EMERGENT CURRICULUM

Here at the Child Development Center, we believe learning is a shared experience between and among all involved. Teachers have a responsibility to bring intentionality and purpose to their planning for learning, while children are viewed as active contributors to their own learning. “Emergent curriculum” means that teachers make careful observations of their children’s interests and capabilities, what they are engaged in (even what they might not be engaged in), and the themes apparent in their play. Teachers then meet weekly to use these observations to add elements and materials to the environment, to modify spaces and interest centers, and to implement activities and projects consistent with children’s interests. What results is a deepening of learning that goes beyond a “stacking of facts” to a more useful “uncovering of concepts and ideas.”

Take a close look at the Communication Board outside your child’s classroom to see how and what teachers are planning for learning, and look for their visual documentations of learning posted on the walls adjacent to each classroom to get a better idea of just how our “Planned Possibilities” unfold!

DRIVING SAFELY

With the start of a new semester comes added opportunities for practicing patience ... as in parking. When pulling into the Center parking lot, please take care and watch for children. Stay patient; a spot will eventually open up. For non-student families, Linda can supply you with a semester parking pass so you can park across the street and walk together with your child. There are also a couple extra short-term parking spaces across the street. Please never drive the wrong direction or back into the lot. A little patience and consideration goes a long way!

OUR APPROACH TO HOLIDAYS

As a reminder (consistent with our policy on holidays), while we will not be celebrating Valentine’s Day in the traditional manner, teachers will still be incorporating relevant concepts of the holiday in their weekly curriculum (creating connections with friends and family, expressing feelings, etc.). Check with your child’s teacher if you have any questions but please do not send valentine cards to school with your child.