



ECRC Newsletter

Fall 2017 • September

Dear Parents,

Greetings! As the director of the Early Childhood Research Center (ECRC), I'd like to welcome you and your children to our Fall 2017-Spring 2018 school year.

A few words about myself: I am an Associate Professor in Early Childhood Education in the Graduate School of Education at UB. I came to the United States for my graduate study in 1995 and joined UB after receiving my Ph.D. from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2003. 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 Associate Director, Dr. Corinne Eggleston, is in charge of the daily operations and Ms. Keely O'Connell, our 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 our early childhood education. As a team, we are committed to provide excellent education and service to your children and families.

In Fall 17, I will be taking a sabbatical leave (i.e., being released from teaching, service and administrative responsibilities). Sabbatical, which is only available for tenured faculty once every 7 years, provides an opportunity to concentrate on our writing and research. I will be working on a book, several manuscripts and grant applications as well as attending conferences and conducting collaborative projects in Asia and Europe. During my sabbatical, Dr. Eggleston will continue running the daily operations at the ECRC, and we will schedule monthly meetings to discuss the ECRC related matters.

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 Corinne or Keely.

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

Warmest regards,

X. Christine Wang, Ph.D.

Updates from our Associate 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 22, 2017

Everyone is welcome! Please meet us at the farm at 10:00 am. **RSVP by Friday 9-15-17.**

9270 Wolcott Rd. Clarence Center, NY 14032

Tuition Due Dates

- Monday, September 18
- Monday, October 23
- Monday, November 20

I 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:

I Like Me! By Nancy Carlson

Llama Llama Mad at Mama by Anna Dewdney

Reading Makes You Feel Good by Todd Parr

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

-Keely O'Connell



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ECRC Preschool I

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Our Favorite Activity!

It has been such a fun and exciting first week of school! We have focused on getting to know each other and ourselves this week, inviting new friends and welcoming back some old ones.

One of our favorite things to do in and outside of the classroom is painting! Painting provides opportunities for artistic growth and creativity, while integrating both science and sensory learning! Below, Lucas and Christopher mix blue and yellow paint, exploring with the mixing properties of primary colors!

- Miss Alice, Miss Wei & Miss Ashley



Try this at home!

Stairs!

Your little one's muscles are getting stronger by the day. We provide daily opportunities for both fine and gross motor development. When walking up and down stairs with your child, encourage him/her to alternate feet, one then the other.



Paxton plays pretend with the dinosaurs.

Silas loves to paint on our outside easel!



Happy Birthday to...

Aubrey – September 3
Leo – September 12
Eden – September 27



Tyler practices pedaling a tricycle!

Daniel and Muhan play with in the water and identify items that float vs. sink.



Peyton can push, roll and manipulate the foam with our student intern!





Our Favorite Activity!

We are so happy to be back at school! Spending many weeks away from each other over the summer, we are excited to share our summer stories. Many thanks to all of the families that contributed to our summer vacation display with photos, as our students love to learn about each other's families.

We have been busy getting to know our new school routine and our classroom activities and centers. One of our favorite activities this week was using the scale in the Math and Science center. We discussed materials using words such as heavier and lighter, while counting the objects in each side to compare. This scale will become an important tool for investigation in our classroom this year! Check out Verona and Lochlan weighing the cube blocks below.

- Miss Norline, Miss Diana & Mr. Dan

Happy Birthday to...

Connor C – September 4



Try this at home!

Counting is an important foundational math skill.

Children love to count, however counting objects can be difficult. Encourage your child to count with one-to-one correspondence; this means, count one object only one time!



Brigetta and Anthony paint self-portraits while looking in the mirror.



Linneae and Konner explore and count with manipulatives.



Nora loved writing her Mom a letter in the Writing center.



We love to play outside!

Katie, Nora, and Yubin like to use the slide and the bikes!





ECRC PM Preschool

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Our Favorite Activity!

To start off our school year, we were excited to make a fresh batch of play-dough! Play-dough fosters many benefits for young children; as we mix it up, we learn measurement skills and numeral recognition; as we cook it, we observe the changing states of matter; and as we play with it, we strengthen our muscles in our fingers by pushing, rolling, and cutting up the play-dough. While this was a center activity, all our children decided to join! Below you can see Miss Paige leading children through making it from start to finish, Christina adding ingredients, and Miss Brianna mixing it up with Leo!

- Miss Paige & Miss Brianna

Happy Birthday to...

Eden – September 27



Eden practices balancing on the beam!



Akhilles writes a letter to his family about his first day and cuts out shapes to add to his letter!



Try this at home!

Your child is becoming more independent by the day! At school, we encourage students to do as many self help skills as possible by themselves, including washing their hands, beginning to toilet, taking their coats off/on, and even putting their own shoes on. Encourage your child to do as much as they can by themselves at home, even brushing their own teeth like Julianna!

Griffin and Leo love to play the piano and identify the notes.



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Early Childhood Research Center

Pre-K

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Our Favorite Activity!

As we learn through play, we identify and decipher learning centers in our classroom that support our development throughout the school year. In the writing center, we have been working on our 'Center Signs.' The students work on adding words and symbols to each sign that show the expectations and the tools in each center. Below, Isha works on the 'Art Center' sign with Miss SeungJung, adding words such as paint, draw, and create!

We love our new classroom community and look forward to a wonderful school year!

- Mr. Stanley & Miss Seung Jung

Happy Birthday to...

Madeline – September 9



Elijah and Nolan use the scale in small group with Mr. Stanley!

Mason creates shapes out of large tinker toys!



Madeline washes the babies to get them ready for school!



Audrey loves to create letters with foam!

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!



Owen, Arya, and Isha love getting ready for school. In dramatic play, they prepare breakfast together.



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