Hello CDL families!  Happy Fall  to everyone!  Can it really be getting close to that time of year again….The practicum students are busy preparing for parent conferences!   The dates for your child’s classroom will be posted in the classroom near your sign-in sheets.  Parents are not required to sign up for a conference; however, we highly encourage you to do so. Not only are you going to be able to hear some good child development information as it relates to your child, but you will be assisting a student in their professional growth and development as they move closer to the end of their studies.  I believe that parents who choose to have their child (ren) at a Lab school support and foster practicum student growth, and they look for ways to assist in making this a great experience for the practicum student.  These students are our future early childhood professionals....and you have an important role in shaping and impacting their professional development !  That’s an awesome commitment from our CDL parents!

Mark your calendars for Nov. 6—Family Night! The practicum students have been hard at work planning for this night.  The night will be a pot-luck where the CDL will provide some type of main dish and parents are asked to bring additional dishes to share.  A sign-up sheet is already in your classroom!  Please remember that the center closes at 5:00 and the parent program is from 5:00-6:15.  All children in attendance at the parent program need to have a parent with them at all times.  So if you are planning on attending the program, you must be here by 5:00 to be with your child as the teachers and interns will be busy with the night’s events.

Finally, the CDL was well-represented at the state-wide early childhood conference—Sharing a Vision in East Peoria Oct. 26-27.  Over the summer, the classrooms asked for parent permission to collect a variety of children’s art work to be auctioned off at the conference.  Thank you for all those who gave permission—we had many pieces on exhibit at the conference!  Also, Master Teachers Kristi and Clarissa planned for and presented a CDL table at the Showcasing Exhibit that was entitled, “From Reflection to Curriculum”.  I presented a workshop on leadership and Dr. Helin on newborns in the NICU.  Some pics on the last page!

Enjoy the rest of November, and we hope everyone has a relaxing Thanksgiving break!

Lisa Schmidt
Director for Operations
Hello Preschool Families,

Wow, November is here already! We are please to report that STEMFest was a success. Thank you for donating items for this event. It was great to see you all there as well. We also want to send a special shout out to the Langley family for donating several books to our classroom. We appreciate your generosity! Thank you families for sending new family photos too!

We did our final harvest from our garden. We were able to dig up carrots and pick bell peppers that we had planted in the Spring. When the children showed an interest in using a bench as a bus, the teachers and children worked together to make a bus and fire engine out of boxes. The children painted the bus yellow. Teachers made the features and River thought of a creative way to make the steering wheel. A week later, Eric requested a fire truck. The children used this inside and outside as they practiced being firefighters and responding to calls.

The children also spent time making ramps for their marbles. They used pool noodles and cardboard tubes. Eric helped to create a track where they tested if the marble would roll down into the bucket. We had construction workers tightening screws on the rocking boat and chairs after they dressed up with all of the necessary supplies from the tool shop. We have been busy play card games and manipulating playdough. Outside, we have been balancing on the logs and jumping off benches. Happy Fall!

Sincerely,
Jamie, Kristi, Kayla, and Frank

Reminders
Please make sure that your child has a hat and gloves.
Happy November ITT East Families!!

Wow it sure is cold outside this fall!!! That hasn’t stopped us from exploring our outdoor environment. We have taken walks on our campus and explored the leaves changing colors and collecting them to bring back to our classroom. Along with that, we have played on our playground in the sandbox, raking leaves and exploring the insects (i.e. Asian beetles, lady bugs, etc.). On rainy days we explore our building by going on walks, playing at the ramp and engaging in gross motor play in our classroom.

The children are having hands-on experiences with the fall items brought into the classroom. They have painted with squash and small pumpkin, as well as paint these items. We will also be painting with pinecones to hang up on our tree branches in the classroom.

The children have grown an interest with nature, specifically bugs. They have requested to read the story, “The Eensy Weensy Spider” by Mary Ann Hoberman and Nadine Bernard Westcott and listening to variations of the, “Itsy Bitsy Spider” song. We will be providing some fun and engaging activities that involve insects and nature!

Please welcome our second lead teacher, Shannon Bowen! She has offered some engaging activities such as, “Pete the Cat: I Love my White Shoes” story, “Water Color Spray bottle” art, and “Animal Exercises” gross motor activity. Furthermore, please join us for her Family/Community Involvement on November 16, 2017 at 3:30 p.m. in our classroom where we will be learning some new dance techniques from two dance instructors. The children will be enhancing their creative expression and gross motor skills while engaged in this fun opportunity!

Just a few reminders... November 6th is Family Night, we will begin at 5:00 sharp. Please make sure your child has indoor shoes that can be used when they are in the classroom as well as outside shoes. Please also be sure to have an extra set of clothes in your child’s cubby as well. Also, as the weather is starting to cool down, please be sure to bring in a labeled winter coat/jacket, hats, gloves, and boots. Along with that, please SIGN IN at drop off.

Sincerely,

Clarissa, Christy, Nat, Genesis, Elena, & Amanda
Hello West Families,

November is Here! The semester sure is flying by! Our interns have been working very hard this semester!

A big thank you to Kelsey for all your hard work during your lead teaching weeks. Your community involvement scrapbook activity was a big success! Thank you to all the families who came out! Our next lead teacher is Tena. We can’t wait to see what activities you have planned over the next few weeks!

The children have been showing interest in using a lot of different kinds of blocks that we have in the classroom. The children have been using blocks in the classroom by stacking them to make towers or lining them up to make roads and even building trains! Block play helps children develop fine motor skills by learning to control the small muscles in their hands and fingers to move objects. The children have also been engaging and interacting with other peers during block play activities.

Our interns will soon be hosting Family Night in our ITT West Classroom! Kelsey and Tena will be presenting information on Sensory Play and Fine Motor Development. Family Night is on November 6th from 5:00 pm—6:15 pm. We hope to see you there!

Just a few friendly reminders: With the season’s change to cooler weather rapidly approaching, please bring in weather appropriate clothing and check your child’s cubbies to ensure they have enough spare clothing. Also, please label your child’s clothing with their name—including jackets, hats, mittens. Its quite a challenge to keep straight the belongings of 12 children without labels.

Sincerely,

Magaly, Ecila, Krysten, and Megan
ART AUCTION

Sharing a Vision Conference
East Peoria
Oct. 25-26, 2017

SHOWCASE EXHIBIT: “From Reflection to Curriculum”