

# The Child Care Center in Norwich



August 2017

## ***Pardon our appearance!***

We are going to be replacing the floor in the Yellow Room on July 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> so the activity room will briefly be storage for Yellow Room furniture while the Yellow Roomers camp out in the K-1 room for a couple of days! We are excited!

## ***Holiday Closing***

***The Child Care Center will be closed on Monday, September 4<sup>th</sup> in celebration of Labor Day.***

# Classroom Updates



## Nursery

A big Nursery welcome to Felix, who will be joining us soon! Thank you to anyone who donated extra items of clothing and toys to the Nursery. We are excited to see how much Orla, Micah and Violet have enjoyed their transition to the Red Room. It's wonderful to see them waving to us as they walk by on their way onto the playground. It's nice to have our ball chute back up. We've been using it with the balls and cars and whatever we can find to fit inside. Using chalk and markers and playing with playdough have been indoor activities. Outside play has been in the sandbox, digging, filling and dumping buckets. Everett, Roxanna, Amelie, Asher and Liam enjoy scooting around the bike track on the ride-ons and Roxy is learning to use the swings and climber. Margaret and Wes use the playhouse and balls – playing peek-a-boo and tossing balls out of the door and windows. Everything is growing nicely in the garden, soon we will be eating our veggies for snack. Enjoy the rest of the summer . . . it goes too quickly!  
Karla, Cindy, & Tom



## Orange Room

The Orange Roomers have been having fun playing with Fay while Karen has been playing with her grandchildren. We have spent lots of time out on the big playground since we will soon be out there as Yellow and Blue Roomers, we get to play with our old Orange Room friend, Liam, when we are out there. When Karen gets back we will get the strawberries that we picked out of the freezer and make some yummy strawberry treats, we haven't decided yet what to make.

The Orange Roomers

## Red Room



Well, now that summer is here, it's flying right by! That's not stopping us from painting beach balls and making kites, playing outside chasing bubbles and making lots and lots of mud pies and ice cream. We continue to watch our green beans and upside down tomatoes grow, and taking turns watering them. Can't wait to try them! We are putting a new handout in the folder next to our door about active play every day, a class that Shelly just took from Keene State. It is interesting how much being active (moderate to vigorous activity) every day helps improve brain function and helps develop cognitive and motor functions in young children. Pick one up if this peaks your interest! We said goodbye to some of our Red Room friends in June and July. Nora moved to the Yellow Room, Taylor left for the summer and will be in the Blue Room when she returns. Levi S moved on to new adventures as well and Charlie, who leave us the end of the month. We wish them all well. Saying hello to some new friends, Micah, Violet and Orla have moved up from the Nursery and are settling right in. Welcome to them. Jackson and Parker have a birthday on August 15<sup>th</sup> and will be turning three!! Give them a Happy Birthday if you see them.

Shelly & Julie



## Yellow Room

It has been a great start to summer in the Yellow Room! We have been having a lot of fun getting to know new friends and learning fun facts about one another. We send a warm welcome to Clara who joined the Yellow Room mid July. Circle time has been a nice time to gather for sing along, finger plays, group story and other exciting games and activities. A big thank you to Elsie's Dad, Andy, for taking the time to get the garden beds ready for planting. It has been so much fun! We have been tending to the plants and checking on them daily. The children observed that one of the sunflowers opened in our pattern garden. It appears that a woodchuck ate the dino kale, but has not touched the rainbow chard or celery. Stay tuned... It has been a great transition with teacher Patty joining the Yellow Room for the summer. We have been taking daily walks and adventure hikes on the wonderful Montshire trails. We aim to leave after snack around 9:30 so please let us know if you will be arriving after that. With the hot summer days, we look forward to cooling off in the sprinkler as well as lots of water play. Be sure to send your child in with a labeled water bottle and extra clothing/bathing suit and towel. We wish Brooks a Happy Birthday, he will be turning 5 on August 16<sup>th</sup>. It is that time of year to say farewell to friends transitioning to kindergarten. We wish you all the best and will miss you Brooks, Jackson, David, Alyssa, Samuel & Elsie!

Jodie & Patty



## Blue Room

We want to give a warm welcome to our newest Blue Roomer, Taylor Wharry. She is moving up from the Red Room and will be starting with us July 24th! We also want to give two birthday shoutouts, to Malcolm and Nash, who will both be turning four in August! Happy birthday boys! Since five of our Blue Roomers are headed to Kindergarten this Fall, we will be having a Kindergarten bash towards the end of August to celebrate these kiddos who are moving onto the big schools! Stay tuned for more details. Thursday, July 27th at 10:30 the Blue Room will be going to the Montshire for a field trip! Please let us know if you'd like to come, families are welcome. A reminder to please bring home your child's sheet and blanket at the end of every week for washing. With all of our sand, sunscreen, sweat, and bug spray, bedding is quickly soiled.

Emily & Eleanor



## How teaching behavior is like teaching math, by Mr. Bill

"At one point in educational history," says Mr. Bill, "if a kid made a mistake in math, someone would have come by with ruler and hit his hand and said, 'How could you make that mistake?' I think we are still there a little bit with behavior. There is certainly a need for consequences, but sometimes natural consequences – people don't want to play with you as much, you hurt yourself because you are not playing in a safe way – are the most powerful.

"We've learned that in teaching math, some people pick up ideas quickly and some take more time to master them, but in both cases people can learn math really well," says Mr. Bill, who believes the same philosophy applies to teaching students about behavior.

"It would be naïve to think that kids come into school having mastered behavior," says Mr. Bill.

"The expectation used to be that students would know exactly what to do in circumstances that they've never encountered before." While it might be easier for some kids, for some you have to take time and come back to it over and over again. "When you do that, the child internalizes the appropriate behavior, rather than just trying to avoid getting in trouble.

"If two kids are having a problem with each other, I could swoop in and solve it, just like I could solve the problem for a child who is having a hard time figuring out how to add 4 plus 6. But what would the child learn? Kids learn with guidance from adults to take care of problems by themselves."

The first step, says Mr. Bill, is for the student to acknowledge there is a problem and recognize that he or she is responsible. That often comes with an apology of some sort, verbal or written. "The next step I take with a student is figuring out ways to do it differently, so he or she doesn't end up in the same uncomfortable situation.

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