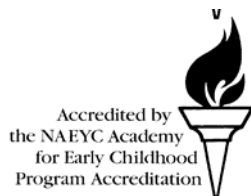


Health & Human Sciences, NIU  
School of Family, Consumer and Nutrition Sciences  
Wirtz 118



January 2009  
Gabel 169 & 170  
815-753-1150  
Fax: 815-752-0023

Dear Families;

Welcome back! I hope all of you had a much deserved relaxing holiday break! With the new semester come many new faces at the CDL. We are excited to welcome our new group of practicum students. Late this week or early next week you should be receiving an introduction letter from your child's primary caregiver.

This past semester, Dawn has been working hard to revise the billing system to make it as efficient as possible. The billing cycle will now be from the first of each month to the last day of each month. If you are billed through Accounts Receivable, you can anticipate receiving an invoice the first week of each month. If you are billed through MyNIU, your invoice should be posted the first week of each month.

Last semester the staff was working on creating an additional handbook stating our policies in regards to risk management. We are proud to say the handbook is ready to view. We appreciate all of the suggestions we received from families in creating this important document. A copy of the handbook will be shared at our first Parent Board meeting this semester (date to be determined) for any additional suggestions from staff and families. We hope to see you there!

Emily Reilly  
ereilly@niu.edu

## Book Review

*If You Give a Cat a Cupcake* is the newest book in Laura Numeroff's series. The original book, *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie*, in her series is a children's favorite. This book is intended for children ages 3-7 and is written in the same tradition and humor as the other bestselling books in her series.

## Important Information!

- ✓ Remember to change your child's extra clothing for the colder weather.
- ✓ Thank you all for your continued support!
- ✓ Please remember to update your child's emergency contact card.

## Upcoming dates to remember at the CDL:

The CDL will be closed Monday January 19<sup>th</sup>.

Family Night:  
March 31<sup>st</sup>

Community News:  
Sycamore Kindergarten  
Registration Dates  
Feb 11<sup>th</sup> 1-8p  
Feb 12<sup>th</sup> 8-3p

## ITT West News

Welcome back for another great semester! We have some new faces in our classroom and familiar ones as well. We are sad to see Amy Lofthouse, Child Development Supervisor, leave our classroom but we're excited that she's just next door in preschool! Feel free to stop by the preschool room any time and say hi to her. She will be missed by the parents, children and staff. Paul is returning as a Child Development Supervisor in our classroom. He will continue to engage the children with his outstanding musical abilities this semester. Laurel is in the process of applying for the newly available Child Development Supervisor position. Hopefully we will have more information regarding her hiring status soon. Rachel Wilson will be joining our classroom as a Graduate Assistant. Rachel was an intern in the West classroom last semester and is an exciting addition to our staff. Michelle Nguyen will also be working in our classroom part time as extra help. Michelle was an intern last semester in the East classroom. She is looking forward to meeting the children and the families in our classroom.

As many of you know we have six new practicum students to welcome to our room. Our a.m. interns are Nicole, Taryn and Donelle. Our p.m. interns are Natasha, Leyla and Kara. In the coming weeks the students will be meeting their primaries and their primary families. They will also be familiarizing themselves with the classroom routine and schedule. They are all very anxious to meet and bond with the children.

We are already off to a great start this semester. The children have been transitioning back to school smoothly and it is obvious that they are happy to see their friends and teachers again. We continue to discuss our families and look at pictures of our friends and family to ease this transition. We currently have a bed time theme set up in our dramatic play area. The children have been busy nurturing our baby dolls, and each other, as we pretend to have bed time in our classroom.

Please feel free to contact Laurel or Paul with any questions you may have. It can be hard for the children to return to school after a break, particularly with new teachers, but we are working hard to make the children feel as comfortable as possible and implementing a seamless transition. We are all looking forward to a great spring semester!

Laurel and Paul

## Preschool News

Dear families,

Happy New Year! It's hard to believe that we have another semester under our belt, and we are beginning a new one. Everyone in the preschool classroom is very excited to start the semester. We would like to take some time to introduce some new faces that you'll be seeing. For starters, we have a new G.A. Tracy. Although, she is new at her job, to many she is a familiar face as she did her practicum during the fall 2007 semester. We are glad that she is with us and we look forward to working with her over the next couple of years. As for our interns, we have 6 this semester. Erin, Tierra and Leah are in the morning and Jamie, Dakota and Andreea will be in the afternoon. They are very excited for this semester to begin. Please take a moment to welcome them to the preschool classroom. We are looking forward to a fun filled semester and can't wait to see what they have planned for us!

As a friendly reminder, please make sure that your child's cubby is equipped with enough clothing. Also, please remember to bring in snow boots, hats, snow pants, and gloves as we will continue to go outside when the weather permits us. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask.

Have a great month!  
Amy & Euneta

## East

Welcome back everyone! We hope you had an enjoyable break. We would like to welcome our practicum students Nicci, Melissa, Adrienne, Amy, Katie, Danielle, and Lindsey to the East Classroom. We are all excited to get to know them, as well as they are excited to get to know all of you. We would like to thank Michelle, who was practicum student last semester, for joining us and being extra help in our classroom. We would also like to welcome Tiffany, our graduate assistant, back for a new semester. We are looking forward to a great semester filled with new and exciting ideas.

Since many of you traveled over break and the children rode in airplanes, we decided to set up our dramatic play as an airport. We made an airplane and decorated the walls with pictures of many of the places visited over break. Please share any pictures you may have taken with us. The children have been packing their suitcases and pretending to take trips. While riding in the airplane, the children have been calling mom and dad on their phones, as well as making snacks for their trip.

Have a Great Semester!  
Melissa and Sarah