Early childhood educators have long promoted healthy social-emotional development as integral to a child’s growth in all developmental domains including cognitive, physical and creative. This outlook was validated during our annual “Kindergarten Perspectives” meeting held in January. A panel of principals, admissions directors and kindergarten teachers from seven local schools—private and public—discussed methodology, curriculum, expectations and the philosophies that define their schools. They each spoke to meeting and exceeding State standards for academic competencies and, without exception, they spoke of their goals for educating children to be ‘citizens of the world’. The issues of social justice, personal responsibility, kindness, service and conflict resolution were consistent themes put forward as underlying foundations for learning in kindergarten and beyond. Their presentations underscored the fact that the seeds of ‘school readiness’ are sown from infancy and are as dependent on the quality of relationships as they are on access to enriched learning experiences and a foundation of capacities that children will use for a lifetime. 

The significance of the role that relationships play in a child’s overall long-term development has been succinctly stated by the National Scientific Council on the Developing Child (2004). “Growth promoting relationships are based on the child’s continuous give-and-take (‘action and interaction”) with a human partner who provides what nothing else in the world can offer—experiences that are individualized to the child’s unique personality style: that build on his or her own interests, capabilities, and initiative; that shape the child’s self-awareness; and that stimulate the growth of his or her heart and mind.”

They go on to say “Stated simply, establishing successful relationships with adults and other children provides for anyone. And yet, when you observe the daily happenings of the Children’s Centers through this lens, you realize that each child is working towards these accomplishments every day in a myriad of ways. Examples abound, and in some, the benefits are self-evident; consider what was gained from the recent Chinese New Year Celebration in which Children’s Center parents arranged for singers and dancers to perform on the eve of the New Year, followed by a cont’d on page 2
In order to consistently keep our children safe it is essential that all families observe these critical rules when arriving at or departing from the Centers.

1. ALWAYS keep your children with you when in the parking lots; hold hands, use a stroller, carry them... until safely inside. Please do not allow them to run ahead or cross the lots by themselves.

2. Children (including school age siblings) are NOT allowed to remain unattended in vehicles under any circumstances. Car seats are the law.

3. Bicycles MUST follow the flow of traffic; you can safely walk your bicycle on the sidewalk once in the lots.

4. SLOW DOWN and please remind other drivers to do so also!!!!

If you have a soon-to-be kindergartner, ask Family Coordinator Diane Jones for information about the fun & informative summer program 'Safety Town'; sign-ups are available and spaces go fast.

In the words of the distinguished developmental psychologist Urie Bronfenbrenner:

...in order to develop normally, a child requires progressively more complex joint activity with one or more adults who have an irrational emotional relationship with the child. Somebody's got to be crazy about that kid. That's number one. First, last, and always.
New name, new center: an exciting new phase in our history...

1. We have a new name: Early Childhood Care and Education Services (ECCES). Our department name, officially “Child Care” has been synonymous with the Orfalea Family Children’s Center (OFCC) name for years. The new name highlights all elements of our service with an equal emphasis on care (see cover article) and education. ECCES encompasses both Centers as well as our family support services which are available to the entire University community. And it leaves room for growth—and that’s the business we’re in!

2. After years of planning and a construction period that seemed to go on forever... we finally did it (with the help of many others). Our new center, the University Children’s Center, opened its doors to families on January 2nd, 2008. The grand opening celebration on February 1st was well attended with over 100 members of the University and Santa Barbara Early Childhood Education community joining us for tours, refreshments and many congratulations. Two infant classrooms and one toddler classroom are open and fully enrolled. They are taking full advantage of the setting visiting the Student Resource Building, including – the always fun ride in the elevator– as well as visiting the ducks at the nearby lagoon. Recruitment is underway for additional teaching staff necessary to open the final classroom.

Hats off to the wonderful teaching and administrative staff at UCC.

Early Childhood Care & Education Services: Reaching Out

While our primary mission is to provide high quality care and education to the families we serve, as early childhood professionals and representatives of the University, teachers and staff at ECCES are also actively engaged in advocating and supporting high quality programs for all children and families. Some recent and upcoming efforts to this end include:

~placement of a Santa Barbara City College student teacher with Orange Door Lead Teacher Tamara Thompson (Tamara and Ana Dominguez are certified Mentor Teachers) ~accreditation support provided to local agencies and programs through presentations by Red by Red Door Lead Teacher Mary Hoffman, Program Coordinators Theresa Embry and Marina Nolte and Director Leslie Voss ~planning and providing accreditation trainings for the Santa Barbara County Office of Early Care and Education, ~hosting an infant-toddler care & development UCSB Extension class ~working with the Gevirtz Graduate School of Education on a proposed Early Childhood Education minor and inter-departmental major ~Chris Pollock, Purple Door Lead Teacher providing local trainings on ECE Math curriculum through the California Department of Education-Preschool Instructional Network, ~Coordinator Theresa Embry facilitating the development of a Child Development conference highlighting the Outdoor Classroom... and more. There is always something new and exciting happening around here!!!

MAGGIE AND MILLIE AND MOLLY AND MAY

e.e. cummings

maggie and molly and milly and may
gone down to the beach (to play one day)

and Maggie discovered a shell that sang
so sweetly she couldn’t remember her troubles, and

milly befriended a stranded star
whose rays five languid fingers were;

and molly was chased by a horrible thing
which raced sideways while blowing bubbles: and

may come home with a smooth round stone
as small as a world and as large as alone.

For whatever we lose (like a you or a me)
it’s always ourselves we find in the sea.
## Schedule of Events
### Spring Quarter 2008

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<td>CENTERS CLOSED to child care</td>
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Early Childhood Care & Education Services

**Orfalea Family Children’s Center (OFCC)**

**Teaching Staff**

**Infant**
- **White Door**
  - Nancy Erisman, Lead Teacher
  - Lupe Guerrero, Teacher
  - Cherie Schroff, Teacher

- **Yellow Door**
  - Kathy Sargent, Lead Teacher
  - Holly Carlson, Teacher
  - Kim Yong, Teacher

**Toddler**
- **Green Door**
  - Thrisha Francia, Lead Teacher
  - Ruby Martin, Teacher

- **Grey Door**
  - Ingrid Elkin, Lead Teacher
  - Alicia Trigueros-Cardenas, Teacher

**Preschool**
- **Brown Door**
  - Terri Douglas, Lead Teacher
  - Elena Lopez, Teacher

- **Orange Door**
  - Tamara Thompson, Lead Teacher
  - Jen Lewelling Winford, Teacher

- **Blue Door**
  - Ana Dominguez, Lead Teacher
  - Saameh Solaimani, Teacher

- **Purple Door**
  - Chris Pollock, Lead Teacher
  - Chelsea Aiello, Teacher

- **Red Door**
  - Mary Hoffman, Lead Teacher
  - Mike Peterson, Teacher

- **Pink Door**
  - Jeri Vaccaro, Lead Teacher
  - Alissa Johnson, Teacher

**Support**
- Sukhi Sandhu, Teacher
- Sarah Richardson, Teacher

**University Children’s Center (UCC)**

**Teaching Staff**

**Infant**
- **Stars Room**
  - Tes Tarango, Lead Teacher
  - Emily Burton, Teacher
  - Ruth Jeppeson, Teacher

- **Sky Room**
  - Jenny Greaney, Teacher
  - Barbara Sanchez, Teacher
  - Gina Ornelas, Teacher

**Toddler**
- **Sun Room**
  - Linda Lafond, Lead Teacher
  - Jennifer Convey, Teacher

**Support**
- Shauna Warner, Teacher

**Administrative & Program Staff**

**Program Coordinators**
- Theresa Embry, Preschool OFCC
- Marina Nolte, Infant Toddler OFCC
- Patricia Nixon, Infant Toddler UCC

**Family Support Services**
- Diane Jones, Family Coordinator

**Business Office**
- Autumn Ayala, Enrollment Coordinator
- Mia Birchfield-Shellabarger, Grant Coordinator
- Jesse Rosenzweig, Business Officer
- Lisa Vititoe, Administrative Assistant; UCC
  
  Leslie Voss, Director
from *Honey, I Love and other love poems*

by Eloise Greenfield  pictures by Diane and Leo Dillon

**THINGS**

Went to the corner
Walked in the store
Bought me some candy
Ain’t got it no more
Ain’t got it no more

Went to the beach
Played on the shore
Built me a sandhouse
Ain’t got it no more
Ain’t got it no more

Went to the kitchen
Lay down on the floor
Made me a poem
Still got it
Still got it