

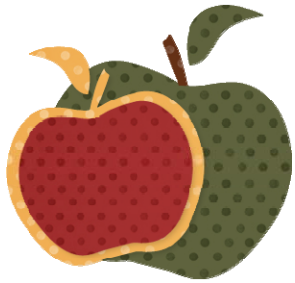


# Takoma Park Child Development Center Monthly Newsletter

## September 2011

### Director's Report

Takoma Park Child Development Center  
310 Tulip Avenue  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
301-270-6824  
tpcdc1111@yahoo.com



- Sept. 16**  
**Board of Directors Elections**  
**6:00 pm at TPCDC**
- Sept. 28**  
**Public Schools Early Release**
- Sept. 29**  
**Public Schools CLOSED**  
**TPCDC OPEN**
- Oct. 15**  
**TPCDC Yard Sale**  
**9am to Noon**
- Oct. 21**  
**Public Schools CLOSED**  
**TPCDC OPEN**
- Oct. 29**  
**TPCDC Fall Cleanup**  
**9am to Noon**

Dear TPCDC parents,  
Welcome to another exciting year at TPCDC! We enjoyed a great summer with fun filled activities. We welcome back all families to a new academic year. We also welcome all the new families to our Center. The teachers have worked hard preparing their classrooms to make a fun learning environment.

- We warmly welcome the following **new children** to the classrooms:
- Teddy bears: Juna Perkins, Juda Castanio, Jack Conkey, Zola Mayo, Rose Arkush, Caroline Crowney, Mila Scheckner
  - Munchkins: Kolliope Abramson, Henry Leotta, Violet Werham, Sam Markle
  - Rainbows: Francis Cox
  - Shining Stars: Theo Parker, Theodore Hanna, Charlotte Jackson, Emma McAninch, Sean Barenas, Zander Frey
  - School Agers: Henry Badt

We welcome **new staff members** Dorothy Battle for Shining Stars and Christine Bui for the Rainbows.

#### Annual Board Election

At TPCDC, families are encouraged to participate as much as possible. One way to help the center run smoothly and become involved is to be on the Board of Directors. The Board is responsible for establishing policies and providing assistance with personnel, finance, operations, and program matters. Board elections are scheduled to take place Sept. 16th, so look for information soon.

#### Fall Clean Up

The fall clean up is scheduled for Oct. 29th 9am to noon. Handy with a hammer, rake or paint brush? Please sign up to spend a couple of hours that Saturday helping to spruce up the center.

Once again, welcome to the new academic year and we are looking forward to being a part of your children's growth and development.

Happy Fall!  
- *Nalini*

Our Staff	Our Parent Board of Directors
<p>Director: Nalini Jeevaraj</p> <p>Office Administrator: Joan Byrd</p> <p>Teddy Bears: Ana Rodriguez, Martha Talento, Reina Vasquez, Dorys Ferman</p> <p>Munchkins: Cecilia Gallagher, Indhira Hill, Yanira Salgado, Dora Moraco</p> <p>Rainbows: Selvi Vijaykumar, Teresa Abanto, Ada Cruz, Christine Bui</p> <p>Explorers: Sherri Smith, Pat Frazier, Arley Reyes, Beatriz Perez, Brenda Roberts</p> <p>Shining Stars (K and 1<sup>st</sup>): Brenda Roberts, Dorothy Battle, Mikea Hall, Arly Reyes (as needed)</p> <p>School Agers (2<sup>nd</sup> and Up): Phi Thi Thach, Jonathan Berros, Lindsey Hicks</p>	<p>Co-Chairs: Chris Daw, Patty First</p> <p>Board Members: Cary Burnell, Dara Corrigan, Joy Gerdy Zogbi, Fred Hargrove, Christine Hill, Matt Hobbs, Elizabeth Keyes, Kate Killberg, Carla Komich, Ann McCarthy, Terri Pendleton, Stephen Rahaim, Maria Roeper, Noam Unger, Devki Virk, Lisa Vogel, Caroline Wadhams</p> <p>Classroom Coordinators:                      Teddy Bears: Noam Unger/Caroline Wadhams                      Munchkins: Malawi Welles                      Rainbows: Matt Hobbs                      Explorers: Chris Daw</p> <p>The Board meets on the second Thursday of each month.  <b>Board elections for 2011/2012 are September 16th.</b></p> <p>The center can always use project volunteers. If you are interested in fundraising, promotion, programming or have a creative idea, please contact one of the Board members.</p>

**Join the TPCDC Email List!**

The TPCDC email list is used for Center announcements, information and updates. To join, please send a request to [tpcdclist@gmail.com](mailto:tpcdclist@gmail.com). Please include your preferred email address, your child's name and their classroom. You will be added to the Center wide list and your child's classroom list. Thanks!



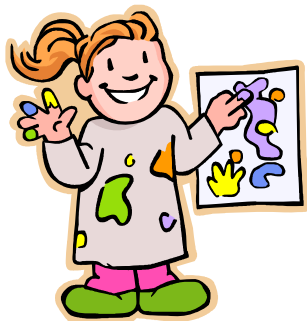
**Classroom Updates**



**Teddy Bears**

We welcome you and your children to our classroom! We look forward to having a great year.

For the month of September, we will focus on getting to know each other,



helping the children get to know the classroom routine and areas, and help them get familiar with each other by singing their names during group time, doing the good morning song, and through morning stories.

We will do art activities such as coloring with crayons, finger painting and stamp parties.

Once again, welcome to the Teddy Bears classroom!



**Munchkins**



Welcome new Munchkins! This month promises to be a very fun one. We will spend this time getting to know our new classroom and classmates.

The theme for the month of September is **OUR FRIENDS**. We will prepare homemade popsicles and have a Friendship Musical Parade. We will learn the Hello Hello song, create a friendship quilt and go on a friendship walk. We are so thrilled and excited to start the new school year!



**Rainbows**

Welcome to all of our new Rainbows! We are excited about the new year. Our theme is "Getting to know each other." We will learn

## Rainbows (cont.)

each other's names. The children will be encouraged to develop independence. We will learn how to be friends and to share. We will help our new Rainbows develop their social and self help skills. Our show and share will begin in October, and each month there will be a theme. Parents, please bring a recent family picture and an individual picture of your child for the board.



We are looking forward to an exciting year with you all!

## Explorers

Welcome Explorer parents! We have many fun and exciting things planned for the year. Our theme for September is All About Me. We always start the year getting to know each other, treating everyone with respect, learning the classroom routine and rules, and enjoying the fact that we're the big kids now.

We will start our show n' tell in October. Each month you will receive a calendar with a theme and a day for your child to share.

On our door is a home/school chart. Please encourage your child to change their card when arriving and leaving.

To help control the spread of germs, we ask that children wash their hands with soap and water as soon as they enter the building.

Our rest time is scheduled from 1-2pm. During this time, we're playing soft music or listening to story tapes. Children also have the option of bringing a writing tablet and markers to use quietly on their mat during rest. We do not supply writing materials for rest time.

Breakfast is offered from 7:30-8:30am. When serving hot breakfast, we stop cooking at 8:20



but will still serve what is left until 8:30. If your child arrives after this time, please do not ask teachers to serve breakfast.

On most occasions, the Center does not have extra clothes in case of accidents. Please make sure your child has a complete set of extra clothes in their cubby at all times.

Please remember to bring a family photo and a single photo of your child. Thanks, and welcome!

## Shining Stars

We are very excited about our new and returning Shining Stars. We hope everyone enjoyed the summer and look forward to a fun filled year!

For September, we will focus on following rules and making new friends. We will talk about safety and play games related to team work and friendship. We will do fun art projects and cool cooking projects.



Please be advised that if your child will be out for the afternoon it is very important that you call the office and let us know. All info about field trips and other items will be posted outside the classroom. Please check your child's classroom mailbox daily. If you have any questions of concerns, feel free to speak with any classroom teacher. Welcome!

## School Ager

Welcome! We are really excited for this year. We are going to have one art project for each month. The month of September, we will make a mural representing things we like.

On September 29th, public schools will be closed but TPCDC will be open. We will go on a field trip that day, so please remember that your child has to have a yellow Center t-shirt and his/her own backpack to carry their lunch.

We look forward to having a great year!



## Important Reminders



### Remember

Please update your emergency contact information. Make sure there is a full set of season appropriate extra clothes in your child's cubby. Please remember to bring a sheet and a blanket for nap time and take them home at the end of each week for cleaning.

### Reminder to Part-Timers

A special reminder to parents of children who are enrolled part-time at TPCDC. Please remember that your contract is for specific days of the week and not for a number of days per week. If TPCDC is closed on a day that your child normally attends, you may not bring your child on another day that week to make it up. If you wish to bring your child on a day that she or he is not contracted for, please check with the Director in advance to ensure there is space available in the classroom. We regret any inconvenience this may cause.

### Late Pick-Up Policy

Please come to pick-up your child early enough so that you have enough time to gather your child's belongings and exit by 6:00 pm (1 pm for morning attendees). We appreciate your help in doing this so that our staff can leave at a reasonable time in the evening.

A \$15 late fee for each 15 minutes or portion thereof will be charged for children who are left at the center after 1 pm (morning program attendees) or 6 pm (afternoon attendees or full day program attendees).

Fees:

6:00 - 6:15 = \$15

6:16 - 6:30 = \$30

6:31 - 6:45 = \$45

6:46 - 7:00 = \$60

Chronic lateness will be assessed an extra surcharge of \$50 for each occurrence. (Please refer to our family handbook on page 17.)

### Parental Assistance on the Playground

At dismissal time, there is a lot of activity on the playground with all the adults, conversations, and

playing occurring. There has been difficulty in defining when the teachers turn over responsibility of children when we are on the playground at dismissal time. We ask that when you come to pick up your child and he/she is already on the outdoor playground, that you officially take over responsibility of your child as soon as you enter the playground and your child becomes aware of your presence. We thank you for your assistance in this matter.

### Clothing

Children should wear comfortable clothes that they can remove easily. Children should not wear "dress" clothes as they are likely to get messy.

Weather appropriate clothing should always be provided: hats, gloves, etc. in the winter months and shorts in the summer. Children must always wear shoes. Sturdy footwear is recommended. For their own safety, children may not wear shoes that expose their toes.



### Toys from Home

Because toys from home are often difficult to share, easy to lose, and breakable we ask that children do not bring toys from home to the center except for show and tell. If your child has a special item he or she would like to share, please let your child's teacher know. The center does not allow toys that promote aggressive behavior such as guns, knives, or swords. Following are some appropriate and popular items: photographs, hand made toys and games, books, objects found in nature and art work.

### Health Issues

It is important to keep teachers and office staff informed of children's health issues. Please bring emergent health issues to our attention, particularly head lice, strep throat, and pink eye.

### Health Insurance Card

NAEYC requires that each child in the center should have his/her insurance card in their file. Please bring a copy of the card and drop it in the office.