

Early Childhood Center Newsletter

CUBBIES NEWS

May 2024



Principal's Message



Dear Parents and Guardians:

As we have come to the end of our 2023-2024 school year, I want to take a moment to offer my appreciation and sincere thanks to all parents, students, and staff, for their commitment, perseverance, and hard work this school year. While this year has had its share of challenges, it has also been a very memorable and rewarding school year. I am extremely proud of all of our students and staff. Our students experienced an enriched, hands-on learning curriculum and for our students transitioning to kindergarten, an afterschool program to support academic skills aligned to kindergarten learning standards. As we are closing out the 2023-2024 school year, we are looking forward to an amazing 2024-2025 school year. We are looking forward to seeing many of our students in our summer learning academy from June 10 to July 2nd. Summer learning Academy is from Monday through Thursday from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm with bus transportation provided for pick up and drop offs within district boundaries. Please remember during the summer break to take the opportunity to have students engage in learning activities that were provided by your child's teacher. As we prepare our summer mailing list, please ensure that your address is correct and if you moved or are planning to move over the summer, please change the address with the school. You can find a 2024-2025 school year calendar on the district website. First day of school for our students is August 19, 2024. Again, my deepest thanks for everything you did to help make this school year a successful one, have a fun and safe summer break and can't wait to see all of our students and families for the upcoming school year.

Your partner in education,

Angel Powell-Muldrrow

Principal
Early Childhood Center at Harriet Tubman School

Calendar of Events

Friday 5/17/24

Students Dismissed @ 12 p.m.
HALF DAY (SIP Day)

Mon 5/13 – Fri 5/17

Preschool Screenings @ ECC
9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Thursday 5/21/24

Field Day

Thursday 5/23/24

Step Up to Kindergarten Celebration!
10 AM & 1 PM

Monday 5/27/24

Memorial Day
NO School

Tuesday 5/28/24

Board Meeting
@ 6:00 p.m.

Friday 5/29/24

Last Day of School





Mrs. Falls & Mrs. Usher – Room 101 (Butterflies)

New Study:

Get Ready for Kindergarten

A friendly reminder:

Check your child's backpack every day. Please return forms back immediately

Please work with your child on letter recognition.

Happy Born Day!

To everyone born in May

Ms. Rountree, Ms. Lechuga & Ms. India - Room 104 (Shining Stars)

Get Ready for Kindergarten

Wow the year is almost over. This last month we will focus on Transiting to Kindergarten. We will focus on letter and number recognition, writing first and last name if applicable, writing numbers 1-10, and using and creating complete sentences. Students going to kindergarten will have a Stepping Up Celebration at the end of the month. Let's celebrate: Anthony, Axel, Auriell, Eliana, Emiliano, Ifeoluwa, Israel, Jesus, Miriam, and Riley.

Early Childhood Center School Newsletter

CUBBIES NEWS

Page 3



Ms. McGrew – Room 106 (Crayon's)

Dear Crayon Families,

Many of us have fond memories of kindergarten. What we might not remember is the anxiety and excitement we may have felt leading up to our entry into elementary school. The final weeks of school can be scary, fun, and exciting all at the same time, and not just for children! It's understandable for you to experience a range of emotions about your child moving from PreK to Kindergarten.

When children go through big life changes, such as the transition from preschool to elementary school, they may have big feelings that they aren't able to easily communicate. We know that this is an important milestone in your child's life. We are here to support your family.



Ms. Ruffin & Mrs. Thomas – Room 107 (Busy Bees)

Our study/theme for this month is Getting Ready for Kindergarten. We will find out how is kindergarten like preschool/how it is different, how do we feel about going to kindergarten and much more! In addition to the theme/study, we will continue to work on writing our names, identifying letters and letter sounds (Aa-Zz) counting (1-40) and identifying numerals (1-40), one-to-one correspondence, rhyming (deciding if two words rhyme, producing two rhyming words), and simple adding and subtraction up to 8. Parents, please ensure you are checking Class Dojo daily for essential information and special activities.



Ms. Neely, Ms. McClain, Mrs. Collier – Room 109 (Garden Room)

Hi Garden Room parents! We have been having lots of fun learning about boxes. But for the month of May, we will be getting ready for some of our students to transition to kindergarten. So, since it is the end of the PreK for some of our kiddos, so we are going to be talking a lot about what Kindergarten is going to look like for them. Please make sure you are checking the students' communication folders and that you send them back every day. Also, parents please make sure you check Class Dojo daily for important information and activities going on in the classroom.

Early Childhood Center School Newsletter

CUBBIES NEWS

Page 4



Mrs. Baker & Ms. Brown –Room 111 (Diamonds)

Parent/Teacher: Children's Goals for Kindergarten, Potty Training Goals/Techniques

Review: (1-10) (Aa-Ww), Colors, Shapes

Numbers: (1-10)-Counting, How many, Identify, Quantity

Study: Step Up to Kindergarten

Letters: (Xx-Zz) Identify/Sounds/Naming objects

Writing: Names, Words (Drawing Pictures about Kindergarten Stories Read)

Story Time: Daily read, ask questions, draw pictures.

Discussions: (Problem Solving)

Rules: Safety/Routines @Home & School/Share & Take Turns

Reminders: Field Day & Field Trip

Parents (Provide) Children's pull ups (Read each night)

Class Dojo: Check Daily A.M. & P.M.

Thank you! & Shine Bright 😊



Mrs. Wordlaw & Mrs. Donegan—Room 112 (Rockets)

Kindergarten Readiness

The early childhood/preschool experience has a lasting effect that extends into the classroom and beyond. To assist and continue the development beyond the classroom, here are a few activities that can be done at home:

- Practice writing name (if can write teach how to use upper and lowercase letters)
- Recognizing upper and lowercase letters of the alphabet and letter sounds
- Rote count to 20
- Recognize numbers 1- 10.
- Self-help skills (putting up and zipping up coat/jacket, cleaning up after themselves)

These few activities correlate with your child's success in transitioning to a formal classroom environment. Kids that demonstrate stronger school readiness are more likely to experience positive academic outcomes later in their school journeys. Taking these extra steps at home can help enhance the experience.



Mrs. Miles & Ms. Porter – Room 113 (The Bears)

Goals and objectives for this month include:

- This month's theme will be getting ready for kindergarten.
- The monthly field trip will be to visit the kindergarten class at the school elementary school.
- Students are excited about riding the school bus.
- Students begin to learn more about kindergarten.
- Students also learn to speak assertively.
- Students focus on making new friends.
- Students will create artwork to display on our classroom door.
- Students demonstrate good behavior when walking in the hallway.
- Students enjoy the weekly activities in the flying classroom.



Early Childhood Center School Newsletter

CUBBIES NEWS

Page 5



Mrs. Roudez, Ms. Cobb & Ms. Destiny – Room 114 (The Aquarium Room)

Hello from The Aquarium,

For the month of May, we will be Getting Ready For Kindergarten. We have nine students that will transition to Kindergarten this year. We will have an opportunity to visit different Kindergarten classrooms at different schools in District 148. We are preparing for our Step-Up program for all the little scholars that will transition to Kindergarten. Parents had a meeting already preparing for what to expect and what to do, to get the little people ready to move on to the new school. The 2023-2024 has been a blast so far. We plan to go out with a Bang.



Mrs. Hogan & Ms. Goldman – Room 115 (Cool Cats)

Hello Cool Cat Parents,

We hope you're enjoying this beautiful weather. Can you believe the end of school is almost here? Time for some summer fun. If you haven't done so already, please sign your child up for the summer school program, there is a field trip each week so you can be assured your child will be having some fun along with their learning time.

Early Childhood Center School Newsletter

CUBBIES NEWS

Page 6



District 148 –Early Learning Satellite Site

Ms. Carter & Mrs. Brown – Cuddle Care (Pre-K Expansion)

Cuddle Care Butterflies will focus on the five core values that guide effective transition practices to assist the children and their families to prepare for Kindergarten. We will also continue to reach their academic and developmental needs as needed for a smooth and successful transition.

Hooray Kindergarten Here We Come!!!



District 148 –Early Learning Satellite Site

Mrs. Williams-Sargent & Ms. Liggett – Under Carrey's Care (Pre-K Expansion)

Dear Super Parents

Our academic school year is almost over, and we have covered a lot of topics such as boxes, clothes, bread and nutrition, trees, and the beginning of the year. As superstars, we have also learned how to be good characters and friends. This month, we are preparing for kindergarten by visiting some Kindergarten classrooms at our local school district. Additionally, we are getting ready for our step-up program at ECC (Harriet Tubman) on Thursday, May 23rd, at 1:00 pm. We would like to thank all the parents for entrusting Ms. Tammy and me with the education of their wonderful children. And finally, let's not forget that each one of you is a superstar with superpowers.

Early Childhood Center & School Newsletter

CUBBIES NEWS

Page 7

Screening Corner

Thanks to all the families for your support! We are constantly growing and that would not be possible without you. **Screenings will take place Monday May 13th to Friday May 17th, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.** If you are interested in preschool for children ages 3-5, please contact our school at (708) 849-9848. Thank you for your cooperation.

Why do we screen?

Developmental screening is designed to identify problems or delays during normal childhood development. When properly applied, screening tests for developmental or behavioral problems in preschool children allow improved outcomes due to early implementation of treatment.



Curriculum Coordinator – Ms. Walton (Townsend)

Pyramid Tip: Physical Development

Children need to move their body to release energy. Movement helps the child to explore and makes him feel good and increases self-confidence. Healthy children are ready to listen and learn.

At Home

If you have 3 minutes

- When leaving the kitchen ask child to jump to the next room. Jump on and off a step. Ask child to shake out the wiggles before sitting down to eating.
- Have your child wash hands before and after meals and when coming in from outside. Use soap and water, rub hands under running water and continue doing this for 15 seconds (you can sing the alphabet song).

On the Go

If you have 3 minutes

- While in the car, Discuss use of seat belts, car seats. If playing music on the car radio, have your child pretend to play an instrument or lead the band.

Early Childhood Center School Newsletter

CUBBIES NEWS

Page 8

Parent Coordinator – Ms. Haggie & Parent Educator – Ms. Bishop

Transitioning to Kindergarten

Going to kindergarten is an important life event. Preschoolers can feel excited—and a bit worried, too. Families have similar feelings, knowing their child is going to the “big school.”

Before school starts

- Send a note to the nurse and to the teacher if your child has allergies or special needs.
- Visit the school and meet the teacher/school staff
- Start your school routine early.
- Label everything.
- Read books together about starting school.

On the first day of school

- Be positive.
- Help your child say goodbye.
- Avoid behaviors that might upset your child. For example, try not to:
 - Cry as you wave to your child through the bus window.
 - Argue with the bus driver who may be late the first few days. (The drivers need time to learn the route and talk to anxious parents.)
 - Battle with your child about an outfit you want them to wear.
 - Force your child to eat a big breakfast. (They may be nervous and it might be better to eat lightly than to have a stomachache.)
- Wait to ask the teacher your specific questions.

During the first week of school

- Be supportive.
- Instill a sense of confidence in your child.
- Set aside a time, each evening, to share your child’s day.
- Read everything the school sends home.
- Enjoy being the parent of a kindergartner!

Administrative Assistants – Mrs. Harris

Please keep your contact information updated. The contact information you gave during registration is what the district and school sites have on file for your student. These are the phone number(s) that will be called to notify parents/guardians of school-hour and non-school-hour emergencies, weather-related announcements and school closings, absence notifications, school/district announcements, reminders and much more.

Contact information for OFFICE STAFF

CALL: (708) 849-9848 | **FAX:** (708) 201-6233 | **EMAIL:** harrisa@district148.net



Call **Alltown Bus Company at (708) 333-7663** with any **Bus Related Issues**

Early Childhood Center School Newsletter

CUBBIES NEWS

Page 9

Support Programs – Therapy Team:

- Occupational Therapy, OT

-Speech Therapy, ST

-Physical Therapy, PT

Activities to Encourage Speech and Language Development

There are many ways you can help your child learn to understand and use words. See a speech-language pathologist if you have concerns.

Birth to 2 Years

- Count what you see.
- Talk about animal sounds. This helps your baby connect the sound and the animal. Use words like "The dog says woof-woof."
- Read to your child. You don't have to read every word, but talk about the pictures. Choose books that are sturdy and have large colorful pictures. Ask your child, "What's this?" and try to get them to point to or name objects.

2 to 4 Years

- Speak clearly to your child. Model good speech.
- Repeat what your child says to show that you understand.
- Ask questions that include a choice. "Do you want an apple or an orange?" "Do you want to wear your red shirt or your blue shirt?"
- Sing simple songs and say nursery rhymes. This helps your child learn the rhythm of speech.
- Show pictures of familiar people and places. Talk about who they are and what happened. Try making up new stories.

4 to 6 Years

- Pay attention when your child talks to you.
- Get your child's attention before you talk.
- Pause after speaking. This gives your child a chance to respond.
- Keep helping your child learn new words. Say a new word, and tell them what it means, or use it in a way that helps him understand. For example, you can use the word "vehicle" instead of "car." You can say, "I think I will drive the vehicle to the store. I am too tired to walk."
- Talk about where things are, using words like "first," "middle," and "last" or "right" and "left." Talk about opposites like "up" and "down" or "on" and "off."
- Help your child follow two- and three-step directions. Use words like, "Go to your room, and bring me your book."
- Use everyday tasks to learn language. For example, talk about the foods on the menu and their color, texture, and taste when in the kitchen. Talk about where to put things. Ask them to put the napkin on the table, in your lap, or under the spoon. Talk about who the napkin belongs to. Say, "It is my napkin." "It is Daddy's." "It is Tamara's."

Early Childhood Center School Newsletter

CUBBIES NEWS



Resource Teachers – Mrs. Slager & Mrs. Wasik

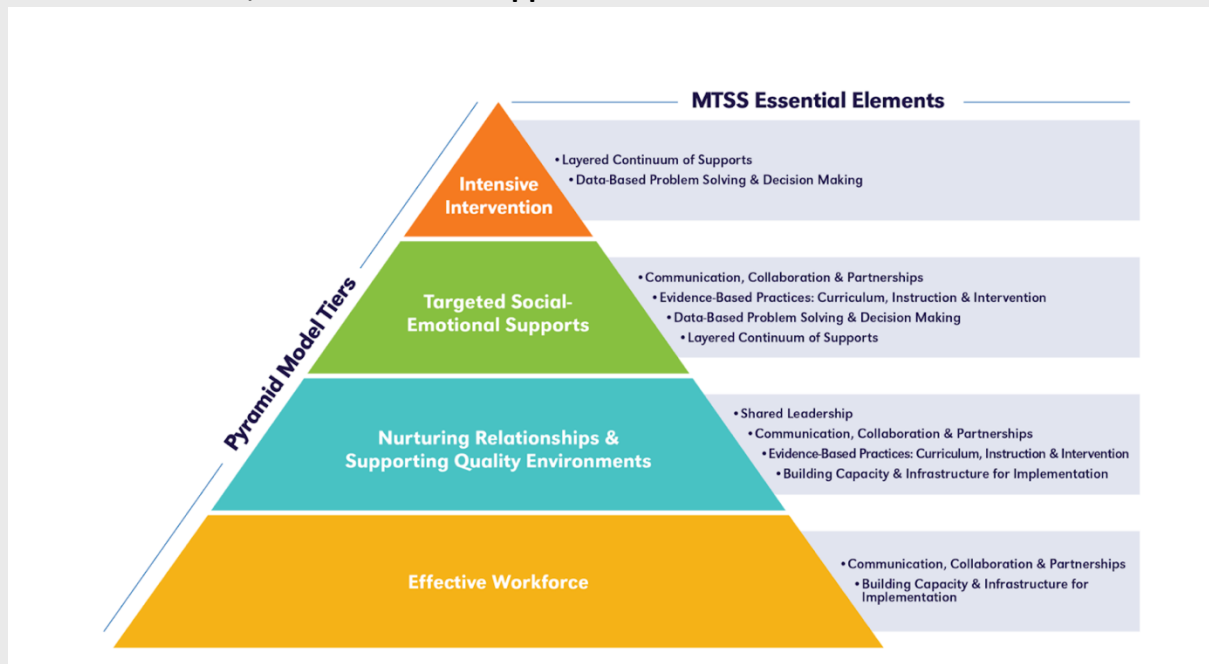
Spring has Sprung! The activities here require little or no money and they will provide hours of fun, all the while using skills that we work on at school, such as fine motor skills, attending, and following directions. Some activities to do at home include:

1. Create faces from recyclables, such as egg cartons, containers, and lids
2. Recycle a milk carton to create a milk carton planter for spring planting or just as a holder for items
3. Feed birds using a plastic bottle bird feeder

Enjoy the warmer weather and spend some time outside this month. Congratulations to all our students who are Stepping Up to Kindergarten. We are so proud of you!!!

MTSS Facilitator – Mrs. Freeman

At ECC, we use MTSS to support academic and behavior needs.



Early Childhood Center School Newsletter
CUBBIES NEWS

Page 11



Nurse's Corner –

*Once again, another school year is coming to an end. **Please remember to pick up** all student medications from the nurse's office. This is also the time to schedule any doctor's appointments to get your child's physicals done for the 2024-2025 school year. Congratulations to all ECC cubbies Stepping Up to Kindergarten!*