

## Early Learning Center News

June 2016 Edition

### Early Learning Center 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Art Show Fundraiser

#### Thank You!



Thank you for attending the Early Learning Center's 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Art Show! The Art Show is a wonderful opportunity for children to showcase their creative sides to their families. The Art Show is also an opportunity for families to learn more about the South Shore YMCA as a charity. Funds raised through our "Change a Life Fund" help make it more affordable for many families to send their children to the Early Learning Center through scholarship support. **I am pleased to announce that through your generous support and participation, the ELC was able to raise just over \$4,000.00 at the Annual Art Show!**

### Summer Move-Ups...



#### Time to Transition!

As this school year comes to a close we anticipate a fun and exciting summer and start to a new school year in the fall. In anticipation of the new school year we will begin to transition children to their new classrooms. In order to do this most effectively we will make the moves in two small "waves" of children. Some children will move to their new classroom for the

summer session starting July 11<sup>th</sup>, while others will move for the school year on August 22<sup>nd</sup>. Families will be notified of our plans to transition children in early June. Because young children adjust to change more easily through a structured and routine process over time, it is our plan to make this move slowly over the next several weeks. This process may include visits to the new classroom at various parts of the day, visits from the new teacher to your child's current classroom, and talking about this exciting accomplishment at home and school. Please let us know if you have any questions regarding our ELC transition plans.

#### Helping Young Children Through Transitions

<http://www.brighthorizons.com/family-resources/e-family-news/2010-a-time-for-goodbyes/>

Saying goodbye is a lifelong process and skill. Throughout our lives we say goodbye to people, things, and routines. As the school year comes to a close, children will be saying farewell to teachers, friends, and a daily routine they have come to expect. Even young children in school settings may experience goodbyes as classmates go away on vacation or they transition to another classroom.

**With a little planning, saying goodbye to teachers and friends and moving from one class to another, or from school to summer, can be fun and exciting.**

- **Emotions are OK but be encouraging.** Our children's reactions may take many forms, often happy and sad all at the same time. Children may react to

change with excitement and enthusiasm, or crying, sulking and even using aggression. Talk to your child about the positive things. Too much talk about how hard it is to say goodbye can sometimes make our children more upset. While we should never ignore our children's feelings, it's also important to be encouraging.

- **Create a classroom scrapbook.** Pictures of teachers and friends are great sources of enjoyment for children. Younger children may only be able to remember experiences with the aid of photographs. Using a class photo, have your child write or dictate one thing about each child in their class - descriptions can range from silly behaviors to special talents.
- **Make a video or audio recording.** Record your child talking about their school, their teachers, a favorite project, or their friends. Children love to see and hear themselves and it will be a nice reminder of their favorite memories from time spent in the classroom or school.
- **Write a friendship note to classmates.** Have your child write or dictate a note to classroom friends. Include your mailing address and offer to become summer pen pals. Your child will love to receive letters throughout the summer.
- **Use painting, drawing, and storytelling to record special memories.** Artwork and storytelling are excellent ways for children to express their feelings. Have your child draw a picture. You can write what he tells you about his story. You can suggest a theme, like your child's favorite field trip, activity, book or toy at school.



### **Wacky Water Play Wednesdays**

Wacky Water Play Wednesdays will begin for all children, Infants through Kindergarten **starting on Wednesday, June 20<sup>th</sup>**. Weather permitting, during their regular playground time children will have access to sprinklers, water tables, and bubbles galore on the playground.

**On Wacky Water Wednesdays, please send your child to school with:**

- Their bathing suit on under their clothing.
- Sunscreen applied.
- A towel labeled with your child's name.
- Closed toed water shoes (wood chips can bother the children's feet).
- A change of clothes.

**Please remember that during the**



**month of June the ELC will not be participating in swim at the Emilson Branch. Summer swim will resume the week of July 11<sup>th</sup> and run through August 19<sup>th</sup>.**

### **Exciting ELC News!**

Miss Jamee is expecting a baby boy in the early fall! Stay tuned for more information about maternity leave plans.



**Reminder! The ELC will be closed on Monday, July 4<sup>th</sup> in celebration of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, And Thursday, September 1<sup>st</sup> and Friday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> for Getting Ready for School Days.**