Dear families,

We are at the end of the summer, and are looking forward to the beginning of a new school year! This month, we have some major events to be on the lookout for. Over the next couple of weeks, we will be saying some very sad goodbye’s as our oldest children move on to Kindergarten classrooms throughout the city. We wish them the best of luck in their ‘big schools’ and can’t wait to have them visit us again!

Almost all classrooms will be beginning transitions on August 8th, with children being in place in their ‘new’ room by the following week. On August 14th, we will also be seeing quite a few new faces that have enrolled and will join the CCD family. We are certainly excited for all of these changes.

The CCD will be hosting our annual open house on August 23rd from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. Please join us for a great time getting to know everyone involved at the CCD. We will send out an information flyer closer to the date.

I am so excited to lead this amazing community into another school year. I look forward to continuing to make changes and improvements to our environments, policies, and practices throughout 2017 and 2018. I anticipate many new and wonderful changes that I’m sure will prove beneficial to the children, families, and staff at the CCD. I am also looking forward to supporting the families and staff in any way possible as we raise our amazing children.

As always, my door is always open for any questions, comments, or concerns you may have. Thank you for being such an integral part of our marvelous community!

Best Wishes,

Stephanie Haney, Director

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**Happy Birthday**

**Children**

- Audrey T. 8/15
- Azlyn D. 8/25
- Callie R. 8/26
- Bennett P. 8/28

**Staff**

- Ms. Megan 8/1
- Ms. Dakota 8/1
- Mrs. Zkela 8/7
- Ms. Crystal 8/27

**Important Dates:**

- 8/8 Transitions Start
- 8/16 USM Classes Start
- 8/23 Open House 5:00-6:00 p.m.
From Mrs. Melissa’s class…
August has arrived and we will be welcoming some new little faces as well as saying farewell to those moving on to new adventures in their new classrooms. We will start the month off on a week on Nursery Rhymes. We will cover tons of nursery rhyme books and songs, followed by a week of All About Me, then All About My Family. Parents will get the opportunity to participate in the fun that week. We will then finish off the last two weeks on Transportation where we will discuss travel by air, water, and road. I’m looking forward to a great month.

From Mrs. Sherrie’s class…
Last month we had a great time learning about gardening and growing our own classroom vegetables. We took this opportunity to expand our knowledge of foods grown and eaten in other countries. We discussed clothes, and music, and tasted multicultural foods. We had a visitor come dressed in traditional clothes from India, and she brought a dish for us to taste. This month we will be doing three themes. The first will be homes. We will be gathering pictures of our home, and discussing different types of homes around the globe. We will be building homes out of boxes, and feeling different materials that are used to build homes. The next theme will be all about me. We will be making a poster about our favorite things. We will be doing activities to increase our understanding of emotions. We will be learning body parts and talking about eyes and hair color. The last theme we will be doing will be family. We will be learning about different people and their labels. We will be counting the people in our family, we will be discussing what traits make up a family. We have lots of exciting activities planned.

From Mrs. Myrna’s class…
As we approach August, I thank each of you for your child giving me eight months of laughter and fun memories. I’m looking forward to making more happy memories with my Fabulous, Fantastic and Fearless children. The month of August we will introducing the themes Homes, All About Me/ My Family and Transportation. These are such fun themes, I can hardly wait. Don’t forget about Classroom Visits and Transitions first week of August. If you have any questions, please feel free to speak to me about them. Any additional information will be verbally discussed or sent to your e-mail.

From Mrs. Kimmy’s class…
I am thrilled to get to spend the next couple of weeks with your children. We are really having a great time getting to know each other. Each of them are so special in their own ways. This is such a fun age to work with. The following themes are upcoming quickly: Fun Books, All about Me, All about My Family, and Transportation. These are such fun themes, I can hardly wait. Don’t forget about Classroom Visits and Transitions first week of August. If you have any questions, please feel free to speak to me about them. Any additional information will be verbally discussed or sent to your e-mail.
From Mrs. Bridgitte’s class…

The month of August brings about many changes at preschool. We will be saying goodbye to our student teacher for the summer semester. Thank you, Ms Kadijahia for a great summer, and we wish you all the best in your new adventures in life. All of my current students will be transitioning into their new rooms. It's hard to watch them go down the hallway, but I am so proud of each of them and how they have all grown! You will all be missed dearly, but I will be getting lots of loves each day on the playground!! I am super excited to receive my new students that are transitioning into my classroom!! I can't wait to get to know each of them and their families. We are going to have a great time learning and growing together. During the month of August we will be learning how to take care of our classroom, how to be a good friend to each other, and learning all about ourselves and our families. We will also be welcoming a new student teacher in mid August. I am confident that we are in for a great school year, and I am so excited to begin this new adventure together with my children and their families.

From Mrs. Zkela’s class…

I'm so excited about the new school year. We will welcome new students and a new student teacher to our classroom. This month, we will discuss Taking Care of our Classroom, Friendship, and All about Me. The letters for the month are O, P, Q, and R. 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. Raven’s class…

This is my first official month as a lead teacher. I am excited to take on the adventure as we learn about each other. Our themes for this month will be; Healthy Choices, taking care of our classroom, friendships; and all about me. This is a great way for me to get to know my new children. We are going to have so much fun learning and experimenting with different science projects as well. We will be doing a picture collage with all the different things that the children enjoy doing and eating to display around the classroom. This is going to be an amazing month!

From Mrs. Rachel’s class…

August has arrived and it is time for classroom transitions! I am looking forward to getting to know you and your child throughout this month. For your child's first week in my classroom, we are going to explore STEM activities. STEM is a great way to get the children thinking, problem solving, and really getting a hands on perspective on their learning. After transitions are completely over, we will have our "Taking Care of Our Classroom" theme. This will be a time when the children get familiar with the room, the rules, and just the overall flow of things. Our last two weeks will be "Friendship" and "All About Me." This months is going to be full of a lot of fun and learning!
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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Staffing Changes
We would like to congratulate Mrs. Kimberly Viehweg as she moves to lead teach a toddler classroom, as well as Ms. Raven Finch as she moves from assistant teacher to lead teacher in her current preschool room. Both of these teachers are amazing and are so excited to start their new journeys. They will continue to bring high-quality, developmentally appropriate practice and loving care to the children and families of the CCD.

Registration Fee
Don’t forget that the annual $100 fee is due in August. You can add this to your monthly tuition check or pay separately.

School Supplies
As you receive your school supply lists, please be sure to see the alternate choice we are providing for families this year. The CCD is continually striving to make things as convenient as possible. You can choose from either shopping and providing the materials (traditional) or adding $40 to your tuition or registration fee and we can purchase the materials for you (new).

See you later!
Throughout July and August we are saying some very sad ‘see you laters’ to many children. In July, we also sent off Ms. Samantha Jones with well-wishes as she moved to Chicago. We wish her the best of luck!