



ECRC Newsletter

Fall 2016 • September

Dear Parents,

Greetings! As the Director of Early Childhood Research Center (ECRC), I'd like to welcome you and your children to our Fall 2016 session.

A few words about myself: I am an Associate Professor and the Director of Early Childhood Education program in the Graduate School of Education at UB. I came from China and celebrated my 20 years anniversary of coming to the United States last August. My family including three adorable nephews still live in China, whom I visit almost every year.

As the ECRC director, I oversee all functions of the ECRC while the Assistant Director, (newly minted) Dr. Corinne Eggleston is in charge of the daily operation and Ms. Keely O'Connell, our new Curriculum Coordinator, is responsible for curriculum planning and family/parents engagement. We work closely to support our amazing classroom teachers and interns, most of who are doctoral or Masters students in early childhood education. As a team, we are committed to providing excellent education and service to your children and families.

In addition to providing a model early childhood education program, the ECRC also plays an important role in enhancing professional development for pre-service and in-service early childhood teachers and generating knowledge in child development and best practices through research. The synergy of these complementary functions makes the ECRC uniquely beneficial for all involved.

As the new school year starts, with your support, we will strive to optimize your children's learning and development through purposefully designed environments, interactions, play and learning activities. Your children and families are our highest priority. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me or Corinne Eggleston.

On behalf of the ECRC team, I look forward to working with you and your children.

Warm Regards,

X. Christine Wang, Ph.D.

Updates from our Assistant Director

ECRC Start/End Time

Morning Programs: 8:30 am-11:30 am

Afternoon Programs: 1:00 pm-4:00 pm

We ask that families please arrive promptly for drop-off and pick-up in order to make this transition easy and seamless for the children. Thank you!

Kelkenberg Farm Field Trip

Friday, September 23rd, 2016

Everyone is welcome! Please meet us at the farm at 10:00 am. More information to follow.

9270 Wolcott Rd. Clarence Center, NY 14032

Tuition Due Dates

- Monday, September 12th
- Monday, October 10th
- Monday, November 14th

We hope your child has a great school year!

- Corinne Eggleston

ECRC Curriculum

Our curriculum is play-based and child directed, in that our students interests drive their learning. Following the New York State Common Core Learning Standards, we integrate kindergarten readiness skills in a fun and engaging way for your child! This creative and active approach to learning fosters an intrinsic motivation to learn.

September is all about learning about our classroom, our family, our friends, and ourselves! Some of the books that we are reading are:

Mouse's First Day of School by Lauren Thompson

David Goes to School by David Shannon

The Kissing Hand by Audrey Penn

If you have any questions about our curriculum, please do not hesitate to ask us! ☺

-Keely O'Connell



University at Buffalo

Graduate School of Education



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Our Favorite Activity!

In our classroom, there is nothing more rewarding than exploring new concepts with our friends and teachers through play! This week, we loved climbing, jumping, and building outside! What do we learn when we do this?

- To identify parts of our bodies.
- To move our large muscles, such as in our arms and legs.
- To use our fine motor skills, as we build with small blocks.

Here are some pictures of us playing this week! Enjoy ☺

- Miss Cai, Miss Alice & Miss Paige

Happy Birthday to...

Connor – September 4th
Anthony – September 20th



Elli loves to drive the boat!



Ryan works on counting, stacking and balancing the blocks.



Nina climbing on our cozy dome!



Everett makes music using the triangle.



Beau & Elli love to paint together on our outside easel!

Try this at home!

As 2-3 year olds build their gross motor muscles, they become more stable and strong as they balance. At this age, they love to jump! Try playing our number jump game at home. Here's how to play:

The Number Jump!

As your child jumps, count each jump with them. This not only develops their large muscles, but also reinforces counting one-to-one correspondence.



Our Favorite Activity!

We love preschool because we get to play, be kids, and learn all together! We were busy learning about ourselves and making new friends, and we want to introduce you to someone special...

This is Letter Linus! He is silly and always makes us laugh. He will be teaching us about our letters and the sounds that they make each week. This week, we sang our ABC song with him and he introduced us to a new ABC song - Alpha Pigs ABC song. If you would like to hear it at home, YouTube is a great place to find it!

- Mr. Stanley & Miss Norline

Happy Birthday to...

Madeline – September 9th



Madeline creating a center sign for our 'Writing Center!'



Owen & Arya are playing math games from our Building Blocks curriculum!

Try this at home!

Paint bags are a fun way to encourage your children to write and continue developing their fine motor skills. Fill a gallon size Ziploc bag with some paint and tape it down on a table. Then, your child can write or draw with their finger or a q-tip!



Isha & Audrey love to work on their motor skills outside!



ECRC PM Preschool

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Our Favorite Activity!

Our first week of school has been fun and messy! Our favorite activity this week was painting with our feet! Why did we do this?

- We compared our feet sizes discussing who's were bigger and smaller.
- We explored color mixing, as we mixed primary colors to create new colors!
- We helped each other balance and build our strong large motor muscles.

Take a look at some of the pictures of this activity – we had a blast!

- Miss Seung Jung, Miss Ashley, & Mr. Dan



Isabella & Rosaria painting with their feet!

Evan explores colors and movement as he moves the beads.



Isabella & Hazel plan and draw a blueprint of a castle they want to build.



Then, the girls work together to build their castle!

Try this at home!

One of our favorite stories this week was Llama Llama Misses Mama by Anna Dewdney. Take a trip to the library with your child and check out some of Anna Dewdney's other Llama Llama books!



Our Favorite Activity!

Our new Pre-K class is off to a great start, as we build our new 'school family!' An important part of preschool is letter recognition, beginning with our names. We had so much fun identifying and matching the letters in our names that we began to work together on each other's names! Here's how we did it:

1. Write out our names on a piece of paper.
2. Write letters on the end of clothespins.
3. Match the letters in our names to the letters on the clothespins.

Take a look at this activity and more below!

- Miss Keely, Miss Corinne & Miss Wei



Sophia and Hazuki paint with their hands, recognizing their own handprints!



Nola and Steele practice their getting ready for school routine by beginning with brushing their teeth.



Jackson paints his representation of our classroom centers at the easel!



Olivia is counting and ordering her numbers 1-10.

Try this at home!

As we get ready for kindergarten, an important part of knowing ourselves is knowing where we live! Encourage your child to identify the numbers on your house as you get home, and let your child direct you home from school! You will be surprised how well they can remember a couple turns!