



10.13.2023

BI - WEEKLY

CONNECTION

Child Care E-Newsletter

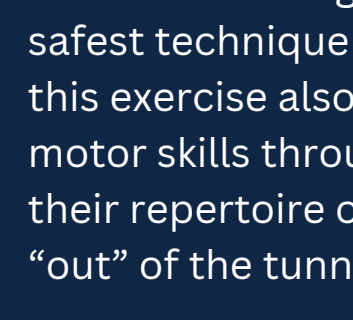
A Message From The Director

Modeling the Mess Up

Make a mistake in front of your child today – maybe spill something you are pouring or put your shirt on backwards. Then, say something silly like:

“Oh no, what a silly thing! That’s okay. I can try again.”

Modeling that we too mess up, reduces the shame in the moments when our kids make mistakes.



Leanna Lorden
Assistant Executive Director

Classroom Corner

Celebrating Fire Safety Month

This past Tuesday, the Toddler Classroom practiced fire safety techniques and protocols as well as learned about the dangers surrounding fires and touching hot surfaces.

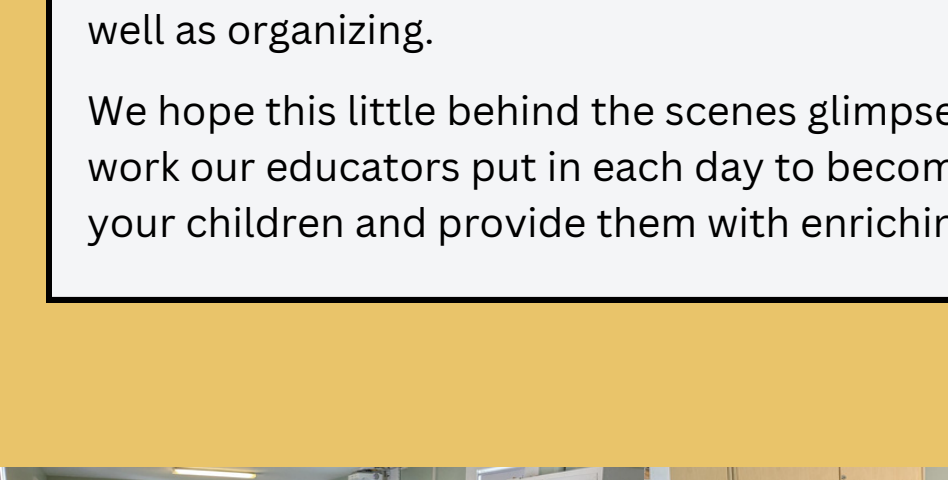
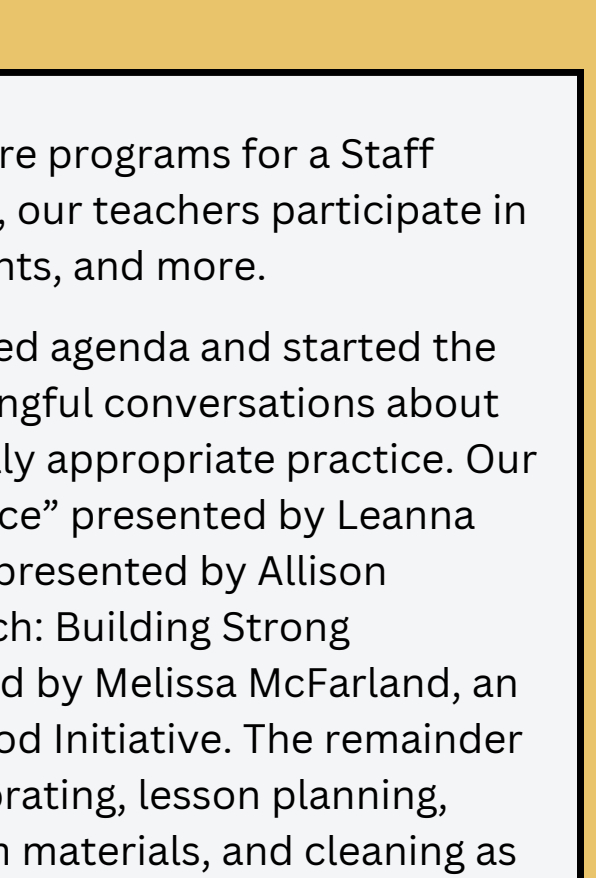
Each child was shown the right way to crawl and avoid smoke when escaping a fire, and then practiced their newly learned technique by going through a “tunnel” set up in the classroom. Along with teaching the children the safest technique to avoid fire-induced smoke, this exercise also helps develop their gross motor skills through crawling and increases their repertoire of prepositions (going “in” and “out” of the tunnel).



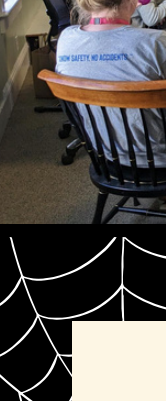
Miss Nicole and Miss Hilary then presented toy campfire items and a picture of a firefighter to the class. They explained the dangers of touching hot surfaces, the characteristics of a firefighter, what to yell out to a firefighter if they are in a fire-related emergency and not to hide from them. This helps prepare each child to take the necessary actions if a fire occurs and not to be frightened by the firefighter’s appearance.



The class then transitioned to another fire safety activity with an emphasis on creativity and strengthening cognitive development. With markers in hand, every child drew the flames of a fire on the fence surrounding their playground, and used spray bottles filled with water to “put out” the fire. This activity demonstrates the impact water can have on mitigating a fire and helps each child conceptualize the role water has in eliminating the heat and oxygen required for a fire to expand and continue to burn.



What We Do On Staff Professional Development Days



Every 4 months, White Birch closes its child care programs for a Staff Professional Development Day. On these days, our teachers participate in training, lesson planning, portfolios, assessments, and more.

This past Monday, October 9th, we had a packed agenda and started the day with a staff meeting and engaged in meaningful conversations about developmental milestones and developmentally appropriate practice. Our training included “Appreciation in the Workplace” presented by Leanna Lorden, “Emergency Operations Plan Review” presented by Allison Saltmarsh and “Utilizing the Proactive Approach: Building Strong Community Bonds and Connections” presented by Melissa McFarland, an Instructional Coach for the UNH Early Childhood Initiative. The remainder of the day was spent in the classrooms collaborating, lesson planning, completing portfolios, switching out classroom materials, and cleaning as well as organizing.

We hope this little behind the scenes glimpse gives you an idea of the hard work our educators put in each day to become even better teachers for your children and provide them with enriching and engaging classrooms.

Allison Saltmarsh
Child Care Programs Director



Classroom Pod E-Newsletters for October & November

Preschool & Pre-K Pod

Infant & Toddler Pod

You are invited to a

HALLOWEEN PARADE



Tuesday, October 31st
White Birch Center


Parade Logistics & Route:
Line up in front of White Birch @ 10:00AM
Depart White Birch @ 10:05AM
1st stop: Montshire Pediatric Dentistry @ 10:15AM
2nd stop: Henniker Family Dentistry @ 10:40AM
Return to White Birch around 11:15AM

All are welcome and costumes are encouraged!



Tucker Free Library StoryWalk®

Begin reading *Pick a Pumpkin* by Patricia Toht at the front door of the library. Take a picture of the map (also at tuckerfreelibrary.org) & read the whole story on pages around town!!



SEPT. 14 - NOV. 5

Thanks to our partners: Henniker Community School; New Life Thrift Shop; Western Ave. Pizzeria; Henniker Pharmacy; Abigail's Bakery & Cafe; Davis & Towle Insurance; Sonny's Main St. Restaurant; Daniel's Restaurant; Superscoops.

Staff Highlights

Erin Calvert

Erin is the Program Coordinator for the Extended Education Program. When she was hired, she told us that she is comfortable wearing many hats and is open to doing any job assigned to her to support the organization.

This past week, Erin did just that by taking on the role as an intermediate cook in the kitchen. She did a great job cooking, serving meals, making sure the kitchen was clean and organized, as well as ordering food. She happily took on all these responsibilities *in addition* to her other duties as Program Coordinator and with a smile on her face.

We are incredibly lucky to have Erin on our team and are so grateful that she said yes to working at White Birch!

