



UNO Child Care Center **Chronicle**

September 2024

Dawn Hove-Casart - Director

Monica Dey - Assistant Director

UNO Child Care Center Happenings and Reminders

1. Curriculum Night ~ Thursday, September 26, 2024, from 4:30 to 6 P.M.

- Stop by and see your child's lead teacher and teacher assistants.
 - Come do a fun activity with your child and see what they do every day.
 - Enjoy a snack and networking with other families.
- Hope to see you there.



2. The UNO Child Care Center will be closed on Monday, September 2, 2024, in observance of Labor Day.

We will re-open on Tuesday, September 3, 2024 at 6:30 a.m. for normal business hours. Have a great 3 day weekend.

- The children do play outside and will go for walks on campus both in the mornings and afternoons. If you know that you will be picking up early, please let Dawn, Monica or your child's Lead Teacher know, so that your child can stay back if you pick up before 4 p.m.
- Please let us know if your child(ren) will not be in attendance for the day. You can call the child care center at 402-554-3398 or email Dawn (dhove@unomaha.edu) or Monica (mdey@unomaha.edu) to let us know. This helps us for preparing meals and staffing for the day. Reminder that if your child has been diagnosed with an illness to please let us know. Depending on the type of illness, we may need to inform families of the illness. Thank you for your cooperation.
- If your child has been to the doctor in the past year, please make sure you bring in an updated physical &/or immunization record for his/her file. If any of your contact information that has changed, please make sure we have the updated information for our records.
- Tuition is due your first scheduled day of each week; unless you are signed up for payroll deductions.
- For all families who are students, please make sure we have an updated class schedule.
- The UNO Child Care Center **closes** promptly at **5:30 P.M.** Please make sure you are picking up your child by 5:30 P.M. The staff thank you.
- We continue to advertise for the Assistant Lead Toddler Teacher position. Help continue to spread the word.
- We look forward to a exiting new fall semester and academic 2024-2025 year. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Dawn at 402-554-4936 or by email at dhove@unomaha.edu.

Stretch-N-Grow Programs ~ An email as been sent out with information for you to sign-up.

Dance will be on Wednesdays from 10:30 to 11 A.m.

Yoga will be on Fridays from 9:30 to 10 A.M.

Fall Semester Holiday Closures

Monday, September 2, 2024; Labor Day

Thursday & Friday, November 28 & 29, 2024; Thanksgiving Holiday

Saturday, December 21, 2024 through Wednesday, January 1, 2025; Winter Shutdown



Happy Birthday!

1 - Jane L.

21 - Ms. Effie

27 - Miss Gillian



September



Harvest Month

- 2 - Labor Day
- 2 - **UNO Child Care Center Closed**
- 5 - National Cheese Pizza Day
- 6 - Read a Book Day
- 6 - National Food Bank Day
- 8 - Grandparents Day
- 8 - International Literacy Day
- 9 - National Teddy Bear Day ~ Bring your favorite to share
- 19 - National Dance Day
- 22 - Autumn Begins
- 23 - National Family Day
- 26 - Curriculum Night; 4:30 to 6 P.M.



October

National Book Month & National Family History Month Fire Prevention Month

- 2 - Rosh Hashanah
- 4 - Preschool/Pre-K Field Trip to Bellevue Berry Farm
- 5 - World Teacher Day
- 11 - Yom Kippur
- 14 - Indigenous People Day
- 16 - Boss' Day
- 17 - Nebraska Crunch Off Participation
- 21-22 - UNO Fall Break; UNOCCC OPEN
- 25 - Picture Day
- 26 - National Make A Difference Day
- 31 - Costume Parade Across Campus; 9 A.M.



Recommended Books for the Month



The shipment of the Nebraska Growing Readers book series will continue to go home each month. These are free books that families can take and read to their children to keep or pass along to other families. These books are designed to use language and cultural references appropriate for your children. In fact, many will speak to Nebraska specific topics that will engage your child.

"Acorn Was a Little Wild" by Jen Arena

"There Was An Old Lady Who Swallowed Some Leaves" by Lucille Colandro

"A Job for Wittilda" by Caralyn and Mark Buehner

"The Great Kapok Tree" by Lynne Cherry

"Pardon Me!" by Daniel Miyares

"Maybe Something Beautiful" by Isabel Campay

"My Name" by Supria Kelkar

"I Love You Mucho Mucho" by Rachel Más Davidson

"Mary Had a Little Glam" by Tammi Sauer

"Joy Takes Root" by Gwendolyn Wallace

"Grandma's Tiny House" by Janay Brown Wood



Reading Fun!

Book Orders for this month will be due on Friday, September 20, 2024.

Books are an important part of a child's development and can help your child gain pre-literacy skills. When you order your child's books through Scholastic Book Orders, the center earns points to use towards free books and educational materials we can use in the classrooms!

Please visit [scholastic.com/bookclubs](https://www.scholastic.com/bookclubs) to order.

If this is your first time ordering online, you will need to create an account using our center's code GKXFX. This is the center's account under "Dawn Hove". Please make sure you are using this account, or your order may not be processed. You will be able to pay online and the books will be delivered to the center. Happy Reading!



Talk With Toddlers

Hello Toddler Parents, welcome to September!

We would like to welcome our new toddler friends to the classroom; Jovanni, Wolfgang, Ophelia, Mae, and Mayalah.

We have some fun things planned for the first full month of the school year.

Our monthly themes are the letters A, B, C; the numbers 1, 2, 3; the color red, the shape is octagon; and we're exploring sense of self.

We'll be sending home "All About Me," posters at the beginning of the month. These are a fun activity for you and your toddler can do together that we will place in the classroom to help the other toddler families and staff learn more about your child/family. The posters are due back by September 20.

A few reminders for the start of the year,

1. Please check both your child's mailbox and coat hook at the end of the day.
2. Provide a refill pack of diaper wipes for the month of September, a change of clothes for your child and a drinking cup that can be used for water.

We're so excited to have your child in the toddler room, here's to a great start to the semester!

Mr. Fred and the Toddler Staff



Time With Transition

Fall semester is here!

Transition is excited to get back into the school year routine after a fun-filled summer. We would like to welcome our new friends to the Transition room! Vera and Daniela have joined us from Toddler 2, and Jane, Ezra, Quinn, and Samuel are new friends we have welcomed as well.

This month we have a fun take-home activity. One of our themes in September is a focus on getting to know one another. We will be sending home an "All About Me" poster for you to do with your child at home. They will be going out in the week September 2 and are due back by September 23. We will be displaying them in the room so we can get to know each child better!

On Thursday, September 26, we are having a center-wide Curriculum Night. This is a great opportunity to meet with me in person for the start of the school year, tour your child's classroom, and ask questions about our daily routines. More information on that will be coming soon, so stay tuned.

Please make sure you are checking your child's daily purple sheet that is sent home, so you can stay up to date on what is going on in Transition. As the weather begins to cool off, we will continue to apply sunscreen when we go outside. Please remember to be mindful of the extra clothes you are sending in your child's backpack to ensure they are seasonally appropriate. When the temperature (or real feel) reaches 60 degrees and below, we will need to wear jackets. As we transition into the unpredictable Nebraskan fall, keeping a light jacket in your child's backpack or on their hook is never a bad idea!

Here are the themes for the month of September:

September - Learning About Ourselves & Others

Welcome Back to School

Color: Red

Getting to Know One Another

Shape: Square

Making New Friends

Numbers: 1, 2, 3

Learning Classroom Rules

Letters: A, B, C

Respecting & Caring for One Another

As always if you have any questions or concerns, please call me during my scheduled desk duty hours from 1-2 PM, or feel free to email me at

aleciakeller@unomaha.edu.

Ms. Alecia and the Transition Assistant Teachers



Preschool Perspective

Happy Fall Y'all!

We are ready to start the semester off on the right foot, with the seasons changing we are going to try to soak up as much sun as possible! We have a very fun and educational month planned with amazing experiments along the way. Keep an eye out on the front door for any material requests!

Starting September 3 (don't forget about Labor Day!) Preschoolers will start the month out right with the theme Getting to Know You. Followed by learning all about our favorite buzzing friends Bumble Bees and to close the month we are having two weeks where we explore Apples and all they have to offer. The Letters of the month are A, B and C, the shape of the month is a rectangle, and the color is red! This is going to be a fun month!

Just some general reminders:

1. As the weather keeps getting cooler, please make sure to have a jacket and weather appropriate close at the school.
2. We are starting Yoga and Dance again, if interested please sign up!
3. Our first activity of the day starts at 9:00 AM every morning!

It is going to be the best month ever!

Ms. Erin and the Preschool Assistant Teachers



Pre-K Press Release

Pre-K Parents,

September is going to be fun!!!

This month we will be starting to send home learning extension activities weekly. We will also be sending home the book adventure backpack. When it is your child's turn, our blue backpack will be on your child's hook.

September's themes are Getting to Know You and Our Classroom, Bees, and two weeks of Apples. Our letters for the month are A, B, and C. Our numbers for the month are 1, 2, and 3. Our color this month is red, and the shape is rectangle.

Curriculum night is on September 26, from 4:30-6P.M. We encourage parents to come to curriculum night so you can see what we will be up to this school year. Curriculum night will also be a good time to become familiar with the classroom and the new Parent information Board and the Parent Education Board.

This fall your child will have the opportunity to do Yoga and Dance with Stretch-N-Grow. Dance will be on Wednesday's from 10:30-11 A.M. Yoga will be on Friday's from 9:30-11 A.M. An email will go out with more information. Once a month we will send home Scholastic Book Flyers, this is a good opportunity to get books for your home library and to help the center get new books.

We are looking forward to an exciting month.

Mrs. Patty and the Pre-K Staff



Parent Corner

Read Together to Support Early Literacy (From NAEYC.org Website)

Children who have lots of experiences with books absorb the rhythms and patterns of language and, at surprisingly early ages, begin to imitate the language and gestures their parents and caregivers use while sharing stories, sometimes turning pages and murmuring as they “read” the pictures.

While we can’t expect infants and toddlers to learn to read and write yet, they are nevertheless developing skills that provide a foundation for later literacy. When you share books with your very young child you support emerging literacy as you:

- help your child learn that pictures and words are symbols that can be interpreted.
- expose your child to new words, thereby increasing her vocabulary; and
- familiarize your child with the conventions of print.



Understanding pictures and print as symbols

Within their first 18 months, most infants who have explored and shared books with adults show an understanding that pictures symbolize things in the real world, an understanding that is uniquely human (Barton & Brophy-Herb 2006). For example, at around 12 months, an infant seems to understand that the cup in a picture on the page represents a cup like the one she drinks from every day. She may tell you about the connection she is making by looking at the picture and pointing to a nearby cup. Another child, age 17 months, enjoying the book *Goodnight Moon* with his dad, may murmur, “Hush,” when his dad turns to the page about a quiet old lady who was whispering, “Hush” (Schickedanz 1999). Understanding that pictures are symbols of real things is a first step toward understanding that print also represents ideas of items in the real world.

Children may begin to notice print in addition to pictures between 15 and 20 months, and by 32 months a child may move a finger or her whole hand across a line of print and verbalize her memory of what the text says (Schickedanz 1999). Although we might find constantly answering the question, “What say?” exhausting, children’s recognition that pictures and print convey meaning is an important step in emerging literacy that we need to support by responding to their inquiries (Neuman, Copple, & Bredekamp 2000).

Increasing vocabulary

Sharing books will expand your very young child’s growing vocabulary. Storybooks often use words in ways that are different from how we use those same words in everyday conversation. Books also use words that are generally absent from day-to-day speech. *The Napping House*, for example, contains many descriptive words related to napping, such as *slumbering*, *snoozing*, and *dozing*, which adults may rarely use in a conversation with a child. By hearing new words in the context of a story and having them explained by an adult, children’s word comprehension will grow, and they will eventually incorporate new words into their spoken vocabularies.

Learning the conventions of print

Through early exposure to books, children begin to learn about the conventions of reading in their own language. For example, very young children using books in English learn that they are read from front to back, from the left of the page to the right, and from the top of the page to the bottom. Books in some other languages have different print conventions. Children learn that books have names (or “titles”) and that they are written by “authors.” Some older toddlers might be interested in books whose layouts break the rules; for example, books that are read from back to front, from right to left, or up and down the page in vertical columns.

Using *Knuffle Bunny*

A good example of a book that can support your child’s emerging literacy is the delightful *Knuffle Bunny*, by Mo Willems. This book tells the story of Trixie, a toddler whose favorite bunny gets left behind during a trip to the Laundromat. Sharing *Knuffle Bunny* can:

Enrich your child’s life by affirming, valuing, and extending what she knows about the world and herself. Toddlers who accompany their parents to the Laundromat each week will relate to Trixie’s experiences. For other toddlers who have never had that experience, sharing this story might extend what they already know about washing clothes while exposing them to a new concept—a trip to the Laundromat.

Strengthen your relationship with your child through the physical closeness and conversation that is part of sharing books with infants and toddlers. Toddlers who have a favorite toy may connect emotionally with Trixie, who loses and then finds her favorite stuffed animal at the Laundromat.

Support emerging literacy as your infant or toddler begins to learn how stories and books “work.” *Knuffle Bunny* gives very young children the opportunity to learn about the structure of a story (that it has a beginning, middle, and end, as well as characters and a plot) and how print and pictures convey or tell the meaning of the story.

References

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Neuman, S.B., C. Copple, & S. Bredekamp. 2000. *Learning to Read and Write: Developmentally Appropriate Practices for Young Children*. Washington, DC: NAEYC.

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