Dear families,

As we enter into the month of May, I cannot help but feel thankful for all that we have done throughout April. We have successfully rounded out the month by having an amazing Week of the Young Child, by participating in some great activities and providing fabulous opportunities for our children and families.

May will be both a tearful and joyful month. We will say “see you later” to some amazing student teachers. Ms. Rayven, Ms. Deanna, and Ms. Catherine have made such a huge impact on the CCD family. As they finish up their student teaching term, we wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors!

This month, we will also be seeing a few workstudy students leave. While most of them will be back for the fall semester (and some will continue through the summer) we will also say a sad goodbye to a few others that will not be returning. We are sad to see them go, but are excited for the many wonderful journeys they are about to embark on!

This month, we will also extend a warm welcome to two new student teachers: Ms. Emily Rawls and Ms. Tierra Roberts. I can’t wait to see what activities, guidance and love they will bring to the classrooms.

Finally, I would just like to say a huge “thank you” to each and every family. Without each of you, we could not do what we do every day. It is through your continued support and dedication, that we thrive as a high quality early childhood environment. I am so thankful for everything each of you do for our CCD family!

Please let me know if you have any questions, comments, or concerns. I am always available!

Best Wishes,

Stephanie Haney, Director
From Mrs. Sharla’s class…
During May we will be learning about different kinds of animals. For this theme we will build on our field trip to the zoo. We will also be exploring Pete the Cat books and our class’s personal favorite...Llama Llama. We will talk about those two animals (cats and llamas) during those specific weeks. On Friday, May 26th we will have pajama day. If you have RED ones that would be perfect since we will be reading Llama Llama Red Pajama! I can't wait!!

From Mrs. Myrna’s class…
Thanks to each of you for such a wonderful job helping with The Week of The Young Child.

We welcome May with the possibility of water play coming early, if the temperature continues to Rise. We will also be wishing Ms. Rayven a farewell as she walks across stage to receive her diploma (we will miss her). Ms. Taraja will also be leaving us, but will return to volunteer. We will begin the month of May introducing and discussing farm and jungle animals. We will discuss their physical characteristics and habitats. We will also enjoy a week of fun activities during our Pete the Cat and Llama Llama theme. We will be revisiting campus throughout the month as well.

From Mrs. Melissa’s class…
This month will start off on domestic animals (pets) and move on to animals that we see at the zoo. The infants will get to bring photos of their pets to class and hopefully we will get a visit from a few animals at the center. We will have a lesson on Pete the Cat, Llama Llama, and our last week of the month will be on Nursery Rhymes. I will select five of my favorite nursery rhymes and each day the infants will have activities related to a different nursery rhyme each day. I’m looking forward to a great month.

From Mrs. Sherrie’s class…
I don’t know how we can beat the week of the young child! We had so much fun!! Parents were amazing!! Next month will be all about animals. We loved learning about the baby animals, so I am so excited to introduce our class to different and familiar animals. We will be learning about animals that live in the forest, in the jungle, and on farms. We will be listening to different animal sounds and feeling fake fur and snake skin. We will be pretending to be certain animals by imitating the animal’s movements. We have a lot of great activities planned.

From Mrs. Samantha’s class…
Dear Parents, the month of May has arrived. The weather is nice and we will take full advantage by taking walking trips to campus at least once a week. We love to explore nature and see the flowers and different plants as we journey to the park on campus. This month, we have many exciting learning themes that include two weeks of animals (artic animals, farm animals, animals with fur…), and our favorite stories from Pete the Cat and Llama Llama to conclude the month of May. We can’t wait to get started on so many of the fun and exciting activities that are planned. As a reminder, let’s exchange out all of the winter clothes for summer changing clothes.
From Mrs. Bridgitte’s class…

The month of April was filled with amazing activities and great fun for our class. Now we are looking forward to all that the month of May has in store for us. We will be learning about zoo animals and ocean animals. We also plan to keep "filling up" our cars outside with our new Gas Tank Mr. Kevin Ishee made for our playground! Sadly, we will be saying goodbye to our student teacher, Ms Catherine. She has been an amazing teacher who’s love for the children and dedication to her work is simply outstanding. We wish her all the best as she begins her new job in the fall teaching a K3 Class in her hometown.

From Mrs. Kimmy’s class…

May’s topics are a two week ” Zoo” lesson, and a two week “Ocean” lesson. These are really fun lessons that the children always enjoy. The fifth week will be “Taking care of Our Classroom, and our Friends.”  Our Week of the Young Child was so successful, thanks to you! Thank you all who participated, and made it happen! We want to congratulate the Collins’ family. Cymone Leilani Collins was born on 4/12/2017. She is simply a doll. Caiden is, and will continue to be the best big brother! Thank you for all you do to make our classroom so much fun and so successful!

From Mrs. Zkela’s class…

This month, we will learn about Zoo Animals and Ocean Life. The letters for the month are A, B, C, and D. We will discuss the animals that we saw on our field trip to the zoo from the previous week and things that they eat. The children are going to love learning about ocean animals and we’re going to have show-n-tell later own in that week. 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…

I truly cannot believe that it is already MAY! Our time with your little ones is quickly coming to an end and that is quite sad. However, I know they have all the skills needed to go off to kindergarten and be successful! We are still practicing everyday for their graduation program on the 26th. I am sure you are singing their song in your sleep by now! The first two weeks of this month will be focused on learning all about the zoo! This will be a great connecting theme since we just visited the zoo together. The next two weeks will be all about the ocean. We will learn about the animals and plant life that live in and around the ocean. The final week will be a theme directly related to kindergarten readiness. We will talk about things that are the same and different between preschool and big school! I cannot wait to jump into May and have a great time! Thank you for all that you do!
**Tuition**
A reminder that tuition is due on the 1st of every month. We provide a 5 day grace period because we understand that families lead very busy lives. Please be sure to get your tuition submitted to the box by the 1st of every month, the 5th at the very latest, in order to avoid late fees.

**Garden**
Be sure to check out our new garden area on the preschool playground. We have installed raised garden beds for each of the classrooms. The children have really enjoyed getting to plant and take care of the center garden. The dramatic transformation was completely covered through donations from families as well as support from Lowes.

**Staffing**
As mentioned on the cover page, this time of year the CCD experiences some slight shifts in staffing. We will lose a few workstudy students, as well as say “see you later” to our wonderful student teachers. This means that the classrooms will experience some slight turnover. As always, the CCD will strive to do its utmost best by communicating these changes to you. As soon as we are aware of any changes, they will be communicated as promptly as possible. Thank you for your continued understanding and support!

**Birthday Parties**
It appears that we have a TON of children having birthdays this month! We extend a warm invitation to parents to help celebrate each child’s special birthday by providing a snack-time party if they wish. However, we strongly encourage you to only provide healthy age-appropriate food. This will help to continue our commitment to only providing healthy and nutritious meals to our children.