

# The Children's Center News

www.alchildrenscenter.org

February 2011

## From The Director's Desk

At our Annual meeting in November we introduced two new board members. After our last month's meeting we added another new board member. It is my pleasure to introduce you to our new board members, Jon Ford, Melissa Griffith, and Phil Wacholz. Jon returns to our board after taking a break for a couple of years. Melissa is new to the board and has a daughter in the Busy Bee room at St. John's. Phil is new to the board and has a daughter and son at the James Avenue site.

Recently 4 of our staff attended the MNAEYC (Minnesota Association for the Education of Young Children) conference. This was a wonderful experience for all of them and it is another way we can continue our commitment to provide quality care. The staff that attended were; Trisha Whelan, Laurie Cichos, Marcie Forman, and myself. I know all of us would be happy to share with you what we learned.

To finish up this month's newsletter I would like to share some information on staff development we are taking this spring. Several of our staff will receive the latest training on our curriculum, "Creative Curriculum". Other staff will participate in training on the Early Childhood Environmental Rating Scale. This is a "Best Practices" tool that is used to evaluate what equipment, materials, and staff we have in our classrooms. This is just one way we continue to strive to provide quality care.

Thank you so much for your continued support of our program, we feel privileged to be part of your child's early learning experiences.

Until next time,

Kim Nelson  
Executive Director  
The Children's Center  
[kcnelson@alchildrenscenter.org](mailto:kcnelson@alchildrenscenter.org)



## The Children's Center 2011-2012 Registration



March 8th - 11th  
(TUE/WED/THU/FRI)

605 James Ave.

8:00am - 6:00pm

Registration is for the Summer 2011 session and Fall 2011-2012 session. Registration paperwork will be handed out to all families currently attending The Children's Center on Friday, March 4th. You will need to have your completed registration paperwork turned in to the James Avenue site by the end of the day, Friday, March 11th. Kim Nelson and Brenda Reed will be available at our 605 James Avenue site if you have any questions about registration.

Thank you!

**Free Popcorn!!!**  
Thursday, March 10th  
Eat popcorn while you register for  
the new session and buy some  
great Usborne books.

## USBORNE BOOK FAIR COMING TO THE CHILDREN'S CENTER REGISTRATION WEEK

605 James Avenue Site

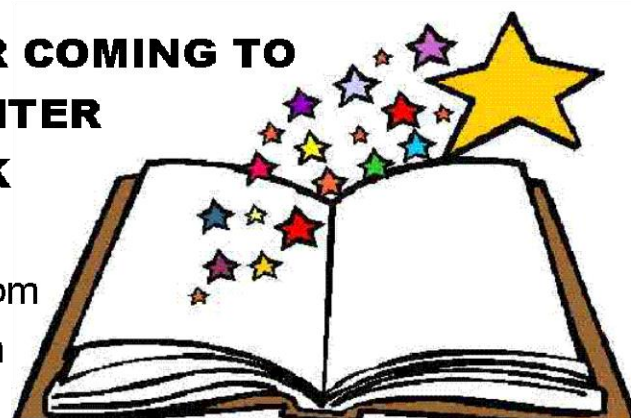
Wednesday, 3/9 4pm - 6pm

Thursday, 3/10 8am - 5pm

Friday, 3/11 8am - 2pm

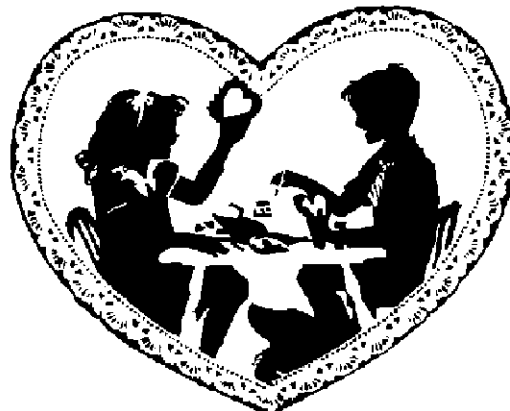


**USBORNE  
BOOKS  
& MORE**



# Calendar of Events

February 14	Happy Valentine's Day!
February 21	President's Day (No School for Dist. 241)
<b>March 8 - 11</b>	<b>THE CHILDREN'S CENTER REGISTRATION WEEK</b> Summer 2011 & Fall 2011/2012
March 9 - 11	Usborne Book Fair (James Ave. Site)
March 10	<i>FREE POPCORN DAY!</i> (James Ave. Site)
March 14 - 28	Butter Braid Fund Raiser
April 12	Butter Braid Delivery



## **PARENT REMINDER**

### **Direct Payment Option Still Available**

ACH debits is available as a form of payment for our families. If you sign up for this form of payment, here is what to expect. Every week you will receive a bill like you currently do. On Friday of that billing week, whatever shows as a balance due will be taken out of the account that you provide. This service is at no cost to you. If you are interested in signing up for this program or if you have any questions, please call 373-7979 or stop by our 605 James Avenue Site.

## **10 WAYS TO BE A GREAT PARENT**

1. Be a good role model. Your child learns from the example you set.
2. Show respect for your child's feelings, thoughts, and suggestions.
3. Make your child feel loved with your words of praise, and your hugs and kisses.
4. Keep your word. If you must break it, apologize and make it up to your child.
5. Encourage your child's creativity. Ask questions to stimulate curiosity and imagination.
6. Build your child's self-esteem by showing appreciation for all genuine efforts.
7. Stay involved. Know what's going on in your child's life, both at school and with friends.
8. Discipline your child fairly, firmly, and with love. Focus on the behavior, not the child.
9. Establish family traditions and make time to do fun things together.
10. Think positively. By expecting the best, you empower yourself and your child to solve problems and achieve goals.

***Remember - Being a great parent takes time, effort, and the ability to lighten up!***

**2010-2011**

## **THE CHILDREN'S CENTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Bart Berven	Kevin LaFrance
Robin Carstens	Sue Loch
Jon Ford	Stacie Ravenhorst
Jeremiah Forman	Theresa Schmidt
Melissa Griffith	Keri Stadheim
Tami Jensen	Philip Wacholz

## **Butter Braid Fundraiser Coming Soon!**

Start Selling - Monday, March 14th  
Order Deadline - Monday, March 28th  
Delivery - Tuesday, April 12th  
*(You'll get them in time for a special  
Easter Breakfast!)*

