



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHILD DEVELOPMENT
 CENTER

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October 2021

Festivities greet the change of season

As we turn the calendar to October there is a buzz of activity happening in the CDC this month. We have almost one month of preschool over, and we are all settling back into our more structured time of preschool learning.

October is always a fun month as the weather turns cooler and the fall festivities arrive. We will have our annual "Fall Festival" day this month and the children and staff will gather in the CLC for some festival games and prizes. This is a time set aside for our CDC Staff and the children to enjoy together and is always a favorite event.



Later in October the preschool classes and the toddler classes will "Trick or Treat" to the church offices and enjoy a short and fun time with the church staff. For this fun event each class will make fun hats to wear to add to the celebration.

We are continuing to advertise and look to fill some of our vacant staff positions. Recently we have added three new staff and have a couple more waiting for their background checks to clear before they join us. We are also advertising for a part-time cook.

Anyone interested in applying for the cook position, caregiver and floater positions may apply by emailing their résumé to me at bhepler@florencefirst.org. Once we have the needed staff positions filled, we will be able to accommodate more of the children who are currently on our waiting list.

Thank you again for being part of this child development center ministry. It is a joy to serve as we minister to your children.

Blessings, *Beth*



Hear ye, hear ye, **READ ALL ABOUT IT!**

ITEMS TO REMEMBER

- ◆ **TUTION MONDAYS:**
Tuition is due weekly on Mondays for that week of care.
- ◆ **EXTRA CLOTHES:** With the change of seasons, please remember to have a set of warm clothes for your child in the event of an accident.
- ◆ **FRIDAY CLEANUP:**
Please remember to take home your child's blankets over the weekend so they can be washed.
- ◆ **TOGETHER IN EDUCATION:** Give the CDC a chance to earn funds when you link your card and shop at Harris Teeter. Sign up online at: www.harristeeter.com/together-in-education or by visiting the store. Our school code is: 3893.
- ◆ **FIND US ON FACEBOOK:**
Stay up-to-date with us on facebook at: www.facebook.com/FPCCDC/



Leveling up at the center

Parents often ask, "When will my child move up to the next age group?" This is a good question and the answer depends on several factors. Children are moved up to the next group as space becomes available and the child is developmentally and age ready. Children develop at their own pace so there is no magical age to determine when a child is ready.

When there is space in the next group, a child who is developmentally ready will move up. The preschool year ends with 4K graduation in mid-May. Those moving into 4K do so after graduation. These are the children who have finished the preschool year in the 3K classroom.

Most 2K children move up to 3K over the summer, beginning in mid-May. A 3-year-old must be completely potty trained to move from 2K up to 3K. Some children take longer to potty train, due to development and interest. If they are not completely potty trained by the time preschool begins for the next year (late August), then they remain in the 2K class and hopefully will move up to 3K by the end of December of that year.

Toddler 2 children are eligible to move up to 2K once they are 30 months old. This is a SC Childcare Licensing Fire Marshal ruling. Only certain classrooms are approved for a child who is less than 30 months to occupy. Normally, if a child turns 30 months by the end of December, he/she will move up then. If he turns 30 months after December, then he normally moves up to the 2K class as space is available or by May of the following year.

Infants in Infant 1 usually move up to Infant 2 as they begin to move about freely on the floor, crawling and in some cases scooting. Infant 2 children must be walking well to move up to the Toddler 1 class and must be drinking out of a sippy cup and eating table food.

As the children in each class develop and grow, the teachers step up their planned activities and classroom experiences to meet the growing demand of an older group. All of our CDC Teachers have experience doing this and enjoy the challenges and joys of providing more advanced activities and observing the responses of the children.



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In the Neighborhood

Help Grow Our Library

Help us grow our CDC Library. Take a book suggestion off our CDC Reading Tree (located at the tower entrance), and purchase the book for our center. These book donations can be given in honor or memory of someone special. A book plate will be placed in the front of the book to designate who it is given for and who gave the book. Books can be hardback or paper. If you have a favorite age-appropriate book that you would like to donate that is not on our tree, feel free to do so. Thank you so much for helping us stock our library with the best books for our CDC children. Books help stretch our imagination and encourage our language skills. We love Story Time, especially with Miss Elizabeth and Penelope the Puppet!

Center looking to hire caregivers, cook

We have recently hired a few new faces for our CDC Staff, and we are currently interviewing and hiring for more, full- and part-time staff.

If you know someone who may be interested in working with us, they may apply by sending their résumé to Beth Hepler at bhelpler@florencefirst.org.

We covet your prayers and support as we seek the most qualified and caring people to serve with us each day as we love and care for each child.



Scenes from our Child Development Center neighborhood.

CDC Preschool News

Our focus in 4K for the month of October

will be our Creative Curriculum "Roads Study." We will investigate the following:

- *what we already know about roads and what do we want to learn.
- *characteristics of roads
- *How roads help us in our everyday lives.
- *We can read road signs (literacy engagement)

Our class has been working well with their letters, sounds and words that start with each letter! We will add to our skills and start working on word families at and an. We will continue with our letter writing skills from the letters, Aa, Hh, and Tt. Number recognition and counting 11-20 in English and Spanish.

Important dates to remember: Fall Festival for our CDC Children and Staff only is October 14 and Trick or Treating to First Presbyterian Church offices on October 28.

Each week our 3K class will focus on a specific letter, number, color, shape and Bible memory verse. Beginning this month we will return to the Creative Curriculum and specifically "The Roads Study".

Fall themes will also be incorporated into our planned activities for October, including a week of pumpkin science. Highlights of this month will be our annual "Fall Festival," which will be held on October 14th, for CDC children and CDC Staff. We will also celebrate the season by making special hats to wear as we Trick or Treat to First Presbyterian Staff offices on October.

Our 2K Class has a bundle of energy and we will put that to good use this month as we continue to learn to recognize our letters and numbers. We will be focusing on the letters F, G, H, I. We will do planned activities to go with each letter. We will also continue to work on recognizing our numbers and learning to count. In addition, we are learning to rote count 1-15. We are reviewing our colors and shapes. Each week we enjoy doing age-appropriate art and activities to go with our theme for that week. We are having fun learning about different animals. We are looking forward to the cooler weather and playing outside longer when weather permits.

