



**JOYFUL CARE**  
CHILDREN'S CENTER  
WHERE EVERY CHILD FITS IN

## March Newsletter 2018

### Dates to Remember

March 11, 2018:  
Daylight Savings Time Begins

March 17, 2018:  
St. Patrick's Day

March 30, 2018:  
Easter Egg Hunt  
9:00am-11:00am



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### Note:

Please remember to update your contact information with the front office. In addition, don't forget to turn in your child(ren) updated Physicals and Shot Records if you have been asked to. Physicals are due annually. We ask that everytime your child(ren) get shots that you bring in an updated shot record.

### Promoting Language Development



Language development is one of the most fascinating facets of human growth. Surely you've noticed that anytime someone gets near a baby it's hard to

### Students of the Month



Toddler 2 Class: **Sanai Smith**

resist smiling, moving closer, and speaking to the baby in simplified, repetitive, high-pitched tones. It seems to be a natural phenomenon, and it's a good thing! This manner of speaking to infants is often called "parentese" or "motherese" and it helps the baby isolate words and begin to learn how to communicate. Babies actively listen and try to imitate the sounds they hear. Next time you have the opportunity; watch how an infant's gaze is riveted on the person speaking to him or her. The baby may smile but usually remains quiet while being spoken to, then responds with wonderfully animated gestures, sounds, or cooing (in any combination) when the person finishes speaking.

When a baby *listens* to speech he is developing his "receptive language" skills; when a baby tries to *produce sounds* he is developing "expressive language skills. Studies show that the period from birth to 5 years old is the best time for learning language skills. Of course, language development continues through childhood, to early adulthood and beyond. There is a close connection between the development of a child's thought process and the development of language. Infants have a universal ability to learn language no matter what their native tongue. Children who are raised in families with more verbal parents, siblings and extended family have been shown to develop better language skills.

### How Can You Help?

Some researchers say babies learn language through imitation, while others say humans are born with an innate ability to learn language. Regardless of the debate, there are many things you can do to promote your child's language development.

**Talk:** Talk to your child *often* and about all the little routines you do every day. "Oh, you have a wet diaper! Let's take care of that right away and get you

Sanai is a big help to our classroom. She is always there to help her friends and her teachers. Sanai comforts her friends when they are hurt and helps them up. She is extremely funny and is always making everyone laugh. Congratulations Sanai for being our class student of the month.



Preschool Class: **Mason Gilchrist**

Our student of the month is Mason Gilchrist! Mason is just an awesome child and his parents are just as awesome as he is! Mason is a big helper in class and loves making sure things are organized. Mason excels in all things math and can sight read all his friend's names as well as other words! The only thing Mason loves more than math are CARS! So come on down to the preschool garage (see: block center) and find Mason! He'll fix your frowns and your cars for you!



all dry and comfy." Your child will begin to recognize the cadence and tone of different family member's voices and "engage" at every opportunity.

**Point it out:** Gesturing is one of an infant's first forms of communication. When your baby points to things, name the object she is pointing to, or *you* do the pointing and tell the baby what it is. "Spoon" "Apple" "Stroller"

**Read:** When a child listens to familiar stories, he learns to recognize repeated words and sentence structure.

**Sing:** Children are captivated by the rhythm and flow of simple songs. They may even begin to naturally move their bodies to music. Singing also helps improve attention span and memory, and makes it easier for them to remember the words of a song. Finger plays & nursery rhymes are also a favorite activity of babies & young children.

**Repeating:** Believe it or not, young children look forward to routines. Routines create a comforting structure for everyday life. The words and phrases you say *daily* to your child will do the same. "It's bedtime, let's get our jammies on." "Daddy's home!" "It's splishy-spashy time, let's get the rubber duckie." "Oh, our kitty is hungry, let's get her some food." The simple everyday scenarios are the best times to "converse" with your child, and most likely where some of the best language development will take place.

**Labeling:** Give a name to everything! "Mommy's going to cook some carrots for dinner right in this pan." "Let's put on your hat and coat." "Mr. Bunny is under the chair." Talking about familiar objects and routines helps expand your child's vocabulary.

**Expanding:** Your child may say, "Go bye bye car." When you expand upon that

## Pre-K Class: Cody Tercero

It is with pleasure that we announce Cody Tercero as the student of the month in Pre-K! Cody is a well mannered and kind student. He is a great friend to all of his classmates! He shares, takes turns and waits patiently. His attention span has lengthened and he enjoys listening to stories, doing science experiments and focusing on math. He is very inventive while building block structures or using his imagination to create art. Cody enjoys helping his friends' and teachers' as well when he sees that they are in need of assistance not because he has to but because he genuinely wants to. Thank you Cody for carrying your smile with you like rays of sunshine that brighten the way for everyone!

## Tasting Party



Kids are often skeptical about trying new foods. They turn their noses up at anything that isn't mac n' cheese or chicken nuggets. If this sounds like your kids, it might be time to try a new strategy. Put your imagination to work and throw a Tasting Party!

First of all, make it colorful. Use 1/2 a grapefruit cut side down as a base, then make fruit kabobs on bamboo skewers and poke them into the grapefruit for a

sentence and say, "Yes, we are going for a ride in the car." you help your child understand how words are used in a sentence.

**Ask Questions:** "Do you want some more bananas?" "Did you lose your teddy bear?" "Where's Daddy?" "What is that doggy running after in the yard?" Questions reinforce the idea that you are expecting a response from your child. It will build your child's confidence by knowing that he / she can pass *information* to you, and you will *listen* to his / her answer.

### Interesting Facts

Language delays may signal other developmental problems or childhood diseases. Although each child develops language skills at their own rate, if your baby is not showing any interest in communicating by 6 to 9 months, talk to your pediatrician.

The Internet is rich in resources that explain language development at various stages / ages.

Girls have a slight advantage over boys in language development. Female language development is bi-lateralized, meaning it is located in both sides of the brain, while male language development is left-lateralized. Studies have shown that when a female has experienced a lesion to the left hemisphere of the brain, she is far better able to compensate for this damage than a male with the same damage can.

Researchers debate the advantages / disadvantages of the bilingual child. While some believe a bilingual child has greater cognitive flexibility, which leads to more creative thinking, others believe being bilingual can be hindrance. They suggest it may be confusing in the early stages of language development and detract from the child's understanding of his primary

lovely display that can also be used as a centerpiece. Apples, berries, peaches, pineapples, pears, kiwi and dried apricots make a beautiful, healthy display. Think shape and use small cookie cutters to cut cheese and veggies into fancy shapes or little sticks. Make funny faces or animals by using smaller foods like raisins, blueberries or peas. Make foods easy to pick up; use mini stick pretzels as handles for cheese cubes, or buy party picks for a festive touch. Try different whole grain crackers as a base for dips and spreads. Use greek yogurt as a base for veggie dips and fruit dips as well. Layer cheese slices, turkey, avocados, and diced tomatoes on a tortilla, roll it up, chill for an hour, and slice it into one inch pieces so it's easy for kids to eat.

Offer different beverages such as tomato juice, cran-apple juice, apricot nectar, or fruit smoothies. Supply small disposable cups; just the right size for "a little taste." Let kids play with their food! Offer a variety of things they can combine to make their own creations. Paper party plates & napkins or a colorful table cloth is just enough to make it feel like a "party." This playful relaxed attitude towards food will make them more receptive to trying new foods in the future. Remember, if you can get them to "try it," they just might decide they *like* it!

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**JCCC SUPER STAFF!**

language. Either way, young children seem to soak up language like a sponge and most researchers agree that the period between birth and 5 years of age is universally the most rapid period of language development.

A typical child has a vocabulary of 3,000 words by 3 years of age, and 10,000 words by 5 years of age.



### WE APPRECIATE YOU!

Thank you for supporting all of our efforts. Thank you for getting up early and driving in the rain and snow to make sure your child(ren) made it to school on time. Thank you for taking the time to read and sign all the notes and forms that we have sent home, and for reading with your child and helping them learn.

Mrs. Dominique Arizmendi, is no stranger to us here at Joyful Care Children's Center. She has been with Joyful Care Children's Center for five months. Any given day you come to our school, the minute you step into the Preschool Class , you can hear what students are learning in the room. Mrs. Dominique is creative, a hard worker and steps up when called upon. Mrs. Dominique is currently working on her Child Developmental Associate in Early Childhood Education. Cheers to you, Mrs. Dominique, for being a SUPER staff member at Joyful Care Children's Center.

Elaina Weeks: March 1st

Jocelyn Anderson: March 2nd

Isla Ludwig: March 10th

Zalae Turner: March 17th

Wayne Marshall-Stewart: March 17th

Madilynn Threet: March 19th

Logan Malensek: March 22nd

Amore Johnson: March 24th

Ms. Lacey: March 24th

Jaidyss Brin: March 26th

Jaxson Brin: March 26th

LillyAnna Patrizi: March 27th



Amani Harvey: March 29th



**Joyful Care Children's Center**  
***Where Every Child Fits In!***

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