

Bristol Preschool Child Care Center Parent Newsletter Winter 2019

It's hard to believe that it's 2019 already!

Thank you to all who donated to our Holidays Hearts program. We would also like to acknowledge Immanuel Lutheran church for the donation of jackets for many of our children.

Winter weather is here! Please make sure you check NBC 30 for delay and closing information, we do our best to post by 6:00am. NBC30 also has a closing alert system that you can register for. Go to nbc30.com click on school closing alerts, look for the weather news section and click on get closing alerts. It will ask you to provide some information for text alerts or via email. Be sure to check the Bristol Preschool Child Care Center box so you will receive up to date information as soon as it is posted!

Beginning February 1st through March 1st we will celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday with a reading challenge for all families. On March 1st we will have green eggs & ham for lunch and "Cat in the Hat" sundaes for snack. Please help your child's classroom hat grow by reading a book! If any parent would like to donate to this event we are looking for bags of frozen strawberries or raspberries for our "Cat in the Hat" sundaes. Please bring them in by February 25th. **We would like to also invite any parent to come in and read their favorite Dr. Seuss book to their child's class. If you are interested in reading to the class please let your child's teacher know.**

New Emergency Contact Sheets have gone out, these need to be updated on a quarterly basis, please return them as soon as possible!

January 22nd-25th we will be holding Parent-Teacher conferences; sign-up sheets are available in each classroom.

Highlights this month:

January 10th
BPCCC Board Meeting

January 19th
National Popcorn Day

January 21st
Bristol Preschool will be **CLOSED** for Martin Luther King Day

January 22nd-25th
Parent-Teacher Conferences

January 24th
Librarian Visit (West St.)

February 5th
Chinese New Year

February 5th
Librarian Visit (Burlington Avenue.)

February 6th
School Readiness Council Meeting 12:15 @
Bristol BOE

February 7th
BPCCC Board of Director's Meeting

February 14th
Valentine's Day

February 18th
BPCCC **CLOSED** - President's Day

February 21st
Librarian Visit (West St.)

March 5th
Librarian Visit (Burlington Avenue.)

March 6th
School Readiness Council Meeting 12:15 @
Bristol BOE

**February 1st- March 1st:
Dr. Seuss Reading Challenge!**



Parent Reminders

Weather related closings, delays, or early dismissal

The winter weather is here... For closings and delays we will make the decision and post to Channel 30 by 6:00am. If severe weather occurs during the day we may opt to have an early dismissal, please make sure we have updated contact information on file.

Updated Emergency Contact Forms

Bristol Preschool is in the process of collecting updated emergency contact forms. Please make sure you complete the form, even if your information has not changed. If your information has changed it is extremely important that you turn your form in immediately! For the safety of your child(ren) we must have updated information at all times. Thank you for your patience as we ask you to fill out updated forms!

Safety

Please make sure you are supervising your child during arrival and departure. We have received some complaints that children are being left in vehicles while parents are dropping off siblings. Please do not leave children unattended in vehicles. It is against the law to leave a child under the age of 12 unattended in a car. All staff are mandated reporters and will make a call if this is witnessed. For your child's safety please bring your child inside with you. We appreciate your assistance.

Exiting the Buildings:

West Street Parents: Please DO NOT use the exit near the dumpster or out the side door on the lower level. These doors are for emergency use only. Many times parents exit from the doors and they do not shut properly, leaving the building accessible to anyone who enters the parking lot. We also had a few squirrels get into the building from the door being left ajar. For the safety of your children please use the designated exits, also during the winter it becomes very icy even with salt.

Burlington Avenue Parents: Please do not exit through the ramp doors; the door has been left open several times which leaves the building accessible to anyone who enters the property. PLEASE for safety reasons do not use this exit. THANK YOU ☺

Hand washing

As you all are aware upon arrival we ask that you have your child wash their hands before entering the classroom. Many of you are following this procedure and for that we thank you.

Clothing

Please make sure you are sending your child in with a winter jacket, snow pants, boots, hat and mittens. Even when there is snow on the ground and it's chilly outside the children do go outdoors twice a day.

Also please make sure that your child's extra set of clothing is weather appropriate. All items must be labeled as well. Many of the children have the same color mittens, hats, etc... If you need to borrow a permanent marker for labeling please let your child's teacher know when you arrive! Also please be sure your child has a sweater or sweatshirt available if they become cold while indoors. For the children that are in Rooms 5 & 6 at West Street, please dress in layers as these rooms are VERY warm even in the winter!

Family Involvement

Thank you to all the families and staff who donated to our Holiday Hearts. This program helped many families in need to have an enjoyable holiday.

We are very lucky to have a diverse population that attends our preschool. We would love for you to share something from your culture with the center. A recipe, tradition, etc... Please speak to your child's teacher if you are interested in helping the children learn about different cultures.

We love to have parents participate in any way they can... If you are interested in volunteering please contact Renee Dailey @ Burlington Avenue or Pam Testa @ West Street at (860)314-0597. We appreciate any time you can give!

Home- School Connection

Here are a few ideas you can do at home to extend your child's learning. All activities correlate with the CT Early Learning and Development Standards. Most items can be found right in your home!

Lego Color Sort: CT ELDS: Cognition- Early Learning Experiences that will support children to use logic and reasoning.



1. Tape different color construction paper to the table or floor (that coincide with lego colors)
2. Have your child sort according to color. You can also sort according to size.

Magic Milk Demonstration: CT ELDS: Science- Early Learning Experiences will support children to apply scientific practices.

What You Need:

- Whole Milk
- Plates/ Bowls
- Q-tips
- Palmolive Dish Soap
- Food Coloring



There are so many uses for dish soap that have nothing to do with washing dishes.

1. Start by pouring milk into the plater or dish. I like to use just enough to cover the plate.
2. Next add a few drops of food coloring in any order to your tray.
3. Finally, use a Q-tip to drip dish soap into the tray. TIP: Do NOT swirl it in the milk, let it just drip. (This is especially hard for preschool and it is okay if they do the touching... the focus of the observations will just vary slightly).
4. Lastly, watch in amazement! With the addition of the Palmolive soap, the colors will seem to dance around, mixing and avoiding each other at the same time. Think of a milky kaleidoscope!

One-Pot Super Easy Fusilli



Total: 50 min

Active: 20 min

Yield: 4 to 6 servings

One 32-ounce box chicken stock

One 28-ounce can crushed fire-roasted tomatoes

One 1-pound box fusilli

One 8-ounce jar drained oil-packed sun-dried tomatoes, julienned, 2 tablespoons oil reserved

One 3.5-ounce jar capers, drained

4 cloves garlic, minced

1 small onion, small dice

Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper

8 ounces whole milk ricotta

Olive oil, for garnish

12 fresh basil leaves, julienned

Directions

1. Put the chicken stock, tomatoes, fusilli, sun-dried tomatoes plus the reserved oil, capers, garlic and onion in a large pot, then sprinkle with a pinch of salt and some pepper. Stir together. Cover and bring to a boil over high heat. Lower to medium-low heat and simmer, stirring occasionally, until the pasta is al dente and the sauce has thickened, about 25 minutes.
 2. Place pasta on a large platter and dollop with ricotta. Garnish with olive oil, basil and more ground pepper.
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Easy Chicken Lo Mein

By Anne Coleman

Ingredients

- 1 tablespoon oil-sesame or peanut oil
- 1 lb boneless skinless chicken breast, cut into thin slices
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 2 tablespoons soy sauce or teriyaki sauce
- 2 teaspoons freshly grated ginger or 1 teaspoon powder
- 1 3-ounce package chicken flavor ramen noodle soup
- 1 1-lb bag frozen mixed oriental vegetables
- 1/4 cup water

Directions

1. Heat oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat until hot. Add chicken and cook, stirring frequently, until no longer pink.
2. Add vegetables and lid. Cook until vegetables are cooked through, about 5 minutes.
3. In the meantime, cook the noodles (without the flavoring packet) according to package directions. Drain.
4. Add soy sauce, garlic, ginger and seasoning packet to water. Mix well. Pour over chicken and vegetables, add noodles and toss to mix.