



As a Reggio-inspired early learning center, the Lane Child and Family Center philosophy is based on the core principles of respect, responsibility and community.

Director's Corner~ Katheryn Blair

Now winter term is flying by and spring is right around the corner. My weather app is showing a chance of snow on Friday... I'm ready for summer now! The children have been enjoying outside playground time and walks and not bothered by the weather at all. Thank you to all of the parents that are either calling the classroom or the office when your child will not be attending due to sickness. 'Tis the season. As a reminder, here is our illness policy:

Illness policy

The Center adheres to the Child Care Division Guidelines regarding health policies for reducing exposure to illness. While children may seem to have mild symptoms at home, these same symptoms often increase when their activity level increases at school.

Children who are ill will not be accepted. If your child becomes ill at school they need to be picked up within 30 minutes. If for any reason you are unable to pick up your child yourself, it is your responsibility to make arrangements for one of your authorized persons to pick up the child within 30 minutes of being notified. If a parent is not able to be reached the next person on the pick-up list will be contacted. Children must be well enough to participate in all indoor and outdoor activities to return to child care.

Children with the following symptoms will be sent home or not accepted for care for the day:

- Complaints of severe pain, stiff neck or headache, difficulty breathing, abnormal wheezing, or pale listless behavior.

- Rashes with the characteristics of a contagious disease (severe, weeping or puss-filled), or unusual yellow color to skin or eyes.
- Pink eye or infections in the eye: Your child will need to be on medication for 24 hours and have no eye discharge before returning.
- Stomach flu symptoms (diarrhea, vomiting, or nausea.): We ask that you keep your child home until they have retained solid foods, and are back on their regular diet. They must be free from these symptoms for 24 hours prior to returning to school. Diarrhea is considered having more than one abnormally loose, runny, or watery stool.
- A temperature of over 100 degrees: Children will not be allowed in care with a fever that has been minimized with medication to reduce a fever.
- Head lice, scabies, ringworm and/or any other contagious condition: Your child must be free of lice and all nits removed before they will be allowed to return.
- Colds: Occasional runny noses are common in young children. However, if your child is constantly sneezing, coughing, or has a continuous runny nose, we ask you keep them home for the day.

Preschool Promise for the next academic year (2017-2018)

We are moving forward with planning for Preschool Promise in the 2017-2018 school year. With the current state budget deficit, we won't know about funding for the next program year until possibly July. The State has told us to proceed as if the program will be funded at the current level. We are VERY optimistic about continuing with the same number of slots (20 for our site) for the next two years. If you have a child that will be in the 3-5 age range and are at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level, you can possibly have a spot in the Preschool Promise classroom. Please come into the office and fill out an interest card and we will fax your information over to the United Way. They will then send you an enrollment application in April.

News & Updates

March 23rd is the last day of childcare for Winter term.

Spring Term begins April 3rd.

Summer term

We have one classroom available for summer term.

When the class fills up, those still interested will be put on a wait list. Open enrollment will begin May 1st and go through

Sea Turtles



Dear Families,

Welcome to winter term in the Sea Turtle class! We hope your year is off to a good start. We are excited to share with you the big things happening in our classroom!

First of all, please welcome a new friend, Coha, to our classroom! He's exploring his new classroom environment, and enjoys working alongside his Sea Turtles friends as he builds and creates with new materials.

The big ideas we are exploring this term involve children constructing knowledge using a wide variety of materials and methods in the classroom. We are using many different kinds of builders, including blocks and magnet tiles, to construct different types of structures. Some children are focusing on learning how to build very tall. Others like to create flat designs on the floor or table, making arrays and patterns. Many children have been interested in exploring the concepts of balance, testing their creations to find the tipping point, getting excited instead of disappointed when they fall over. We have also been stringing beads, rolling wheels, creating sculptures out of foam and wire, and experimenting with different shapes to see how they can combine to make different types of structures. We plan to continue to expand our exploration using new types of materials. Thank you for the "beautiful materials" you have brought in for us to use so far! If you would like to contribute more, we have paper bags at the front desk with ideas and suggestions for items you can bring in. We also plan on starting a recycled art project, using recyclable items such as food containers, boxes, and tubes that children can do larger scale construction with.



Outdoor school will continue on **Mondays** this term! We are excited to see how our outdoor classroom has changed over winter break. Please send your child to school on Mondays with warm clothing and good walking boots, and arrive by 9:15 am to join us. If you arrive after we have left for outdoor school, we invite you to come join us and drop your child off with the Sea Turtles as we walk.



Finally, we would like to invite you to come play with your child in our classroom. Please be on the lookout for an invitation with the date and time of this great event. This is a wonderful chance to be a part of the Sea Turtles' day and spend some fun play time with your child!

Thank you to all parents and families for being a part of our Sea Turtle classroom. We are so fortunate to have you and your children join us this term!

Emma, Shannon, and Amy

Starfish

The starfish have dove right into the term. We have been taking weekly walks, exploring habitats and environments, introducing the



outdoor school, and learning about conservation. Using a Reggio Emilia philosophy, we encourage the children to expand on their theories of these areas and topics.

Every week, we take a walk around our school. So far this term, we have been to the art gallery and water fountain. These walks help the children to learn about the world around them. When we are done, we take some time to write and draw in journals. This gets the children thinking about what they have seen and experienced, and what they would like to learn about.

We have finally been able to implement outdoor school into our week. Because this environment can be seen from the windows, the children are able to see how it changes and stays the same. This gives us a chance to learn how to be respectful and responsible for this area.



One of our long term projects is the study of habitats and the environment. In our classroom we have play areas set up to represent habitats such as the forest, the pond, and even one designed to be a prehistoric period. The children have been learning about the basic needs of all living creatures. These needs include food, shelter, water, and social circles. They have also been acting out the age old struggle between predator and prey. How does a bird escape or protect its young from foxes and raccoons?

Conservation is a topic that is new to many of the children. We have begun to conserve paper by writing on both sides, "using up" the page before starting on a new one, as well as taking one towel to dry hands. The Reggio approach is being applied here to encourage children to think about different ways to use, repurpose, and build relationships with different materials.

Our weekly schedule has changed, slightly, this term. On Tuesday, we take our walks or field trips. We leave around 10. Wednesday morning, we explore outdoor school that is located outside of the gate, between our play yard and the seals yard. Friday we go to the Head Start play yard.

Thanks for making every day a great one!

Heidi, Marsha, and Ashley



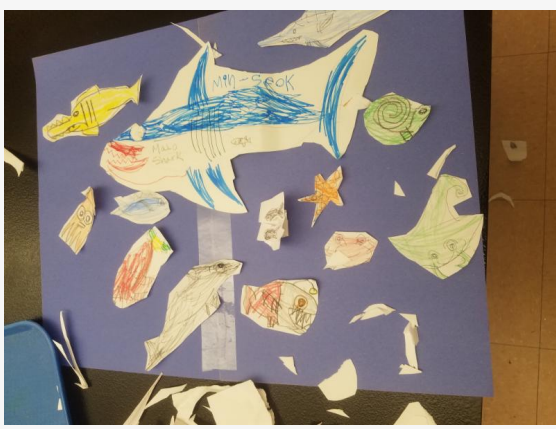
Seals

Dear Seal Families,
Welcome back to our new term. We are happy to meet our new children and greet our returning children.

Reggio Inspired curriculum relies on observing the children and their interests. As the term ended, the topic of dance and storytelling came to the forefront.

We have added an overhead projector to our room. Some children are interested in performing and are using the overhead as a "spotlight". We plan to incorporate writing stories and creating props to support this interest.





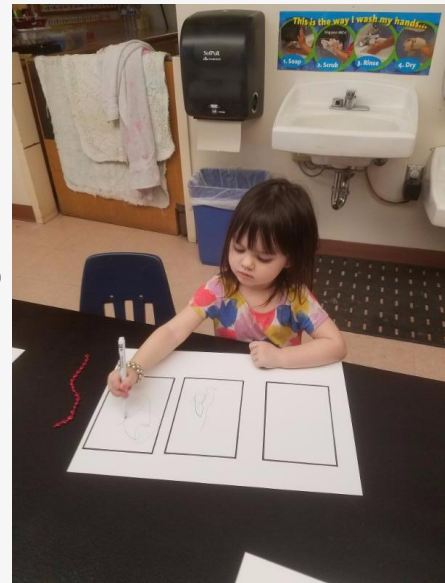
After exploring a number of stories to focus on, our group has settled on "Stone Soup". This traditional tale involves a small township of people who are struggling to have enough food and a traveler with a "magic stone" that turns into delicious soup...with a small contribution from everyone. This story incorporates the exploration of

food and where it comes from as well as promoting community and helping one another. We've added props for our story to our Imagine Aerie (dramatic play area) and we're investigating real veggies. Please enjoy the snippets of our exploration in pictures.

Our parent event this term will be a "literacy afternoon" and will include a book giveaway. Watch our information board (to the left of the sign in computer) for more information. We do hope you can attend; we'll put on our performance of Stone Soup for you.

As always, thank you for sharing your children with us. We can't do this without them!

Chris, Jesse, Karyn, Sandhya



Get Tips for Kindergarten!

Ready4K! is a free text message service designed by Stanford University. It sends preschool parents research-based fun facts and easy tips to help children do better in school.

To sign up, text **READY4K** to **313131**. You'll receive weekly messages suggesting everyday activities to prepare your child for kindergarten. This service is completely free, except for standard text messaging rates determined by your cellphone plan.

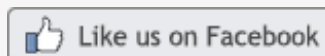
Tax Information:

Parents are responsible for keeping their own records of child care expenses. No formal statement will be issued from the Child and Family Center. All of your account information is available to you 24 hours per day via Express Lane. The Federal Tax Identification Number for Lane Child and Family Center is: 93-0546223

Take a moment to help other families find LCFC!



See what's happening and connect with us!



VISIT OUR WEBSITE

