



## NURSERY CALENDAR

May 15-Family Planting Day

May 31-The Nursery is closed for Memorial Day

July 5-Center Closed for Independence Day



### May Birthday

May 21-Samantha Donnelly (2)

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# Nursery News

APRIL 23, 2010

## From The Director: Primary Caregiving

As we go forward and continue to grow, we are continuing to incorporate the best practices in infant and toddler care. One of these best practices is Primary Caregiving. Primary Caregiving makes sense based on what we know about the development of young children. Implementing a system of primary Caregiving is another way to establish a continuity of care. It ensures that each child's needs are met, fosters trust and promotes positive healthy social development. Primary Caregiving takes place when one adult provides the primary care for a child. This doesn't mean that this is the only person that interacts with the child,

but it is the adult that is most able to develop a trusting and nurturing relationship with a particular child. It does not mean that one person cares for an infant or toddler exclusively all of the time-there has to be teaming. Primary Caregiving does mean that the infant or toddler has someone special with whom to build an intimate relationship. This person is responsible for observing and assessing the child to track development across all domains; for attending to the child's needs, comforting the child and interacting with the child; and for communicating with the family about the child on a regular basis. Since developing a sense of trust is one of

the primary tasks of infancy, it is especially recommended that primary relationships are established for the infant age group but is best practice for any age group. This allows children to be known and treated as individuals. In a child care setting that operates full day it is necessary that each child have more than one primary caregiver, since no one person will work a 10-12 hour day. But there should be consistency from one day to the next. We have begun Primary Caregiving at The Nursery and we will be assigning permanent Primary Caregivers to you and your child.

## Are You Ready to Get Your Hands Dirty?

We are asking for volunteers to help us plant flowers around the center. This is a great way to socialize with other parents, get to know each other and help the center at the same time. There will be Caregivers on hand to help watch your little ones if

they don't want to "help" with the planting. The Nursery will provide flats of flowers, you provide the shovel and the muscle! Coffee and bagels will be served. The more hands the easier the work will be and the more time to socialize!

**WHAT:** Planting Day

**WHEN:** May 15, 2010  
10 am

**WHERE:** The Nursery

**WHO:** All Families

# Meet Miss Josie

Josie is one of The Nursery's afternoon Caregivers. She works with the Infants and is one of the Caregivers that closes the center and keeps it spic and span clean. Josie joined The Nursery in December and we are thrilled to have her.

Josie grew up in The Philippines in a very large Catholic family. Josie received a Bachelors of Science degree in agriculture.

Josie moved to the United States in 1986 with the family for whom she

was a nanny. Josie is married and has a 17 year old daughter. She has lived in South Orange since 1993.

Josie works at Marshall and Clinton Elementary Schools as a lunch aide. She was an assistant troop leader for Girl Scout Troop 654. Josie is a member of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish and is very active in several ministries.

Josie has a special way with the babies and they all love her. Of course the feeling is mutual and Josie looks forward to each day with the infants.



*Childhood should be a wonderful journey not a race toward adulthood.*

## Infant Insider

What a busy month in the Infant room. We had three new children join us, Emily, Madeline and Aidan and a new Caregiver, Trisha. We celebrated Sahana's first birthday and Miss Rosie's ?? Birthday. We watched as Evan became very proficient at crawling. A few friends had some new teeth break through-check out those smiles! Our oldest two friends, Eric and Riley have

begun their visits to the toddler room, started sleeping on cots and eating at the little table; all in preparation for their big move up this summer.

The infants really enjoy their daily (often twice daily) stroll around the parish campus and the older waddlers are enjoying their daily visits to the playground. Coloring with crayons, using play dough,

singing new songs and finger-plays and dancing keep the children busy while indoors. The song *Hello, Hello and How Are You?* is a favorite daily routine for the babies. They all laugh and dance or wiggle when the Caregivers start singing it.

Next month we will welcome Annabelle to the infant room. We are also looking forward to one more Caregiver, Marie, joining us early in May.

**COMING SOON:  
A New Check-in**



**System!**

We have received the new Procure version 10 and hope to have it up and running the first week in May. Watch for more details.

## Staff News and Notes

### Welcome Miss Trisha, Miss Elenora and Miss Marie

We were happy to welcome Miss Trisha to our infant room this month and Miss Elenora to our Toddler room. We look forward to having Miss Marie join the infants in May.

### Vacations and Time off

As we approach the nicer weather and summertime, some of our staff will be taking vacations or time to handle family matters. At The Nursery we cover for staff that need time off with our own staff instead of bringing in subs who would be strangers to your children. We find this allows for more consistency for the children.

If you know that you will be away for vacation, it is very helpful if you can let Bonnie know ahead of time. This allows us to plan for Caregivers.

### New Assistant Director

Johanna Salvante will be joining Bonnie in the office as our new Assistant Director. After being trained in all aspects of the job, she will be a great help for the entire Nursery family-parents, staff and Director!

# Meet Miss Melissa

Melissa joined the Nursery in December as an infant Caregiver and moved into the toddler room in February.

Melissa is working towards an Associates of Science degree in Early Childhood Education from Essex County College. She will be returning to complete her degree this fall after taking time off to have a baby.

While still in high school Melissa

took Child Development courses which allowed her to work in the Preschool. This educational track provided Melissa with hands on experience as well as advanced placement course work in early childhood.

She has worked in Early Childhood Education for 5 years. The last year she was the teacher in a toddler classroom, making her a great match for our toddler room.

Melissa is the proud mother of one son, Lloyd, who is 2 years old.



# Toddler Tidbits

In the toddler room we have welcomed new children and new Caregivers. Madeline and Diego joined the toddler room. Miss Gail moved permanently from the infant room and Miss Elenora joined our toddler staff. When Miss Johanna moves into her new position as Assistant Director a new Caregiver will join the room until Miss Sarah returns from her maternity leave.

The children have been very busy

learning about transportation and animals. You can see many of their art masterpieces hanging on the walls. They learned new songs and played some very fun games. The children are becoming very good at sitting at circle time and almost all of the children are choosing to join their friends to sing, hear stories and take part in the movement activities. What a difference from last fall when very few were ready

for this large group activity.

The toddlers have been going outside twice every day weather permitting. They have been playing with the parachutes, lawn fun, nature discoveries and lots of gross motor activities.

The Caregivers have wonderful things planned for May-watch the lesson plans on the door for details.

# Quick Reminders

## Time to Change Clothes

Now that the weather is warmer it is a good time to check your child's spare clothes supply. Check that they are still the correct size and appropriate for the season. Also **MAKE SURE THEY ARE LABELED!**

## Parking

I hope this is the last time we need to write about the parking lot! Now that we have drop off and pick up spaces reserved for parents, there should be no more problems. If you are leaving your car please do not use one of the reserved spaces, park in any of the other upper rows.

## Sunscreen

The children so go outside a couple of times each day. We realize the importance of sunscreen and ask that each family provide the brand of sunscreen that they would like used on their child as well as fill out an authorization form. You should apply the sunscreen prior to bringing your child and then we will reapply it as needed later in the day. The sunscreen and authorization is to be given to the Caregivers.

