

Dear Families,

Our program –our staff- are committed to ongoing development that will strengthen our practices and ability to build relationships, environments and curriculum that places each child–and their family- at the heart of it all. Towards this end we have begun a journey to enhance our skills and knowledge for responsive and intentional teaching by building a professional learning community.

We are very excited to move into a new phase of this journey- Reflective Supervision. Consultants will be regularly available to us to observe with teachers at work in the classroom, provide information and assistance with social/emotional skills, conflict resolution as well as staff development and parent education. These individuals work with the Early Childhood Mental Health consultation program provided by Santa Barbara Child Abuse Listening and Mediation (CALM). ***We have worked closely with CALM for many years in a variety of capacities and we are eager to begin this new partnership.*** (Funding for this program is available through a quality program improvement award we are receiving from the Santa Barbara County Quality Improvement network and from funding CALM has received through a grant from the Bower Foundation.)

All classrooms and teachers will have access to the consultant and, in addition, eight classrooms will receive focused support –and reflective supervision- for 12 weeks on a rotating basis over the course of the next year. During this time, the consultant will be present and observing in the classroom for approximately one hour each week. She will meet with the teachers and administrative staff so that the team can share observations, challenges, ideas and solutions. A note from Jennifer introducing herself is attached. We are especially fortunate to be working with someone who also has hands-on experience as a preschool teacher! Please don't hesitate to ask your teacher, the program coordinator, Leslie or our Consultant and therapist intern Jennifer Mundy MFTI, if you have any questions.

And thank you for accompanying us on this journey!

With warm regards,

Leslie Voss
Director

Please sign and return the bottom portion of this note.
By signing below you acknowledge that the teaching and administrative staff at UCSB Early Childhood Care and Education Services can discuss their classroom and the children in their classroom in a confidential manner with the consultants from CALM.

I am aware that the teaching and administrative staff at UCSB Early Childhood Care and Education Services will be consulting with CALM and I give them permission to discuss my child as necessary with the consultants in order to improve teaching practices.

Child's Name and date of birth

Parent/guardian signature and date