



What's happening...

Mixed Age Learning and

THE BIG BUDDY CLUB!!!

Mixed-age grouping has great potential to support children's social and emotional learning. Children who are settled and older often take on leadership roles and support those who are less capable and competent than they are, while at the same time building their own self-confidence and self-esteem. They model turn taking and sharing. Children with no younger siblings at home have opportunities to 'be a big sister or brother' and nurture and help others as well as form relationships with younger children.

Mixed-age grouping allows less confident preschoolers to mix with younger children and over time build their confidence in mixing with same age and older peers. These children often find this less stressful as they are not expected to match their peers' behaviors and abilities and so they avoid the competitiveness that does arise within groups of preschoolers.

This also works well for children who have developmental delays as they are able to play with peers of similar abilities and interests and avoid some of the frustrations they may otherwise face.

PLEASE SEE THE INFORMATION ABOUT OUR NEW "BIG BUDDY CLUB" ON THE NEXT PAGE...



Dear Parents,

We are excited to let you know that your child's classroom will be participating in the Raising A Reader (RAR) program! Since 1999, RAR is a national nonprofit organization that has helped families successfully build and sustain literacy routines in their homes. RAR's mission is to engage parents and caregivers in a routine of book sharing with their children from birth through age eight to foster healthy brain development, healthy family relationships, a love of reading, and the literacy skills that are critical for school success.

How Does the Raising A Reader Program Work?

Your child will be sent home with a bright red RAR bag filled with four (4) age appropriate, high-quality, and engaging picture books. The red book bags with the books inside of them will get rotated on a weekly basis. Parents/caregivers will be provided with the necessary support, training, strategies, and tools to effectively share books with their children. Families will also be connected with their local public and school libraries. At the end of the program, children will receive a blue library book bag to keep so that they can continue the practice of borrowing books and build a lifelong habit of reading.

Parents Play a KEY Role in Raising A Reader!

If you are like most parents, you want your child to be well prepared for success in school. You know that learning to read is one of the most important skills that your child will need to succeed. What you may not know is how important, but easy, your role is. You don't need fancy toys or expensive computer games. Your mind, your voice, your ideas, your time, and your love are what your children need to reach their potential. Check out the sidebar on the left for some tips about how you can begin the amazing and transformative experience of sharing books with your child.

Want More Information About Raising A Reader?
Visit the website: www.raisingareader.org

DID YOU KNOW?

Babies and young children need to hear plenty of language for brain development.

80% of a child's brain growth is complete by age 3, and most of that time is spent with their families.

The more experience young children have with language, the more their brains will grow.

Children who are talked to and read to by their families when they are young do better in school, read better, graduate more often and are more likely to be employed as adults.

PARENT TIPS FOR BOOK SHARING

Talk to your child. Listen to your child:

- Encourage your child to tell you stories and ask questions
- Share nursery rhymes, sing songs

Share books with your child:

- Snuggle up and get close
- Ask questions
- Talk about the pictures and new words
- Share the book repeatedly
- Let your child take the lead

Remember It is Okay...

- To read only part of the book
- If you don't read well
- If you have an accent or don't speak English, you can read in your home language
- If your child wants to hold the book and read it to you
- If you only talk about the pictures



TCC is excited to be starting the Big Buddy Club program. This will give opportunities for the preschool children to sign up to visit the infant/toddler side. These time will be carefully managed by the teaching teams and only be available when the opportunities allow. The preschool room has been discussing the plans for this during circle time, with the children. They have been discussing topics such as how to sign up, what responsibilities it means to be a Big Buddy, and appropriate behavior when on the infant/toddler side. You will notice special badges or lanyards to identify the child or children acting as a Big Buddy.

This idea is something that most elementary schools implement among the older and younger students; typically as a reading program.

As discussed on the first page of newsletter, there are so many benefits to programs like this. We are excited to get it underway here at TCC!

Communication...

Preschool:

-(805)548-1283

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Infant:

-(805)548-1291

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Important Dates...

Please see "2018, Year At A Glance". This will be a separate document attached to this newsletter.
Great for hanging on the fridge!



Our Scholastic Book Fair was a huge success. We earned over \$500 in "Reward Dollars" to be spent on classroom supplies. With the points we will be receiving a table top LED light table, liquid sensory stepping tile pads, and possibly a new book shelf!

We hope you are all enjoying the books you purchased.

THANK YOU!!!

New field trip policy

As a team we have come up with a new policy for preschool field trips. For the 3-4 field trips per year that we use public transportation we are limiting these to children ages 3 years old and up. These trips are typically broken up throughout the year, being roughly once per quarter. For the children under three, some preschool teacher will stay at school and plan a fun time for them. The 2 year old children will not be missing out on these trips entirely, as it is something they will get to look forward to when they are older. We have chosen this for the safety of the children and also due to the fact that some of our field trips may be geared a little toward the older age group.

TCC Field Trips and Special Guest Visitors are planned throughout the year. Our intention is to give the children opportunities to explore and be exposed to all that our community has to offer. Here is an idea of how these are planned and who is included...

~Special Guest Visitor (quarterly) entire school is included

~All School Family Field Trips (two per year; fall and spring) entire school is included

~All preschool Field Trip (parents provide transportation) two per year

~Older Preschool Field Trips via public bus (for children ages 3 years old+) two per year

Health and Safety

- The flu and cold season seems to have hit. Please keep in mind our illness policy, which is located in the Parent Handbook on our website, for your reference. Please be conscious of the other families and teachers at TCC. Keep your child home if they show signs of illness, including green runny nose, constant cough, diarrhea, fever, etc. Also, please be diligent about hand washing at drop off each morning. This is an important factor in keeping a handle on the spread of germs. It is also an important way to encourage hygiene in children at a young age.
- **Thank you Trust Automation for the purchase of our brand new AED device!!!** This is located, on the wall, near the first aid kit in the preschool room. The AED is equipped with pediatric and adult electrode pads.



Sign up for important updates from Sarah R Davis.

Get information for Trust Children's Center right on your phone—not on handouts.

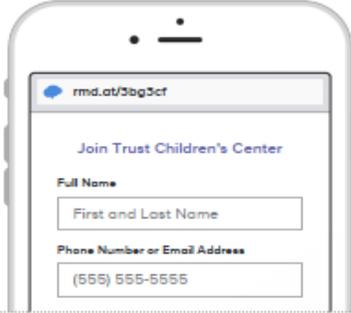
Pick a way to receive messages for Trust Children's Center:

A If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.

On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link:

rmd.at/3bg3cf

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.

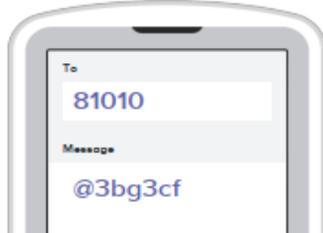


B If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications.

Text the message @3bg3cf to the number 81010.

If you're having trouble with 81010, try texting @3bg3cf to (501) 377-9982.

* Standard text message rates apply.



Don't have a mobile phone? Go to rmd.at/3bg3cf on a desktop computer to sign up for email notifications.

As a reminder, the Remind App is a very useful tool to stay up to date on the latest school announcements and reminders. Be sure to allow text notifications, so that you see new information right away.