Dear Families,

We have such a wonderful month to look forward to. I know that April is sure to bring many great opportunities to enjoy our children and families. The center has some wonderful events lined up for the month, and I would like to highlight some of them.

First, is a Parent Education Event offered by Mrs. Alicia Deaver on April 12th, from 12-1 p.m. I am a huge supporter of these types of events, and I hope that you find them useful. I believe that the CCD is more than just a quality child-care facility. Our mission is to also promote positive parenting, build knowledge and awareness, and provide for happy and healthy families. One important avenue that we do this through is hosting our parent education events. These events are organized and sponsored by the CCD, and are intended to bring knowledge and awareness across a wide range of topics. You may have seen recently that I requested topic suggestions for these events. Please, keep them coming! I am always interested in what you may want to learn more about, and I strive to provide that for you. I take pride in identifying and selecting professionals from the field that can provide this information in clear, concise and helpful ways. The event for this month features a prominent Child and Family Studies Department instructor. Mrs. Deaver brings years of knowledge and experience to the field, and we are certainly glad to have her! I believe she will have some very useful information to share with you!

Second, is the NAEYC Week of the Young Child. NAEYC is our accrediting body that advocates for quality early childhood. The WOTYC is a celebration of these environments, and all that early childhood represents. We have some great events lined up that I hope you will enjoy! One highlight of the week is the Zoo Field Trip on Friday, April 28th. This event asks that all parents transport their child and spend the morning at the zoo as a group. This is a fabulous opportunity to meet and spend time with other families at the CCD. I believe we are a community, and I look forward to opportunities like this to get to know each other and I hope you do too. I hope to see you there!

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to speak with me by stopping by my office, phone or email. I am always available to listen and help!

Best Wishes,

Stephanie Haney, Director

Happy Birthday

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<tr>
<th>Children</th>
<th>Staff</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Noah F. H. 4/11</td>
<td>Myrna M. 4/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caiden C. 4/14</td>
<td>Samantha J. 4/8</td>
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<td>Aiden W. 4/15</td>
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<td>Denish P. 4/28</td>
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<td>Maddox M. 4/29</td>
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Important Dates:

- Parent Ed Event 4/12
- CCD Closed 4/14
- WOTYC 4/24-4/28
- Center-Wide Zoo Trip 4/28
From Mrs. Melissa’s class…
April is here! We have finished the month of March and it was great! We learned all about flowers, and spring time. The babies especially liked playing with bugs and splashing water with the rubber ducks. We also had the opportunity to meet Snickers Mrs. Bridgette’s baby goat. For the month of April we will start our month out with a lesson on Healthy Me! The infants will learn about good foods for the body and exercises to aid in gross motor development. The following week will be on "Where we live" this week will offer an opportunity for parents to participate in our lesson. Finally, we will end the month with The Week of the Young Child. There will be lots of fun activities for the little ones to do. I’m looking forward to a great month.

From Mrs. Sherrie’s class…
As the month of April approaches, we have new and exciting things for the children to learn about. The first week we will be discussing about Western Hoedown. The second week will be short, it will be teachers choice. I am looking forward to coming up with a great and exciting theme of my choice for the students to discuss in class. After that, is the week of Going Green. We are going over ways to recycle, collecting and helping the community by making it a safer and better place. Finally, the last week is the Week of the Young Child. This is an annual celebration by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) celebrating early learning, young children, their teachers and families. We are so excited for a week long celebration of our young children learners and I know you are too!

From Mrs. Sharla’s class…
We are kicking April off with our more that fun western theme. Then, for the week of Easter (remember we are closed on Good Friday) we will be talking about rabbits and eggs. That Thursday we will be dying eggs so prepare yourself for crazy colored hands! Next is our Earth Day/Go Green theme. We will talking a lot about recycling. The last week of April is Week of the Young Child. Stay tuned for that week’s events.

From Mrs. Myrna’s class…
Spring has arrived. The weather is warmer, flowers are blooming and we are planning some exciting activities for both the children and parents. We will be visiting campus to see the beautiful Rose Garden and visit the library for story time. April 24-28, has been designated as the Week of the Young Child, which will consist of a week filled with activities. Our class will combine with the other Infant and Toddler classrooms to plant a flower bed on the playground and participate in our center wide annual trip to Kamper Park.
From Mrs. Samantha’s class…

It is April and Spring is officially here. We are looking forward to the warmer weather and seeing the changes that this new season brings in our outside environment. For the month of April, our themes will include Western, two fun-filled Teacher’s Choice themes, and a Week of the Young Child theme that will focus on interactive learning activities in the areas of music, art, food, and building relationship with family and friends. We are excited for the fun things in store for the month of April and hope that you can join us for Week of the Young Child!

From Mrs. Bridgitte’s class…

This has been a fun month talking and learning about Spring. Ms. Catherine has done a great job teaching your children about spring. This month will also be a fun and exciting month because we will be learning about Pond life, life cycles, gardening/earth day and the week of the young child. Ms. Catherine has lot of great stuff planned for the upcoming themes. During the Week of the Young Child each day will serve as a theme, and we will have center wide activities going on that week. Be on the lookout for emails concerning those activities. If you have any activities that you would like to add please see Ms. Stephanie!

From Mrs. Zkela’s class…

This month, we will learn about Pond Life, Life Cycles, Gardening/Earth Day, and Week of the Young Child. The letters for the month are W, X, Y, and Z. Also, the children will listen to stories; explore; play games; create art; continue to learn how to work together; write; recognize numbers; shapes; and etc. We are going to have so much fun learning about these units.

From Mrs. Rachel’s class…

April is here and it looks like it has brought the rain along with it! We have a fun month of activities planned for your children this month. The first week we will be discussing pond life. I hope to be able to find tadpoles for this theme. The children will get to raise the tadpoles into frogs and then release them back into the wild. The second week will be all about life cycles. We will discuss the life cycles of people and animals. Next, we will discuss gardening. I cannot wait to plant flowers with the kids! It is always fun and exciting to watch them grow and document all the changes we see. The last week of April is Week of the Young Child. There will be center wide fun to be had and on family Friday we will take a trip to the Hattiesburg zoo! Be on the lookout for more information regarding this trip! I look forward to a great month of learning with your babies!!!
New changes coming soon!

It seems that the same classrooms keep appearing on this page. While we love to see events of these rooms, we want to make sure that all rooms get a chance to make an appearance! Starting next month, each classroom will have at least 2-3 pictures highlighting events of the month on this page.
The mission of the University of Southern Mississippi Center for Child Development is to engage parents, teachers, and university students in developing healthy, motivated, and autonomous children in exemplary child centered and developmentally effective educational programs that promote evidence-based practice and a joyful, lifelong love of learning.

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