

House of Children, Inc.

"Keeping in Touch"



1033 Lake Avenue, Woodstock, IL 60098

November/December

News from the Classrooms

Mayor Dr. Brian Sager joined us in breaking ground on our new center November 8th. Let the building begin!!

Holiday Closings:
House of Children will be closed on the following dates in celebration of the holidays:

11/24
11/25
12/23
12/26
12/30
1/2

GOT EMAIL?
If you have access to email, please share your address with us so that we can quickly and easily send out important news from the office. Also: if you need to contact us, just drop us a line at debbie@houseofchildren.net or leadia@houseofchildren.net

Infants: This dynamic group is growing so quickly! Every day it seems a new milestone is being met! New teeth, new abilities, first steps... We'll soon be saying good-bye to Uriah as he transitions into the Toddler room and welcoming Baby Aliyah, sister to Damien, Victor and Angel .

Toddlers: If you are the parent of one of our high-octane toddlers then you are already familiar with our new teacher, Miss Jaime. She has certainly risen to the challenge of meeting the needs of this fast paced bunch, and it shows in the many changes visible in the room. Miss Sarai and Miss Stephanie have also been added for their fun and nurturing ways. We've recently welcomed new friend, Jacob and we'll be seeing Angel off to the Preschool room in the coming weeks.

Preschool: This bunch had a busy Fall with trips to both the apple orchard and pumpkin patch. They are always enthusiastic explorers and Miss Lindsay, Miss Kari and Miss Kellie make sure to keep the children engaged and active! Many of our soon-to-be-4's will begin to prepare for their transition to the Pre-K room.

Pre-K: This group has also been hard at work since our school curriculum restarted in the Fall. Zoophonics continues to be a class favorite, as well as the Friday sharing activity that allows the children to reinforce the phonic sound of the week! The addition



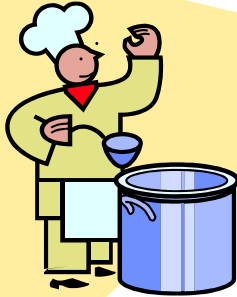
Miss Stephanie has done a wonderful job with our brand new kindergarten program. The children have all been so eager and ready to learn! They have been exploring not only phonics and writing, but math, science and social studies too! They even got to take a special trip to see "Willy Wonka" performed at the Raue. We are really pleased with the launch of this new program and so proud of the children in it! Thanks to parents for their support as well! Without you we'd stop growing.

Kindernews

WHAT'S NEW?

So much! Where to begin? By now you've all noticed a few "adjustments" to our front lobby. It just made sense to dedicate more space to the children, so we are moving the office to the rear of the building and creating a larger space for our kindergarteners. This will allow us to add computer and listening centers and give the children in our Pre-K program more space as well. The new building is slated for completion in early Spring. We are crossing our fingers that construction goes smoothly and swiftly!

Spotlight on: Miss Karen



What’s Cookin’ at House of Children? Better yet, who’s cookin’? Miss Karen, of course! Over the past month, Miss Karen has been hard at work in the kitchen, trying out new recipes and revamping our monthly menus. As our Food Service Manager, it’s Miss Karen’s goal to ensure that the meals and snacks we serve the children are full of variety, nutrition and even a little fun! Her goal is to create healthier alternatives for breakfasts and snacks in addition to introducing new foods in unique ways. New additions have included muffins and breads, broccoli, cauliflower, cheese and sausage for snack, homemade vegetable soup, cottage cheese, yogurt, pasta and rice. Miss Karen’s fun, upbeat attitude means that the introduction of new foods always comes with her cheerful encouragement to try new things. Miss Karen has been an asset to our center in many capacities and it’s wonderful to have her here to make sure our children are well fed! She is always on the lookout for new ideas so if you have any feedback or recipes to share, please let her know!

Colds & Cold Weather

A winter chill is slowly but surely creeping into the air. It’s this time of the year that we begin to see various illnesses make their rounds of the school. Just a few things to keep in mind when considering your child’s health:

- No child may come to school if they have had a fever above 100 degrees or had an episode of diarrhea or vomiting in the last 24 hours. If your child is sent home with any of these ailments, they must remain at home for 24 hours, free of symptoms **without medication** before returning to school.
- If your child seems uncharacteristically lethargic, unenergetic, or is not eating or sleeping well, those may be signs that an illness is imminent and that it may be best to keep them home with you for the day.
- We do go out, weather permitting, each and every day, even when temps are low. Cold air is in fact good for children and allows their systems a break from the germs of an indoor environment. It also provides them the large motor activity that their growing bodies need. To that end, it is very important that your child arrive at school with a warm coat, gloves and hat so they can comfortably

Family Life Programming

Making the Most of Family!

House of Children maintains a commitment to healthy family life, not only for our client families but for our staff as well! That is why we strive to deliver programs and services designed to enhance the quality of life for you and your children! Take advantage of our Friday Pizza Days, our Swap Boards, and our news & updates found weekly in our foyer. We hope you find Flu Shot announcements, the informational articles posted throughout the school and events like field trips and School Photos to be value-added services. If you have any ideas or interest in volunteering your time, skills or materials to our school, please email us and let us know! We love ideas!!