

New Gulph Children's Center Newsletter

Fall 2011

Nancy Klein, Director



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Upcoming Events

- ◆ **November 24 - 25** - NG closed
- ◆ **December 23** - Last day before holiday break
- ◆ **January 3** - NG reopens after break

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Message from the Director

With the conclusion of another successful Summer Session, our 40th fall session is off to a great start. The teachers and kids returned from vacation break refreshed, renewed and ready to have fun, work, play and learn.

In thinking about what has made New Gulph unique for the past forty years it's what has remained the same since the first parents entrusted their children to our care. At that time, parents wanted a place that would nurture and stimulate their children. They wanted a place where their children would feel comfortable, safe and loved. They wanted a place where their children could explore, grow and learn. And they knew that the key ingredient for this was a staff of qualified and loving teachers who would care for their children and the center.

The same ideals of nurturing children in a loving environment and preparing the whole child - physically, academically, socially and emotionally, for not only kindergarten, but also a life-long love of learning continue to be the focus of New Gulph. Not only have these principles remained, but also so have many of the teachers, many of who have been at New Gulph 10, 20, 30, 35 years and more. The quality of care your child receives stands in testimony to the quality of the staff and is among the traits that set New Gulph apart from other centers. Indeed, it is that very trait which enables you to go off to work having nothing but fond thoughts of your child knowing they are happy and stimulated and in a warm, loving and safe environment.

Meet the Board of Directors

The Board is composed of NG parents, a former NG student, a staff representative and me. It sets the policies under which the Center functions. Parents serving on the Board graciously share their talents while enjoying a feature that sets New Gulph apart from many other day care centers.

Michael Ade	Sunni Fagalde
Bryan Baker	Kim Kennedy
Colleen Baker	Steve Klein, Treasurer
Amy Brown, President	Paige LeGrand
Michelle Cherny	Mark Naegle
Shawn Dumas	

Board Meetings are held in the I/T room once/month (generally the third Wednesday of the month), starting at 7:30 PM. All NGCC parents are welcome to attend Board meetings to acquaint yourself with the activities of the Board of Directors and consider the possibility of serving on the Board.

Playground Renovation

Our new playground is coming along. The children have enjoyed watching the demolishing of the old equipment and the construction process involved in creating the new deck and walkway. They found Mr. Groundhog's hole and were surprised by the number of freeze pop wrapper that had fallen through the cracks on the deck. The bright orange "playpen" in the field has been a big hit with the kids too.



*“Autumn, the year’s
last, loveliest smile”*

William Cullen Bryant

Fall Birthdays

September

2	Tralynn	3
8	Tina	?
11	Tracy	?
13	Matthew	4
17	Addison	3

October

1	Nathan	1
4	Nature Nanny	?
10	Paige	2
27	Johanna	3

November

17	Ian	2
17	Addie	1
18	Alaina	3
23	Lauren	2
27	Natalie	4

December

4	Drew	2
12	Mia	4



Snuggle Up!

Keep your child cozy and warm this winter by purchasing a **NG sweatshirt**. Sweatshirts are grey with red & blue NG logo and available in size Small (6-8). Cost is \$15. Email Nancy if you are interested!

Infants and Toddlers

As the new school year began, the I/T teachers did not waste any time in getting activities started for both old and new youngsters. The bare classroom walls were brightened up with art projects for the fall season: apple tree collages, apple cutouts and other free form art activities. Black and orange colors of Halloween will dominate the upcoming activities. Watch out for the spooky witch and bat cutouts, ghost designs, skeletons and more.

The children immerse themselves in the many fun activities throughout the day. Gathering for stories, singing and of course dancing to a wide variety of musical styles, the louder, the better are an important part of the daily routine. As soon as a CD is popped into the player, every child, right down to the youngest infant starts to move and groove to the beat Making puzzles, building a huge tower with Lego, caring

for a baby doll or preparing a “make believe” meal are part of the fun too. Check out the white wipe board for an update on daily activities.

The older toddlers (age “2 ish”) are separated from the younger children to spend a small portion of their morning working with Crystal in the nap room that doubles as a work/play center. When Crystal calls her “group” they rush into the room ready to “work”. They busy themselves with various projects, activities and games such as matching lotto and playing with colorful pegs. They have special stories and talk about many different things. Crystal encourages the children to develop their emerging skills which will help make a smooth transition “down the road” to Preschool. Crystal provides weekly program notes for the children in her “group”.

Preschool News

Over the summer the PS teachers rearranged some of the equipment and furniture in the classroom. Their new design is working well and makes good use of the limited wall and storage space. Even though the room has a semi-new look, the kids were quick to fall into their daily routine and their new “groups”. Letters, numbers, name recognition, handwriting skills, calendar and weather are an important part of group time, however each group and child approaches these activities at his/her ability level.

Fall and Halloween activities are the current topic of interest. Projects involving apples and colorful autumn leaves help the children learn about the fall season. After sorting different kinds of apples (Red Delicious, Granny Smith and Fuji) the class made applesauce to enjoy for dessert. It was yummy. Now the children question if the applesauce served for dessert is from real apples or from the can. Fire safety and Columbus Day activities were enjoyed too. The preschool transforms into a very spooky and scary place at this time of the year. Watch out for flying witches and bats, black cats, ghosts, grinning jack-o-lanterns and other things that go bump in the night. Enter at your own risk.

The PS class has enjoyed two visits by Nature Nanny. In September NN taught the children many interesting facts about whales. NN read a book call Amos and Boris, a story about a whale and a mouse that become friends. For morning snack the children made humpback whale “flukes” (tails) using tail shaped cookies and black and white icing. To complete the whale unit, the children learned a whale song and rhyme and created whales using paper lunch bags.

In October, NN made an interesting presentation on owls. Did you know a group of owls is called a parliament? The elf owl (3 inches) and the snowy owl seemed to be the class favorites. The kids enjoyed 3 special stories and learned several new owl songs. For snack they made owl faces out of rice cakes “frosted” with PB, banana and raisins eyes and a triangle of cheese beak. Very yummy. Each child made an adorable owl puppet out of a paper lunch bag. Check out the owl pictures posted in Nature Nanny's Nook.

Our Art History program is another special feature in the PS. Miss Megan has visited in September and October. Look for more details on this program in the Winter newsletter!

Local Events

Apple picking, hayrides, pumpkin picking - you name it - many fun, family-friendly happenings this fall. Listed below are a few with links to more information. If you know of any other events - please let us know!

Riverbend Environmental Education Center- Fun fall activities such a Fall Foliage Hike on 11/6/11. See their [website](#) for more information.

Highland Orchards (\$) - Pick your own apples, hayrides, etc. [Located in West Chester, PA.](#)

Elmwood Park Zoo (\$) - [Little Boo at the Zoo](#), October 28 - 30.



Bryn Mawr Film Institute (\$) - Every Saturday, there is a [Kids' Matinee](#) at 11am. Look for the Muppet movies, slated for November.

Radnor Memorial Library - On Saturday, October 29th at 11am, is hosting Radnor Tots Go Green - learn about recycling (ages 3 ½ - 6 years old).

Reminder: Please return the Media/Photography consent form ASAP

Help Wanted!

With the Fall season comes the beginning of our 2011-2012 Fiscal Year. Like many individuals and enterprises, NGCC is not immune to some of the challenges of today's economic climate. One of the NGCC Vision Statements is: "A unique center with full enrollment." While NGCC is an amazing center, New Gulph needs a steady influx of new children to maintain a financially healthy center. Our current enrollment is falling short of our projection for the year with 19 children enrolled in the Infant/Toddler room and 16 in the Pre-school this year. With vacancies in both classes we need "a few good children" to round out our enrollment of 21 children in each program.

This year, as in past years, the Board of Directors is committed to reinforcing our traditional marketing strategy and developing new ways to spread the word about what each of us value in New Gulph. We need **your help to promote how unique NGCC is** so we can preserve the wonderful qualities that our children and their teachers have come to expect at NGCC. There are many simple ways that you can help with minimal time commitment including:

- Posting your positive feedback and experiences on www.yelp.com www.local.yahoo.com www.citysearch.com
- Displaying a NGCC NOW ENROLLING sign on your property (See Diana or Nancy for sign)
- Attaching a NGCC magnetic logo on your car (see Nancy for magnet)
- Posting a NGCC flyer in family friendly locations, on a bulletin board at a local church, grocery store, library, community center, etc.
- Posting the NGCC flyer on a Corporate Bulletin Board, if available.
- Sharing the NGCC advantage with friends and family.
- Communicating within your social networks, such as Mother's Clubs, Book Clubs, Civic Associations, other recreational clubs, etc.

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Book Pick: **Willy McSpry story by Tom Molokie (Nature Nanny's Grandson!)**

The first in a series, Willy McSpry has a passion for running, boundless energy and is always on the go. This adorable character along with cute illustrations and simple, catchy text is perfect bedtime reading for young children. A copy of book is available on the PS bookshelf. The book is available on Amazon and other sources.

Traffic Safety

Traffic on Conestoga Road is very busy making pulling in/out of our driveways very challenging. While NG parents are alert to the dangers, we had a "close call" between two families earlier this week. Please use extreme caution as you enter and exit NG. Also while many parents are rushing to get to work or make the 5:30 pick up time it's important to remember to SLOW DOWN in the parking lot. I've observed several incidents where children were running in the parking lot without an adult "hand", climbing on and in cars, and running out of sight. A child running in front of or behind an unsuspecting car or into the parking lot unattended is an accident waiting to happen. PLEASE, to avoid a tragedy hold your child's hand in the parking area.

Devoted to nurturing happy, healthy, well-rounded individuals - with creativity and love since 1971.

