

# Wollaston Child Care Center Newsletter April, 2016

## Center Closings for the month of April

We will be closed on *Monday, April 18<sup>th</sup>*. This will be a professional development day for our teachers.



## Week of the Young Child

The Week of the Young Child™ is an annual celebration sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) celebrating early learning, young children, their teachers and families. This year the Week of the Young Child will be celebrated from April 10 – April 16. A theme has been designated for each day. We will be planning a number of special activities throughout the center to celebrate.

This would be a great week to visit the center. If you would be interested in coming in as a guest reader to share a story with your child's class, please touch base with his/her teachers to plan a time.

In celebration of Music Monday, the classrooms will offer a variety of musical activities such as sing-a-longs and dance parties.

In honor of Taco Tuesday, we will be putting together a family cookbook. Feel free to send in your favorite childhood recipe on the form attached to this newsletter.

In honor of Work Together Wednesday and Artsy Thursday, we will be creating a giant handprint mural with all of our families and children.

On Family Friday, we will be offering a light breakfast for our families from 7-9:30. Be sure to stop by.

## Scholastic Book Fair

Many thanks to all of you who participated in the Scholastic Book Fair. We earned over \$600 worth of free books.

## Parent/Teacher Committee

Our parent teacher committee will meet on April 6<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 and April 28<sup>th</sup> at 8:00am. This is a great opportunity to meet with other parents and teachers as well as brainstorm ways to make our center the best that it can be.

## Spring Weather

The spring weather can be quite unpredictable. Please check your child's cubby to make sure that there is change of warm weather and cool weather clothing available. It is also a great

## Please keep us informed of upcoming schedule changes.

We realize that the upcoming summer months are a time of transition for many families. Please let us know as soon as possible of any upcoming schedule changes or withdrawals so that we may plan ahead.

We are also beginning to enroll for the upcoming school year, so please join us in spreading the works to families, friends, and neighbors.

## WCCC on Facebook:

Be sure to visit our Facebook page. We update it regularly with photos, parenting resources and information about center happenings.

<https://www.facebook.com/WollastonChildCare/>

## Help Your Child Build Fine Motor Skills

Many of your child's daily activities—like getting dressed, eating, and writing—require control of small muscles in the hands. We call these skills fine motor skills. Your child can do more things for himself when he has opportunities to practice these skills. There are lots of activities that can increase muscle strength and coordination, preparing children for more advanced skills, from writing with a pencil, using a computer mouse, or playing a musical instrument. Help your child build fine motor skills at home by providing opportunities to...

- Set the table
- Hold knives, forks, and spoons to eat
- Pour juice into a cup
- Wipe the table with a sponge
- Help with meals—stir, shake, chop, cut, and mix
- Get dressed—button, zip, snap, buckle, and fasten
- Use Velcro tabs
- Open and close containers with lids
- Cut with child-safe scissors
- Finger paint
- Use a paintbrush
- Play with playdough and clay—roll, smoosh, pat, pound, and use tools like popsicle sticks or stamps
- Draw, scribble, or write with crayons, pencils, and markers
- Put together puzzles
- Place pegs in a board
- Build with small blocks
- Play board games
- Play with puppets



Source: Adapted from "Getting a Grip on Things: Building Fine Motor Skills," Message in a Backpack, 2010, *Teaching Young Children* 3 (5): 26–28.



### Activities Around The Center

