

June 26, 2017

From the Director's Desk



Many of you chose Childgarden because of the value you place on inclusive education. Some of you may be unclear of the real impact that inclusive schools have on all children. I would like to share a touching story with you from Bluebirds classroom that highlights the natural benefits of inclusive education for all children.

The Bluebirds class has been studying butterflies. They brought in several caterpillars and watched as they formed their chrysalises and eventually became butterflies. One little butterfly had difficulty flying, as one of his wings was smaller than the other. The teachers used this as a teachable moment and initiated a discussion about it. Ryan, who is 5 years old, summed it up quite nicely, "This butterfly is just like our classroom. She will be OK. She's just going to learn how to fly slower and may need a little help with eating, drinking and playing with the other butterflies." The children also decided that the butterfly may need a therapist to help it learn how to fly! This particular butterfly never flew away. It lives in the classroom and will fly from child to child or hang out in its house. The children interact with it daily. There are so many things that we can learn from our children!

I know how we all value inclusion and the benefits that it brings to all children. This is just a wonderful reminder that a classroom with one child who has a disability, truly affects the thinking, level of respect and empathy, on a very genuine level, of everyone in the class! How awesome to think about the impact of having a child spend the first 5 years of his/her life, when 90% of their brain is developing in an inclusive environment with rich experiences!

-Debbie

Tuition Reminder and More

New tuition fees go into effect on Monday, July 3. For those who have not yet signed their new fee agreement, please stop by Mollie's desk to leave your autograph.

July 4 - Childgarden Closed

We will be closed on Tuesday, July 4. If you have not yet done so, please let your child's teacher know if you will not be here on July 3 or July 5. This information is very helpful for us to have for staffing that week. Have a safe holiday!

Happy Anniversary!

Happy 2nd Anniversary to Tiffany Mosby, lead teacher in Sprouts and Judy Johnson, assistant teacher in Dragonflies and Bluebirds!

Childgarden Logo Shirts

Childgarden logo t-shirts are for sale! Stop by the front desk to see the wide variety of color options this year. All sizes are available so you can outfit the entire family!

Join Our Composting Efforts!

This is the first year that we are trying our hands at composting and one way that children can get involved is to bring items in from home. If you find yourself with any of the following "Greens" or "Browns" (in small amounts), please put them in a Ziploc, and bring them in to add to our compost!

Greens

- Fruit and vegetable peels
- Citrus rind
- Melon rinds
- Tea bags
- Old vegetables
- Dead plants
- Old, less flavorful packaged herbs and spices
- Egg shells
- Cooked plain rice or pasta
- Stale bread

Browns

- Shredded paper/newspaper
- Torn corrugated cardboard (no glossy coating)
- Junk mail (non-glossy)
- Pine cones
- Pine needles



- Straw
- Sawdust
- Brown paper shopping bags, torn
- Fall leaves

Watering During Summer

We are still in need of families to help water our garden on the weekends. If you live in the vicinity and wouldn't mind stopping by, it would be greatly appreciated! Thanks to those who have already given some of their time to help!

Autism Speaks Walk - October 14

The Upper Muny Lot at Forest Park



We had a nice turnout for the *Autism Speaks Walk* kickoff breakfast. We had over 30 people sign up for "Team Arc"! There will be more opportunities to sign up if you didn't get the chance to join us at the kickoff. Keep an eye out for additional information as the event date gets closer.
