DIRECTOR’S DESK

Hello CDL families! Here it is again….another ending to another semester! We have had a great academic year at the CDL with some incredible family events, practicum students, and classroom learning experiences for your children. Please remember to wish your child’s primary good wishes. Graduation is just days away for them, and we will miss all of our students. Speaking of which, our new ‘crop’ of students will be starting at the beginning of interim; and, we are anxious to get to know all of them! As we draw near the end, we know that this may be a goodbye for some families as they will be leaving for the summer and not returning for fall. We will for sure be saying goodbye to 4 of our preschoolers heading off to kindergarten this fall — Jaimini, Liam, Eowyn, and Allison. I have so enjoyed getting to know each of these children and will miss them.

Our Week of the Young Child was a huge success! We are thrilled that so many families were able to participate in the events we had throughout the week - the Family Night, Taco Tuesday, Dance Party, and the CDL Parade. The teachers and children were especially excited to give to families at drop off one day a Breakfast-To-Go bag; complete with homemade CDL muffins (a center favorite among the children!) and juice box or fruit. I want to thank the CDL teaching staff for all of their hard work to prepare for this special week. It was nice to hear one of our parents during the parade route said to me how amazed she was at the orchestration that it must take to get all these children together and out the door for a parade—thinking about diapering, feeding, getting their WOYC shirts on, gathering of instruments or pom-pom, etc. - a lot of needs that have to be met before we can even get out of the door. This parent laughed as she said she can barely get out of the door with 2 adults and 1 baby! It’s all worth it, as the parade was a wonderful experience; and, thank goodness we had perfect weather!!

As a reminder, we will sadly be saying goodbye to 2 of our Graduate Assistants: Macy Grimm in Preschool, and Brittney Semple in ITT West. Both have been with the CDL since they were 490 students. We are all extremely proud of them as they are nearing the end of their school careers and soon will be graduating and moving on with new chapters in their lives. We thank them both for their dedication and commitment to the CDL. Elena Palomo in the Preschool room will be taking a leave during the summer, but will be returning in the fall. Replacements for those leaving will be 3 of our current 490 students who are graduating in May: ShaVonne, Christina, and Samantha D. all in ITT East.

Lastly, I would like to update you on the heating work that will be completed at the CDL. This work is still scheduled to start May 16 and run for the 4-week interim period through June 10. With this work being completed, the classrooms will need to shift so they can work on one side of the center and then the other. I will keep families posted with updates.

We wish everyone the best of luck with the end of your semester. If you are a student parent, good luck with finals; and, if you are a faculty parent, good luck with finals! To everyone—please enjoy this spring weather we are finally having!

Lisa Schmidt
Preschool Families,

We want to thank you so much for your participation in our Week of the Young Child festivities! This week was a huge success. We hope you enjoyed yourselves. We have some sad news to share. Our fish, Stickers, died on April 25th. We were able to get a new fish the next day. We gathered potential names for our new betta fish from each child who was willing to participate. The teachers then decided on 6 names for the children to choose from. We are pleased to announce our new fish has been named, Cubbie.

In the classroom, the children have been busy making pictures and books, learning sign language, counting, exploring worms, learning about different community workers, dancing and performing on stage, and pretending to be doctors and nurses in dramatic play. Outside, the bikes and scooters have been popular, as well as, the soft square and ramp mats. The children have jumped off and slid down controlling their bodies each way.

We want to thank Macy, Elena, Jorden, Miranda, Kelly, and Maria for a fabulous semester. We are sad to see all of them go. We also will be saying goodbye to Allison, Eowyn, Jaimini, Liam, and Emma. We wish them the best! Come back and visit us soon. Enjoy your summer everyone!

Sincerely,
Kristi, Jamie, Macy, and Elena

On Career Day during WOYC, we delivered star-bursts to students and asked what they wanted to be when they grew up. We met multiple future teachers, nurses, engineers, doctors, and accountants.

Our story time experience in the learning center extended into watching the students perform puppet shows. They did this for the books, Rainbow Fish, Click Clack Moo Cows That Type, Creepy Carrots, and Sylvester and the Magic Pebble.

Thank you to our interns and families for a fabulous family night on emotions. We hope you had fun and learned some ways to cope with these every changing emotions.

Nursing student teaching the children healthy habits. They brushed and flossed their own homemade set of teeth. Ask your child what they learned?

Wendy

Emily

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MAY 2016
Greetings ITT East Families!

It feels like spring has finally arrived! The children are really excited to have the opportunity to go outside and enjoy outdoor play. Since it is becoming warmer outside we ask that you please take home winter apparel (i.e. snow boots, snow pants, etc.). Please bring in warmer clothing (shorts, t-shirts, socks, rain boots, sun hats, and light jackets). We also ask that you bring in sun screen and bug spray for our outdoor play. As it gets much warmer outdoors we provide water for the children, please provide a water bottle for your child as well.

It has been an awesome semester with fun filled activities. For the Week of the Young Child (WOYC) we participated in the CDL Parade with instruments and bubbles, while the NIU Marching Band led us to the MLK commons. The children also had an opportunity to show off their artistic t-shirts they made! Along with that, we’ve incorporated Earth Day in our daily play and during art activities. The children painted with egg cartons and made mobiles for our classroom tree.

Our interns had so many fantastic and creative ideas for the children this semester. We want to thank them for a fun and creative semester! We would like to congratulate Shawna, ShaVonne, Sam, Christina, Taylor, and Shavonne; they will be graduating on May 14 2016! Good luck interns with your future endeavors. We are also excited to welcome ShaVonne to the ITT East team as an assistant teacher for the summer. Along with that, Christina will be teaming up with the ITT West classroom as an assistant teacher and Sam will be joining the Preschool Classroom as an assistant teacher. Congratulations ladies!

The time has come where the semester is coming to a close and we are beginning a new semester with our summer practicum students, Alexis Gill (7:30-4:00), Kasey Allen (8:15-4:45), and Katherine Dolan (8:45-5:15). They will be starting May 18 2016; we can’t wait to see what innovative ideas and activities they have for the classroom. Just a reminder, Monday May 30th we are closed for Memorial Day.

Sincerely,
Clarissa, Jessica, Natalalee, & Krysten
Welcome ITT West families!

The Spring Semester is finally coming to an end. First off we would like to thank all of our Spring Interns! Thank you to Hannah, Kristen, Raven, Sam, and Elizabeth for such a great semester! We wish you the best of luck on your future endeavors and we will miss you all greatly!

Week of the Young Child and Family Night was a success! Thank you to all of you who could come out! We had a surprise to go breakfast for our parents, a huge dance party on the preschool playground and our infamous CDL Parade! The interns had an under the water theme along with presenting about Physical Development. After their presentation, the children got to swim in the ocean, go over the bridge into an underwater seaweed crawling explosion! We also had some really yummy food too! So thank you to all of our parents for providing such an awesome dinner for all of us! “Physical Development relates to movement when the children use their whole body to engage in all forms of: Lifting head while on tummy, climbing over/on objects, jumping all around” (Spring, 2016 Interns Brochure).

Reminders: The weather has been somewhat cooperating and we have had some drop offs on the playground. We will continue to do this as long as the weather is warm enough in the mornings. A sign will always be posted on the main door when we decide to do so. Please remember to provide appropriate clothing in your child’s cubbies as the weather continues to fluctuate.

- Please sign up for parent teacher conferences if you have not yet. The conferences are scheduled for 20 minutes.
- May 1st we start sunscreen, please bring in some for your child and fill out our topical forms.
- Last day of the interns semester is Friday May 13th. Summer interns start May 16th and the CDL is CLOSED that day.

Sincerely,

Casey, Ecila, Brittney, and Katie
WOYC 2016!

CDL Parade

Dance Party

Taco Tuesday Lunch

Family Night