

News from

Early Childhood Care & Education Services September 2011

a note from the director



Dear Families,

The warm~cool days of Fall carry with them a sense of preparation and possibility; connection and reconnection with those around us. Here, the cycle of our days reflects the school year and so Fall is naturally a time of beginnings: creating connections and fostering friendships - through acquaintance and re-acquaintance- and a celebration of our community.

During our recent Professional Development Days we considered identity, diversity, and beyond that, an anti-bias framework that promotes taking action to counter prejudice and discrimination. For ourselves and young children, the notion of social justice is built upon a strong foundation of positive self and social identity, family pride, awareness and comfort with human diversity and fundamental to all... deep and caring human connections. It begins with that child's first breath and the warm and heartfelt responsiveness of caring adults. We are here to guide and support a child as he or she develops an understanding of his/her own self and then that self in relation to others and as integral to a bigger group: family, school, and community.

Our ECCES Values includes this:

Embrace the diversity in our world, creating a welcoming, safe and inclusive environment that encourages all to thrive~

In so many ways we strive for an 'inclusive' community in which all members can not only find comfort but flourish. Recently I heard an interview in which the issues of prejudice and bias were being addressed. The interviewee spoke of her preference for the term 'expansive' instead of 'inclusive'. 'Expansive' suggests we are all becoming more open as we widen our circle. So, as we welcome new and continuing families, as all of the children in our classrooms develop and

	<p>grow, as we connect with visitors, and travel beyond the Center- I invite us all to embrace a new year...<i>expansive</i> with possibility.</p> <p>Hope to see you at the Family Orientation Sept 27th (UCC) and September 28th (OFCC).</p> <p><i>Warm regards,</i> <i>Leslie</i> <i>Director, ECCES</i></p>
<p>Opportunities for involvement</p>	<p>Welcome to the ECCES Parent Council! All New & Continuing Families please join us for a Meet & Greet 😊 Thursday October 6th at OFCC</p> <p>Did you know ALL OFCC and UCC families are members of the Parent Council? The Parent Council is a group of parents who volunteer to support the mission of the Children's Center and serve as a resource and advisor to the Director and the teaching staff. They meet monthly to plan fundraisers, parent education meetings, and social events for the Center. They plan and fund enrichment activities for the classrooms, and they provide petty cash for each classroom to use for essential resources.</p> <p>When and where does Parent Council meet? Parent Council meetings are every second Wednesday of the month from 4:00pm - 5:00pm in the OFCC Family Meeting Room. Everyone is invited! The meetings are casual...come when you can, leave when you need to.</p> <p>How can I get involved? Do you want to help make a difference and add value to your child's learning experience? Well, you are in luck because there are many different ways and different levels at which to get involved with Parent Council and support the Children's Center. Whether you can volunteer for just one day or attend regular meetings - Parent Council would love to have your help! Details are included on the attached flier. Questions? We look forward to seeing you on October 6th or contact us at parentcouncil@sa.ucsb.edu</p>

Resources



The UCSB and Santa Barbara Communities offer a wealth of services available to support families with a wide variety of needs. We have attached a copy of (and link to) our comprehensive Family Support Services Guide, also in your Family Handbook. *If you would like assistance finding the support you need, please do not hesitate to contact us... teacher, director, coordinators... if we don't know the answer we will be happy to help you find it.*

Family Support Services~ Resource Guide:

<http://childrenscenter.sa.ucsb.edu/CMSMedia/Documents/familyresourceguide.pdf>

There is a new resource on campus for UCSB Students.... Associated Student's Food Bank is a student run service available for all UCSB Undergraduate and Graduate students aimed at eradicating hunger from the UCSB student community. Providing free basic food supplies, toiletries and information about additional resources.

Location: UCEN 3rd floor

Open: Monday - Thursday; 8a.m. - 12 pm & 1 pm - 5 pm

Upcoming Community events

El Montecito Early School

POSITIVE PARENTING PANEL

Thursday, September 29th at 6:30pm

Please join us for an opportunity to hear from a wide range of professional educators and parents on significant topics for *all* ages.

Please call (805) 969-3566 for additional information

Childcare available w/ required advance reservation

Family Fun Series

UCSB Arts & Lectures

<https://artsandlectures.sa.ucsb.edu/EventSeriesFamilyFun.aspx>

Riders in the Sky in Round Up at the Kids Corral • Sun, Oct 9 / 3 PM / Campbell Hall

TheatreWorks USA's Charlotte's Web • Sun, Nov 6 / 3 PM / Campbell Hall

Ozokidz • Sun, Nov 20 / 3 PM / Campbell Hall

New York International Children's Film Festival Kid Flix

	<p>Mix • Sat, Jan 21 / 11 AM / Campbell Hall</p> <p>American Family Theater's <i>Cinderella</i> • Sun, Mar 18 / 3 PM / Campbell Hall</p> <p>Imago Theatre's <i>ZooZoo</i> • Sun, Apr 15 / 3 PM / Campbell Hall</p> <hr/>
<p style="text-align: center;">Calendar</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Fall & Winter Quarters</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(full year calendar attached)</p>	<p>September</p> <p>Tuesday, September 27 UCC Back to School Breakfast 8:30-9:30 UCC Family Orientation 4:30 - 5:15 p.m.; UCC</p> <p>Wednesday, September 28 OFCC Family Orientation 4:15 - 5:15 p.m.; OFCC</p> <p>October</p> <p>Thursday, October 6 Parent Council Meet & Greet 4:00 - 5:00 p.m; OFCC</p> <p><i>Fall Welcome Potlucks</i></p> <p>Monday & Tuesday, Oct 24-25 OFCC Preschool</p> <p>Wednesday, October 26 OFCC Infant & Toddler</p> <p>Thursday, October 28 UCC all</p> <p>November</p> <p>Family Conference Month TBA in classrooms</p> <p>Family Education Evening Development, Behavior & Date To Be Determined Sensory Perception</p> <p>Thursday & Friday Nov. 23 & 24 CENTERS CLOSED Thanksgiving Holiday</p> <p>December</p> <p>Monday - Friday Dec. 5 - 9 Holiday Sharing</p> <p>December 5 - 10 UCSB Final Exams</p> <p>December 19 - January 2 CENTERS CLOSED Winter Break</p> <p>January</p> <p>Monday January 2 CENTERS CLOSED</p> <p>Tuesday January 3 Centers Open- Welcome Back!</p> <p>Thursday January 12 Kindergarten Perspectives OFCC Family Mtng Rm 6:30-</p>

