Hello CDL families! We are nearing the end of our fall semester and I can imagine you are all busy with grading, papers, projects, and wrapping up semester responsibilities. Our practicum students are also finishing up in the classrooms, parent conferences, and other practicum responsibilities.

Parent will be receiving a Practicum Student evaluation shortly. We value and appreciate all the feedback we receive. The CDL professional staff look at the feedback and see where we can implement quality improvements to assist in the overall experience for the student; as well as, for the family.

I would like to thank all the parents who were able to participate in the CDL Parent Focus Group in October. Dr. Helin and Dr. Pavkov were happy to receive your feedback on all the questions they posed to the group in regards to the CDL/CCC merger. Parents also shared many of their own thoughts, concerns, and questions regarding how the merger will impact the CDL program. Your feedback is truly appreciated.

As we wind down with the semester, we are always so proud of the practicum students who are soon going to be graduating, and going off into the “real world”. We wish all of our students the very best. All of us at the CDL are 100% confident that these students will do great things after they leave here. We are happy to welcome our new ‘crop’ of students for spring. They will have a 2-day orientation on January 11 and 12, and then ready to go full-steam ahead on Tuesday, January 16. The CDL expects to have 15 practicum students this spring. Thank you for being such an important part of our students’ learning and professional growth.

On Friday, January 12 the CDL will host a Family Open House from 10-11:30. If you are able, please feel free to come and visit in your child’s classroom for a little while, and meet your child’s new practicum student primary caregiver. This may be especially helpful for those children returning from the long winter interim who were not here during that time. I’m sure the new students will also appreciate seeing you and your child before the first day of the semester.

Good luck on the rest of your semester and I hope everyone has a wonderful winter break! Enjoy your time off!

Lisa Schmidt
Co-Director for Operations
Hello Preschool Families,

December is here! Thank you to everyone who was able to attend family night. We really appreciate everyone’s participation in our conversation scavenger hunt too! We hope you will be able to think of ways to extend conversations at home and in the community as well. As the semester comes to an end, we would like to wish our intern, Eva, the best of luck as she begins a new journey. We would like to give a warm welcome to Brantley and Avery who transitioned from ITT in November.

The children have been learning about the doctors office and how to take care of patients. They have been looking at x-rays and wrapping up broken arms. The children have also taken an interest in outer space. They have built rocket ships and have been pretending to go to the moon. They are learning about NASA and what it means to be an astronaut. We have also been learning about the different planets in our solar system. Since the weather has been changing the children have been exploring the falling leaves. Have a wonderful winter break!

Sincerely,
Jamie, Kristi, Kayla, & Frank

REMINDERS
Please bring extra clothes and winter accessories.

NIU police officers visited us and gave out erasers.

The nursing student taught the children about the blood pressure cuffs and took Marquise’s blood pressure. He then did animal yoga with the children.

The children created a rocket ship so they can blast off to outer space. They traveled to the moon.

The children played in the leaves by filling the bucket full and then dumping it out.

Children participated in art by using crayons and leaves. They glued the leaves and did some leaf rubbings.
Hello ITT East families,

It’s already December and the semester is coming to a close. We hope you are keeping warm this winter! We had so many experiences this fall! The children had many opportunities to engage in hands-on experiences which promoted their social/emotional, cognitive, fine motor and literacy and cognitive development for example: the children have been engaged with exploring the new books in our classroom, such as: “My Pet”, “Ants go Marching” and “Calm downtime” stories.

The children have also been engaged in exploring their environment from inside the classroom by observing various vehicles on campus (i.e. constructions vehicles, water truck, and the huskie mini buses, etc.). Also, the children have been engaged in dancing during outdoor play. The children listen to, “Going on a Bear Hunt” and “Shake and Move”.

Farewell to Brantley, we will miss you, have fun in Preschool!! :) We had such an enjoyable time at Family Night, thank you to all of our families that participated! We had a blast with all of the fun art activities provided for the night. Based on the children’s interest, Shannon constructed a fire truck for the children to explore and play inside. Thank you to our last lead teacher Shannon; she provided so many engaging and innovative activities for the children!

Thank you to our interns for the awesome emergent experiences and wonderful ideas they have brought to our classroom!! Best wishes and congratulations to Kelsey and Shannon! We appreciate all of your hard work! :-(

We would like to introduce our new interns for the spring 2018 semester, Destiny Valdez, Jessica Hurd and Whitney Cumbo for the 7:30-1:30 shift and Deja Wilson and Alyssa Rogalski will be here from 11:15-5:15. The spring interns have observed and interacted with the children mid-November to the beginning of December please welcome them! We are really excited to see what new ideas they have in store for our classroom. We would also like to welcome Kelsey Kuhlman and Tena Callahan to our classroom, they will be Assistant Teachers in the ITT East classroom for the Spring 2018. We want to thank and say good bye to Natalalee and Genesis who have been amazing Assistant Teachers in East. Both are moving on professionally and we wish them both the very best! Thank you Nat and Genesis!!

FRIENDLY REMINDERS: We will be closed December 20th & 21st for Professional Development Days, and also will be closed December 22nd, 2017 and reopen on Tuesday, January 2, 2018. Please plan accordingly. Please bring in snow suits, boots, gloves, hats and any extra clothing for your child. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to speak with us in person or via email.

Have a fantastic week!

Sincerely,

Clarissa, Natalalee, Genesis and Amanda
Hello ITT West Families,

December is here and fall semester is coming to an end! We have had a very busy November. The children have been really into the change of seasons and often play with the leaves outside. The children have also been particularly interested in our dramatic play area! They have been cooking in the play kitchen, taking care of all types of animals in the veterinarian office, and building with tools in the construction area. Dramatic play enhances cognitive, physical, and language development. It also allows children to role play and use their imagination!

A big thank you to Leanne VandeCreek, a librarian at NIU’s Founders Memorial Library, for coming in and reading to the children for our Family and Community Involvement! Also, thank you to all our families who participated in family night. It was a joy getting to share this time with everyone.

A big farewell to Avery as she is starting preschool! It is always bitter-sweet when our 2s move up to preschool. We will miss you! We will also miss our current interns, Kelsey and Tena. Thank you for all your hard work, congratulations and good luck on the next part of your journey. We would like to welcome our interns for the Spring 2018 semester: Adriana, Shakila, Jamie, Brianna, Priyal, and Kayanna. They have been observing in our classroom and we are excited to see what they bring to our classroom next semester!

A few reminders:

- We will be closed December 20th & 21st for Professional Development Days
- We will be also be closed December 22nd, 2017 and reopen on Tuesday, January 2, 2018.
- As the weather continues to get colder please dress your children appropriately. Please bring in hats, gloves, boots, and snowsuits and label their clothing.

Have a great week!
Sincerely,

Megan, Ecila, Krysten, and Magaly