

The Child Care Center in Norwich



January 2019

Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our annual food drive for the Upper Valley Haven. Thanks to your generosity, we not only met our goal of 200 pounds of food and personal items, but exceeded it by 68 pounds! Amazing!

Classroom Updates

Nursery



Our toddlers are growing, which has brought up some questions about when to start potty training. The first step is exposure. There should be a potty available so that a child can try it any time they feel ready and it should become part of the diaper changing routine to talk about using the potty. When children are ready to move to the next step depends on several factors. Do they sometimes have a dry diaper when you change them? Are they beginning to develop awareness of their bodily activities? Cognitively do they understand the concept? We offer children the opportunity when we think they are ready, we don't pressure them. We applaud their success and we applaud their attempts, we don't make a big deal out of "accidents" or lack of success. Ultimately children are in control of this process, it is our job to help them understand how it works and to support them by giving them the tools and time to learn and the emotional support to learn from their "mistakes".

The Nursery has added some colorful shape blocks, which the children have been using in some creative and unique ways. Stacking blocks on the floor, building on top of the shelves, lining them up on the chair rail around the play room. A colorful landscape in the Nursery! Books are very popular and the bigger kids can now attend for several books in a row. Thomas the Tank Engine is a top pick. Ask your toddler about "a crack in the track" and "a toad in the road". We have been using the gym mats and tunnel for some indoor large motor activities, often the balls are added to be pushed through or extracted from the tunnel. And of course, we have been using paint, crayons, markers and chalk as well as oobleck and playdough.

Happy 2019.

Karla, Cindy, & Tom



Orange Room

Hopefully we are past the freezing rain and ice part of winter and going to get snow so that we can go out and play. We have been reading lots of winter books. We're looking forward to making snowmen and snow angels and looking for tracks in the snow. Our birds (and squirrels) have been voracious eaters. Every day we fill the feeder with sunflower seeds and put new suet in the suet feeder every Monday. Right now, we have our "regulars" at the feeders; two kinds of woodpeckers, chickadees, nuthatches, titmice and the squirrels. They are fascinating to watch. We hope to do some baking the near future. Maybe we'll start with some banana bread. We made hot chocolate with some cocoa powder, sugar and milk. It was delicious!

Karen



Red Room

Phew! We made it through the holidays. Happy New Year! A big happy birthday to Asher, who will be three on January 10th! In the up-coming months, we will be trying to get outside as much as possible, as weather permits. Some of our Red Room friends have enjoyed working on puzzles and peg boards as others have been exploring their creative side through art. Painting and sticker pictures have been very popular, along with playing in “goop”! We know it has been a slow process but our family houses are making their way onto our walls. A big thank you to our families for bringing in pictures.

Julie & Shelly



Yellow Room

Happy New Year! As we look forward into January we are hoping for lots more snow. We have been getting outside as much as possible, but it can be tricky when conditions are so icy. A few highlights have been fun adventure hikes through some of the Montshire trails and playing a variety of large group field games. Over this past month we have had lots to celebrate. Stories and books have been a great way to celebrate the spirit of the season. The story The Snow Tree, by Caroline Repchuk, is a winter tale that celebrates the love of nature, color and woodland animals. The themes of the story focus on friendship, generosity and kindness. Time to Sleep, by Denise Fleming, has been a fun story that teaches about hibernation and the changing seasons. This story has been a book the children like to revisit again and again. The Yellow Roomers send out Happy Birthday wishes to Nora, who turns five on January 10th! As we jump into 2019 it will be exciting to see what awesome adventures are ahead for the Yellow Roomers.

Jodie & Mia



Blue Room

This month in the Blue Room we had lots of activities and inside days! The month sure seemed to fly by, but we got to enjoy Polizer's birthday, he turned five, along with several activity days. We enjoyed making our "found object" mural in which Blue Roomers collected bits of nature from outside and glued them to a beautifully painted piece of paper! Be sure to check it out! We enjoyed a few hot cocoa days inside as well! A reminder to parents, please do not let your child move around the building without you. This is a safety issue. We look forward to jumping into the new year and hope everyone had a great holiday!

Olivia & Yolanda



AfterSchool

K-1

The K-1 crew has been enjoying board games, playing cards, and puzzles along with the usual art projects and Lego building. December's short days were great incentive for streamlining our time in the cubby room. The kids have really gotten faster, tidier, and calmer about those transitions which gives us more time for sledding and romping.

Note: We are required to keep footwear on kids' feet; the simplest thing is for your child to bring in a pair of slippers that just stay at CCCN. We will not stop to put on outdoor shoes if there is a fire drill. Thanks!

Mary

After school2 - 6 had a wonderful month In December. On early release Wednesdays we visited the Norwich Public Library after some outdoor time. Everyone did an amazing job listening to direction and respecting the library. One afternoon after snack the children had an impromptu play of "Little Red Ridding Hood" including costumes and lines.

Looking forward to more fun in the new year.
Bill and Kate