

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday, March 1st

REGISTRATION
PACKAGES

For September 2010
&
SUMMER CAMP
to be distributed

Friday, Mar. 5th

PD Day

Childcare available

7:30-6:00 pm

*No Nursery School

Friday, March 12th

Deadline for
September Registrations

March 15-19th

MARCH BREAK

No Nursery School

Childcare available

7:30-6:00 pm

*St. Monica's children cared for
at St. Monica's location*

Tuesday, April 20th

**Annual General
Meeting**

Dinner 5:30 pm
Meeting 6:15 pm

Central Eglinton Children's Centre

St. Monica's Satellite Programme
NEWSLETTER

February 2010

2010 Annual Concert & Art Show

WOW! What a night!
We hope its safe to say
that a good time was had
by all. Thank you for your
tremendous show of sup-
port.

Thanks to your generosity,
our Art Show raised
\$1895.00. A portion of
the funds will be donated
to RIGHT TO PLAY and
the remainder will be used
to purchase additional out-
door equipment.

For those of you who wish
to 're-live' the evening in
the comfort of your own
homes, we will be selling
DVDs of the concert
through your child's child-
care teachers. The DVDs
should be ready in a couple
of weeks. Stay tuned!

Our Place

Outside on the playground,
Inside in the class
Dreaming of the future,
Remembering the past,
There's teacher's who take care of
us

And friends who do the same,
They're all here at our special place
And our place has a name
***There's a place on the corner
It's the place to be
Where the learning's fun
And the hugs are free
You know its gonna help us
Be the best that we can be,
Its our place....CECC***

Splashing in the sunshine
And rolling in the snow
Winter, summer, spring or fall
Yeah, it's the place to go
You'll always find a loving hand,
A happy smiling face
So come and join us if you can,
You're welcome at our place

**Words & Music
by Susanne Cooper**

SURVEY RESULTS 2009/10

Thank you to all who completed this year's Quality Satisfaction Survey. We had 83 responses. The results were very positive & many of you provided useful comments which will aid us in our goal setting & planning for the coming year.

We would like to respond to the concerns/suggestions several of you raised:

Communication:

Two parents enquired about Formal Parent/teacher chats and one about feedback from CECC staff on daily activities. Communication on both fronts is extremely important. We have formal parent/teacher chats twice per year, in November and April. You are informed about the chats on through your annual calendar, the monthly newsletters, e-mail bulletins, signs posted around the Centre, and by your child's child care teacher.

CECC staff are strongly encouraged to communicate informally with parents at pick-up & drop-off times, where possible, and to provide a brief summary of your child's day and/or share any pertinent information with you. We encourage you to request a formal meeting at any time.

"The newsletter is fantastic! It's very informative & a great way to be kept apprised of the ongoings of our children & their specific classes."

"This is our first year with CECC & I appreciate the communication & care that is provided to my child. Keep up the great work!"

"This program is stellar! The staff are excellent communicators!"

Nutrition:

Health & nutrition is tremendously important to us. We feed 250 children per day, each with their likes and dislikes. Our struggle to provide meals and snacks that are nutritious & interesting is ongoing. With each menu rotation we try to introduce new foods. Some-

times the foods are a hit, and sometimes not.

One family commented about "Chips." We do serve organic whole grain and corn tortillas. These are served with cheese and fruit.

Every day the he children are provided with lunches and snacks that include: whole grains, dairy, meat or meat alternatives, vegetables and fruits.

We also provide alternate foods for the 52 children who have allergies or dietary restrictions.

We would appreciate your input at any time.

You may visit our office, e-mail or call with suggestions.

One parent commented on special treats such as cake and cupcakes being served on birth-

days. Many parents have requested to bring in "treats" for birthdays, as we have to consider the children with allergies, we have compromised by asking the children what they would like to do to celebrate their birthdays. Often they will pick a cake, or ice cream. In truth, we haven't discouraged their choices. The comment has prompted us to reflect on the practice. At our next

"I think that CECC does an amazing job at communicating & we are very pleased with the centre."

"I couldn't ask for better teachers, they always encourage me as a parent & offer helpful remedies to my concerns. I know my child is well cared for."

"the door to the small playground is always unlocked which is a safety issue..."

We do require one door to be open

"Children will be children & may have mishaps from time to time. This is a normal course of action for their learning & development & I don't feel that there is anything further that the teachers can do to ensure a safe environment. It's pretty safe!"

staff meeting, Weds. March 3, we will discuss the matter.

Safety

A parent commented that

for access to and from the classrooms and cloakroom. Our staff & children go in and out, at various intervals, throughout the day for outdoor activities and to use the washroom. Also, pick up/drop off

of children occurs at different

Survey Results cont'd

times during the day. Please be assured the children are closely supervised in their individual classrooms. Staff are required to sign children in and out and to take head counts at regular intervals during the day. We strongly encourage you to make sure you sign your children in and out of the classroom, to help us ensure your children are safe.

'I'm not sure how I could suggest improvement because CECC is already a safe & healthy environment. Staff are very know-

"It is phenomenal...we couldn't be happier."

Please note: We question anyone who is unfamiliar if he/she uses the playground entrance to access the school.

Programme:

A couple of parents mentioned physical, outdoor play.

Part of our daily schedule, as required by the Day

Nurseries Act, is to provide at least two hours of physical activity for children who attend CECC for more than 6 hours.

Our Pre-School and Kindergarten children go outside, weather permitting, at least two times per day. Our School Age and Nursery School go outside for 30-45 minutes. In extreme heat or cold, we follow the weather report & specific temperature regulations. In times of inclement weather staff must provide indoor gross motor activities.

This may take place in the classroom, gym or in an alternate space.

A parent observed that she/he sees the children at the end of the day engaged in "free play" and was concerned about her child's learning throughout the day.

Our Emergent Curriculum is based on the premise that children learn through "play."

A daily program plan following our "Play-based Emergent Curriculum" is posted in each classroom. It consists of activities &

interests the children have demonstrated throughout the day. Staff observe the interests & provide developmentally appropriate learning activities, materials & group times to enhance and/or challenge each child's learning pace/level.

Documentation of the activities, in print and picture form, is posted in your child's classroom. Please, check out the

documentation and talk with your child's teacher about "projects" on which the children are working. It would be wonderful if you could contribute your ideas.

"We are very lucky to have such great teachers at CECC that enrich our children's learning & provide ongoing support before/

"You are doing a wonderful job & my child LOVES to come to school everytime!"

REGISTRATION



Although it seems like a long way away, it is time to start thinking about next year. Starting on Monday, March 1st, staff will hand out packages which include the following:

1. SCHOOL YEAR 2010-11

A Revised Family Handbook, and a set of re-registration forms. To complete registration, we require the following by **Friday, March 12th, 2010:**

- updated Emergency Information forms
- signed acknowledgement of Family Handbook
- Post-dated cheques for September 2010- June 2011.

** Please note: Our registration forms are designed to meet the requirements of The Ministry of Children and Youth Services. **Therefore, please ensure that all areas of the package are complete before submitting.**

2. SUMMER CAMP 2010

Information and registration forms for **Summer Camp**.

To complete the registration we require the following:

- forms
- a cheque for July (*if applicable*)
- a cheque for August (*if applicable*)
- your child's shirt & hat from last year or a cheque for a new set.

Registrations for Summer Camp are final and spaces are allocated on a First Come-First Served basis.

FYI... Our summer camp programme is open to children from our community, please pass the word along. After March 12th, 2010, families may download forms from the FORMS page of our website: www.centralelintonchildrenscentre.com

If you would like to get an idea of the trips and experiences included in our Summer Camp, you can view last year's programme calendars on the SUMMER CAMP page of our website. The calendars for this year's camp will be distributed with your camp confirmation in early June.

If you have any questions, please contact the office at

416 440-0383 or centralelinton@rogers.com.

FUNDING FROM THE CITY OF TORONTO

CECC, with many Toronto Child Care Centres, has been fortunate to receive a rent subsidy from the City of Toronto. The City, on our behalf, pays the Toronto District School Board and the Toronto Catholic District School Board rent at approximately \$6.50 per square foot. The non-shared space in Eglinton School equals about 3,900 sq. ft. At St Monica's it is about 1,000 sq ft. This will add over \$30,000.00 to our annual operating budget.

The City is in a funding crisis of its own, with a shortfall in funding from the Federal and Provincial Governments. It is looking at a 5% reduction in its Children's Services budget. This includes, ending the rent subsidy and cutting approximately 2,000 subsidized spaces.

Both situations will severely impact our fees and our enrolment.

Please contact our City representatives encourage them to continue to honour the City's commitment to provide affordable, accessible child care.

Please urge them not to terminate the rent agreements with the school boards and to keep the subsidized spaces in order to maintain a stable child care system.

If you would like more information please call or e-mail CECC's office.

416 440-0383, centraleglinton@rogers.com.

Joe Mihevc	416-392-0208	councillor_mihevc@toronto.ca	Shelley Caroll (Budget Chief)	416-392-4038	councillor_carroll@toronto.ca
Gord Perks	416-392-7919	councillor_perks@toronto.ca	Paul Ainslie	416-392-4008	councillor_ainslie@toronto.ca
Kyle Rae	416-392-7903	councillor_rae@toronto.ca	Maria Augimeri	416-392-4021	councillor_augimeri@toronto.ca
Janet Davis (CSA Chair)	416-392-4035	councillor_davis@toronto.ca	A.A. (Adrian) Heaps	416-392-0213	councillor_heaps@toronto.ca

GOOD BYE!

Alison Jones, one of our Assistant Directors, has moved on to other opportunities.

We thank her for her contribution to the Centre and wish her all the best in her future endeavours.



WE NEED YOU...

For CECC's Board Of Directors

Several of our current Board Members will be finishing their term of service in April, and we are seeking new members to replace them.

The Board of Directors is directly involved in determining policies, procedures and by-laws that govern CECC and, by nature, the environment in which your children play and learn..

If you think you may like to get involved , or would like more information, please contact our Chairperson, Scot de Veber at ceccchair@rogers.com or through the childcare office at 416 440-0383.