



12.23.2022

BI-WEEKLY CONNECTION

Child Care E-Newsletter

A Message From The Director Easy Ways to Choose Love

As we push through the last month of 2022, let us continue to practice the Choose Love Formula and spread a little more love and kindness everywhere we go. Let us not forget ourselves and practice self-care as well.

By Choosing Love, by demonstrating courage, gratitude, forgiveness, or compassion-in-action, you are helping to create a ripple effect that reaches far and wide, making our world a better place.

Below is a copy of the Choose Love December Calendar!



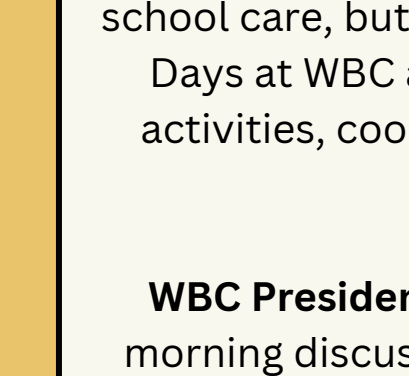
Leanna Lorden
Director of Children's Programs

Help Develop your Child's Independence

Ever wonder how you can instill independence and self-help skills in your children? Start by giving them some accountability and celebrating when they've completed a task.

Offering an organized and appropriate chore list for your child can do all those things. Holding your child accountable for cleaning up their own messes, or taking care of their own needs, is imperative when it comes to strengthening life skills.

It can often be a challenge to decide which chores and tasks are appropriate for young children. Click the button below to determine what some of your child's chores could be.



Age-Appropriate
Chore List

Jess Webb
Assistant Director of the Early Learning Program

Extended Education Program Vacation Days

The Extended Education Program not only offers before and after school care, but we also offer care during school vacations. Vacation Days at WBC are filled with outdoor time, seasonal crafts, STEM activities, cooking, and more. Here's a peek at some of the things we've done during school vacations.

WBC President for a Day – On Tuesday, 11/8, children spent the morning discussing the characteristics of a good leader. Then they picked groups of 2-3, each with a President, Vice President, and optional campaign manager, to plan their campaign and create campaign posters. After lunch, we voted for who we believed would be the best President and Vice President team. The winners got to pick our afternoon activities and afternoon snack.

Making Apple Sauce – On Wednesday, 11/23, we made homemade applesauce! Children did all the cutting of the apples; we added cinnamon and sugar and cooked them in a pressure cooker. Once the apples were done, we took turns mashing them in a Foley food mill. The applesauce was delicious!

Click the button below to see more pictures of our vacation day fun!



WBC Vacation Days
Photos

Allison Saltmarsh
Director of the Extended Education Program



Classroom Pod Newsletters

Infant & Toddler Pod

Pre-K & Preschool Pod

Classroom Corner

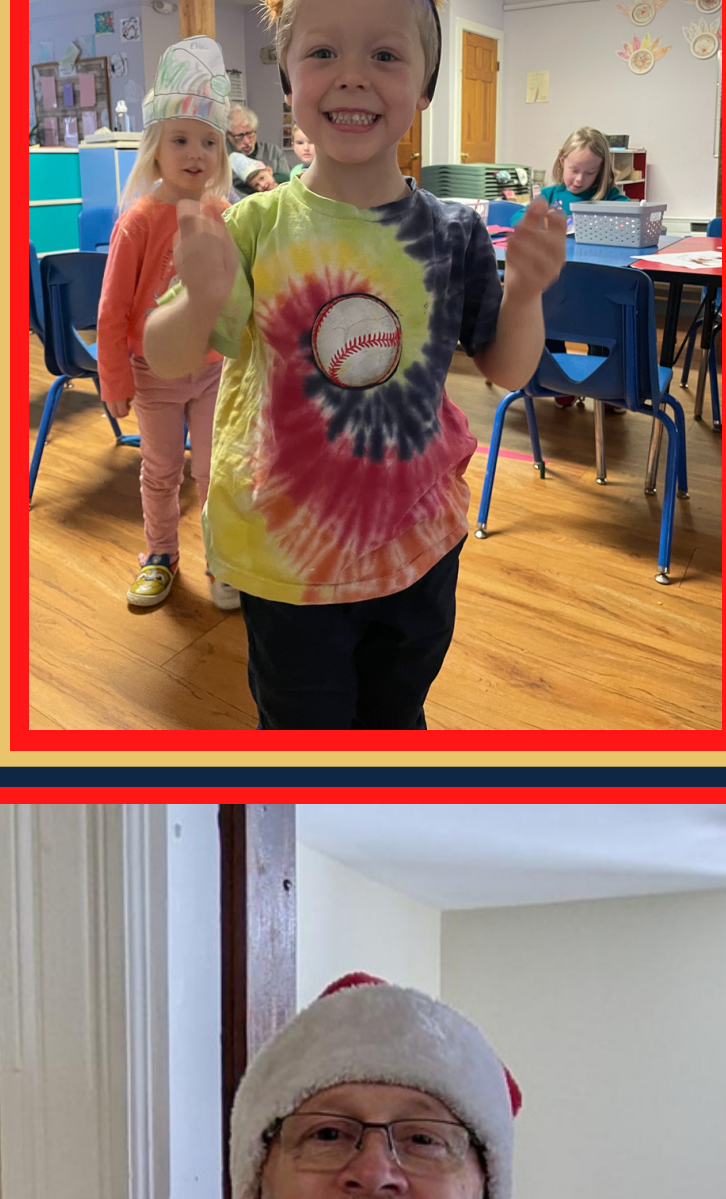
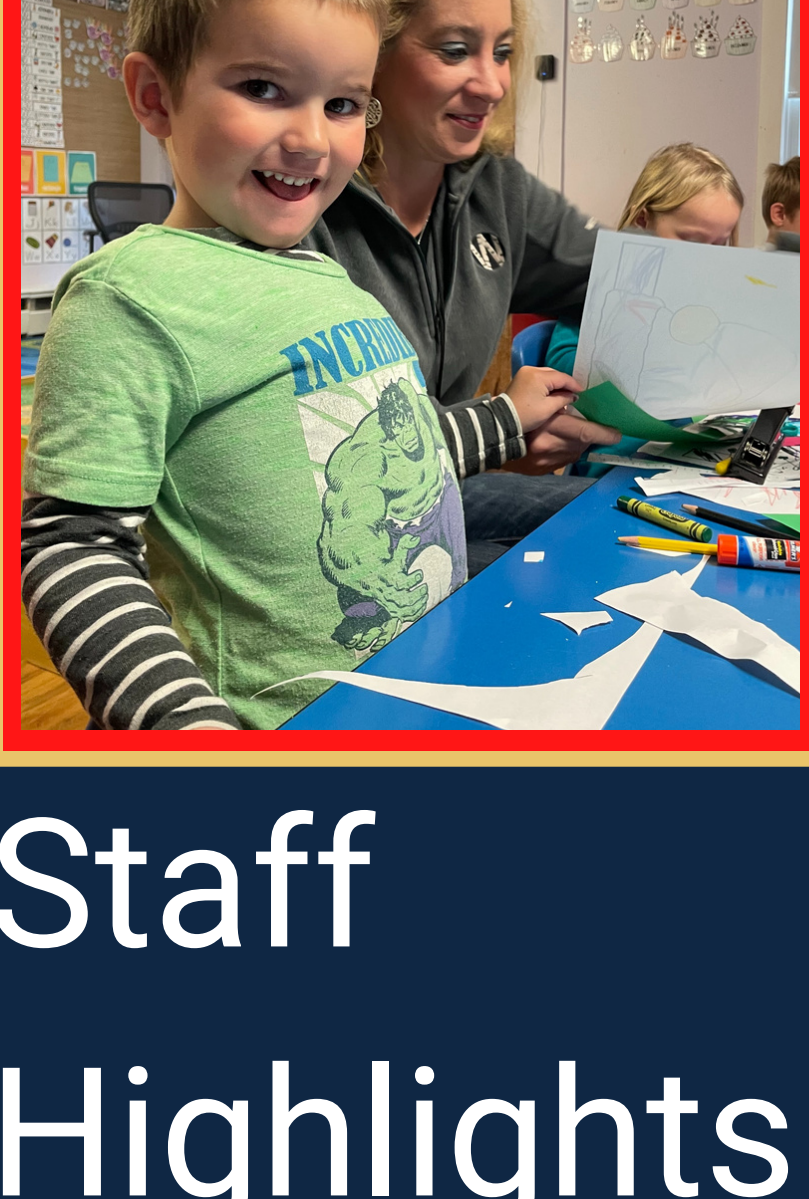
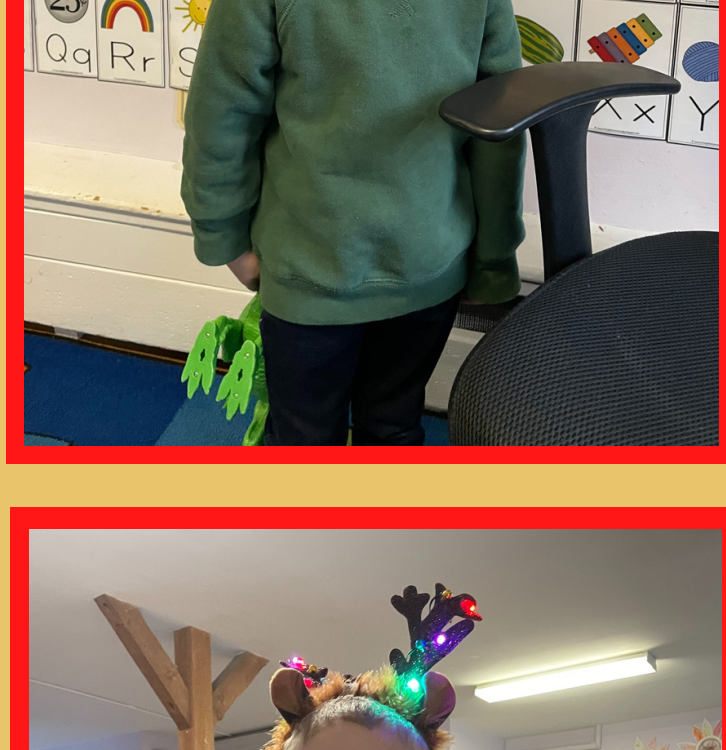
Holiday-Themed Hats in Pre-K



The holiday season becomes a special time for the children in our classrooms. By integrating different holiday-themed activities into their curriculum, we help show them the importance of community, generosity, and family that represents the ambiance of this special time of the year.

Last week the holiday cheer could not be felt more throughout the entire Pre-K Classroom. Each child sang along to Christmas-themed songs and made elf or Christmas-themed hats for themselves and their loved ones.

After choosing their favorite colored construction paper, each child used colored pencils to create a hat design that that teachers then cut out. Every child was so excited to share their gifts with their family and couldn't help but wear their own hat throughout the rest of the day.



Staff Highlights

Rusty Gage, our Active Living Director, grew up in Texas where he attended the University of Texas at Arlington and graduated with a degree in Exercise and Sport Science. As a competitive gymnast passionate about making an impact in his community, he went on to purchase the training center he worked at during his undergraduate studies. After profitably selling his gym, he went on to continue his studies and earned an MBA in business from the University of Dallas. While he was in pursuit of his MBA, he volunteered as Director of Community Outreach for his church, where he received the Dallas County Volunteer of the Year award for his work with indigent and marginalized populations. He went on to become Executive Director of the church's charitable programs, again serving those same marginalized populations.



Wanting a change of scenery, Rusty then moved to Maui, Hawaii and opened a new gymnastics training center called Valley Isle Gymnastics. As the center grew, it received multiple awards and acknowledgements including Better Business Bureau's Torch Award for Business Ethics, Special Olympics Maui's Outstanding Partner Award, commendations from the House of Representatives for ethically trained high-achieving athletes, and he was also one of six final candidates for Maui Person of the Year. He also led a personal training exercise class for active seniors, where he discovered a love for working with the older people because of their different perspectives and rich life experience.

Fast forward to 2019, Rusty, his husband Christopher, and their dog Keoki, all moved from Maui to Henniker, New Hampshire. With his passion for exercise still very much alive, Rusty cycles competitively in his spare time along with participating in a variety of social service programs both locally and abroad. Feel free to stop by his office located on the bottom floor of our building adjacent to our Active Living area and say "hello".