gifts, treats, flowers and gift cards. Your generosity and thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated! It is our pleasure to work with YOU and your family!



Good Night = Good Learning

A consistent bedtime with a wind-down routine leads to better sleep and better mornings. Healthy sleep is essential for optimal learning and memory function. Here are the sleep times recommended by the National Sleep Foundation:

Toddlers (1-2 years old) **11 to 14 hours**

Preschoolers (3-5 years old) **10 to 13 hours**

Children (6-13 years old) **9 to 11 hours**

Teenagers (14-17 years old) **8 to 10 hours**



Tippi Toes



Tippi Toes offers positive, fun dance classes for girls and boys ages 1.5 – 6 years-old! Our mission: to develop a love of dancing in children by creating a positive experience that promotes healthy living habits, helps build self-confidence, and a love for others. Classes at TLC are on Mondays from 10:30-10:55 a.m. Tuition is \$40 per month. To enroll, please go to www.tippitoesdance.com/oklahoma-city and follow the instructions. We do have classes all summer, too.



Amazing Athletes



Amazing Athletes 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 and strength training within a non-competitive, learning-based environment.

Each class focuses on two different sports and incorporates activities proven to increase children's overall cardiovascular fitness, muscle tone, hand-eye coordination, reaction time and more! Teaching children life skills through sports is FUN! Classes are held on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays, too. The program is for Monkeys, Zebras, Jaguars and Cheetahs. This program is a year-round activity. Wear your Amazing Athletes' shirts on the day you attend!

Music Classes

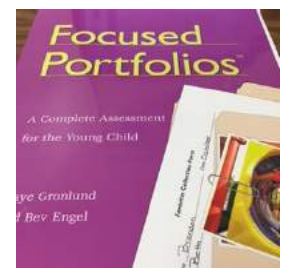


Your monthly tuition also includes Music class on Wednesdays. Each week we have Miss Andrea from Munchkin Music bring her expertise to the Cubs (infants) through Cheetahs. All of the children enjoy their music time and look forward to it. We have a Christmas Music Program and spring demonstration to share what the children have learned. Each month we send out songs, finger plays and key concepts that Andrea is working on with the children. Watch for this information each month in an email. Drop by to see the children in action. It is quite fun!

Focused Portfolios

Our staff uses a process of documentation called "Focused Portfolios" to record children's growth and development. Through photographs, anecdotes and children's work samples, teachers put together a visual account of each child's accomplishments. This process recognizes and celebrates that all children develop at different rates and with various strengths. Collections are completed in fall and spring and are kept in a folder for the year, after which the portfolio becomes a keepsake for the child and family. This collection is a representation of your child as an individual with distinct interests, background, skills and desires. We will offer family conferences twice a year to share these special collections and to celebrate the accomplishments of your child. Families are invited to participate in this portfolio collection process in whichever special way you choose. Here are some suggestions:

- ⇒ Create a photo collage of your immediate or extended family
- ⇒ Write about a special family event or trip and include a photo
- ⇒ Share how your child's name was selected
- ⇒ Describe a family hobby or typical weekend past time



Monthly Fire Drill



Our last fire drill was conducted December 5, in the afternoon. The staff and children exited the building in one minute. Make sure you practice what to do at home, too. What does your plan look like? Where does your family meet? Things to think about before the time is necessary. . .

Toiletries for John Marshall

One of the ministries of Nichols Hills United Methodist Church is collecting items for students at John Marshall. Here are some items needed:

- ◆ Men's and women's deodorant
- ◆ Toothpaste
- ◆ Toothbrushes (prefer four pack)
- ◆ Body lotions 8 oz.
- ◆ Laundry detergent 8 or 10 oz. *Tide* or *Gain*
- ◆ Sample size perfume or cologne

You may leave these contributions at front desk.



Services at Nichols Hills United Methodist Church

We invite all families to our church services on Sundays. There is an 8:30 a.m. and a 10:50 a.m. service. Sunday school is typically 9:45 to 10:30. Child care is available. Our music, choir and sermons are very much the antidote for a hectic life. Please join us. For more information call the church 842-1486. See you then!

The first duty of an education is to stir up life, but leave it free to develop.

-Maria Montessori



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Maizie Lowry	January 6
Callahan Rowan	January 7
Bennett Parsons	January 8
John Ernst	January 8
Avett Traynor	January 9
James Forsythe	January 14
Jude McGuigan	January 18
Colt Butler	January 19
Greta Goodrich	January 31



Winter-time Activities at Home



Winter weather has a way of driving people 'stir crazy' - especially those caring for pre-school balls of energy. Here are four indoor activities to pull out when you can't go out.

Build Indoor Snowmen: Skip the cold and use cotton balls and glue sticks for a simple craft that will exercise the creativity and fine motor skills of the children in your care.

Go on an Indoor Scavenger Hunt: Create your own list based on the learning levels of the children in your care. Together, you can hunt for colors, shapes, numbers, animals and more, transforming the classroom into a new frontier to explore.

Create a Collage: Set them up with some safety-scissors and construction paper and watch them create. This activity can be adapted based on age and ability, challenging children to use specific colors, objects that begin with certain letters, or other themes.

Make a Maze: Create an indoor maze by placing tape on the floor or attaching streamers to the walls of a hallway. Whether in teams or individually, children can practice their problem-solving skills and expend extra energy as they make their escape.

Source: Rainbow Fleet Newsletter, December 2019





January Afternoon Snacks 2020



FYI: PM snacks are provided by TLC; AM snacks by families Except for Cubs		1 	2 Animal Crackers & Yogurt dip	3 Veggie Straws & Apple juice
6 American Cheese & Honey Pretzels	7 Granola Bar & Grape Juice	8 Chex Mix & Mandarin Oranges	9 Ham slice & Cheese Stick	10 Saltines & Pickle slices
13 Goldfish & Apple juice	14 Pepperoni & Ritz Crackers	15 Graham crackers & Nutella	16 Carrots & Ranch Dip	17 Fruit snacks & Pretzels
20 	21 Bananas & Nilla Wafers	22 Cheerios & Craisins	23 Saltines & Pickles	24 Hummus & Pretzels
27 Pudding Cups & Graham Crackers	28 Applesauce & Cheese Stix	29 Diced Peaches & Animal Crackers	30 Jello <small>sugar free</small> & Honey Pretzels	31 Veggie Straws & Ranch Dip

Parent Advisory Committee (PAC)

Our Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) will meet January 15. This group typically meets the third Wednesday of each month in the Parlor at 2 p.m.



Any family members who wish to participate are welcome to join us. The PAC serves as feedback for the management team, helps to distribute information, assists with special celebrations and so on. We would welcome your input as to

how to involve families in our program or any other suggestions for improvements. So far the communication has improved with your help. Your involvement is always appreciated! The following people who represent the classrooms are:

- Cubs—Laura Ernst
- Pandas—OPEN
- Monkeys—Amy Gillett
- Zebras—Susan Abernathy
- Jaguars—Marina Williams
- Cheetahs—Laura Gilson

Work Anniversary Celebrated

On January 6, 2020 Mary Proctor joined The Learning Center staff. She has worked for thirteen years with the Cubs classroom. During those years she has cared for many infants and their siblings. It takes special people to work with young children and that is our Ms. Mary. Please join us in celebrating Mary Proctor on her thirteen-years anniversary on January 6, 2020. Thank you Ms. Mary for your many years of service and contributions to TLC.



Mary Proctor

Master Teacher Cubs



Tuition Schedule effective August 5, 2019



Monthly Tuition

(Two day minimum, all ages)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
\$131	\$167	\$131	\$167	\$119

Examples: Monday, Wednesday, Friday = \$381
Tuesday, Thursday = \$334
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday = \$715
Any combination of days based on availability.

Other Fees:

- Enrollment Fee (per session) \$75 - 1st child; \$15 - less each additional child
- Supply Fee Included in enrollment fee.
- Drop In Rate \$35 per day Monday / Wednesday / Friday
\$45 per day Tuesday /Thursday (upon availability)
- Late Pick Up \$1 per minute, per child.
- Returned Check Fee \$25

Developing Interpersonal Skills

An article on the website *bigthinkedge.com* lists **eight interpersonal skills** that help people be successful in working with others: “1. Exercising self-awareness; 2. Being cognizant of non-verbal communication; 3. Being respectful of others; 4. Showing empathy and understanding; 5. Being a clear communicator; 6. Engaging in active listening; 7. Behaving appropriately; 8. Being receptive to feedback.”

Francis Wardle, in his book, *Oh Boy!* writes about the importance of supporting interpersonal learning in children: “A central task of development for young children is to learn to understand other people and to be sensitive to their moods, actions, and feelings. Some children are more adept at this ability than others...The challenge of working with young boys who have an interpersonal learning style is that their involvement, organization, and leadership of other children may not always be viewed in a positive light – young boys’ groups leadership may not be a match with teacher or program goals. Nevertheless, boys with interpersonal learning styles must be given lots of opportunities to lead.” Wardle provides a number of ideas to help facilitate that process. Here is a sampling:

- Encourage young boys to direct projects and activities
- Support young boys when other children select them as group leaders
- Include young boys in small groups that organize classroom and school-wide activities such as parent nights, community events...”

Source: “[Top 8 interpersonal skills for the workplace](#),” *bigedgethinking.com*, May 3, 2018

