

DECEMBER 2011

Happy December! This is such a busy time for all of us and for the Center, too. Our school pictures are in and Gil Hayden from Lil' Angels, did a fabulous job again this year. Many of you have already picked up your photographs, but if you haven't, I still have packages available for purchase. December 9th and 10th Shively Motors in Shippensburg is hosting a "Keeping Kids Safe" event. Flyers with more details of the event will be posted around the Center soon. There will be lots of great information and don't forget to stop by to visit me at the Child and Family Center's table. Year-end tuition statements for tax purposes will be distributed in January, watch for them in your child's mailbox.

We are currently completing the scoring for the Ages and Stages Questionnaires. Your participation in this screening process is very important, so thank you for taking the time to complete the activities with your child. This screening helps to identify potential delays, but it also helps the teachers plan lessons and activities to best suit the needs of each child in the Center. If your child is progressing as expected, you will receive a letter stating such, in your child's mailbox. If the screening reveals that further assessment may be needed for your child, your child's teacher will be contacting you to set up a time you can meet to discuss the screening and the next steps. The next steps may be to "wait and watch" or to work on some specific skills both at the Center and at home. If the next steps include a referral to another agency for further testing, your child's teacher and I can walk through this process with you.

The Child and Family Center will be closed December 26th and 27th. We will also be closed January 2nd. The most wonderful time of the year is upon us so remember to take some time to enjoy those special moments with your family and friends!

Happy Holidays,
Ms. Stephanie

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Important Dates:

December 9...	Biweekly Tuition due
December 20.	Family meeting 5 pm
December 23.	Biweekly Tuition due
December 26 -27.....	CFC closed
December 30..	Monthly Tuition due





November was all about Thanksgiving and fall for us in school age! We took a fantastic field trip to the athletic center and saw the basketball, track, volleyball and softball team practicing. Our pumpkin play dough smelled almost good enough to eat, but we ate the popcorn we made instead.

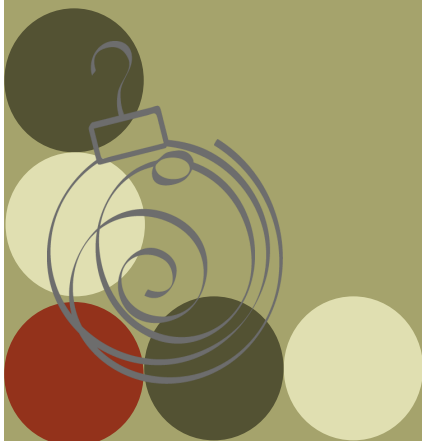
Some of our favorite games were hide and seek, hide the marker and tag. We love to use our creativity and energy to design new games and exercise. We read the book, "Bad Kitty vs Uncle Murray."

Our dramatic play center was full of bandages and doctor supplies this month. We made charts and applied bandages in hopes of earning our degree in medicine. All of our teachers were great patients, especially Ms. Katie.

Next month, we will learn about holidays around the world. Don't worry, we will tell you all about it next month!

Happy December,

Ms. Katie & School age



Toddler A



Welcome Winter!

Toddlers have been busy exploring shapes, healthy eating, sports & exercise and Thanksgiving! Our favorite activity this month was cleaning up with Ms. Kristina, our practicum student. We liked using the mop and broom, dusters, sponges and washcloths to clean the classroom. It was squeaky clean when we were finished, just like Maisy's room in the book "Maisy Cleans Up." We have also really enjoyed climbing up and down the steps in our classroom.

We also had a blast learning about shapes by painting with our feet, making shape prints and shape collages. Balls were rolling and bouncing as we exercised and got our heart rates pumping as we learned about exercise. We also learned a new dance, "It's a simple dance to do."

In December, our units include safety, emotions and manners, hibernation and winter holidays. Toddler A has a new bulletin board in the works. Ms. Kim would like to post family pictures on the bulletin board. If you could bring in some pictures of your family, that would be great! Please remember we try to go outside daily, so please make sure your child has appropriate clothing, especially hats and mittens as the weather turns colder. Thank you to all families who attended our potluck dinner. We love sharing special moments with families!

With winter greetings,

Ms. Kim & Toddler A



Happy December!

Toddler B hopes everyone had a great Thanksgiving and time with family. Our favorite unit for November was healthy eating! We really enjoyed the applesauce made by Preschool B. Thanks for all the hard work! After reading “Vegetable Soup” by Lois Ehler, we learned that vegetables are good for our bodies and junk food is not good for our bodies. We also made pretend vegetable gardens and went on a vegetable hunt.

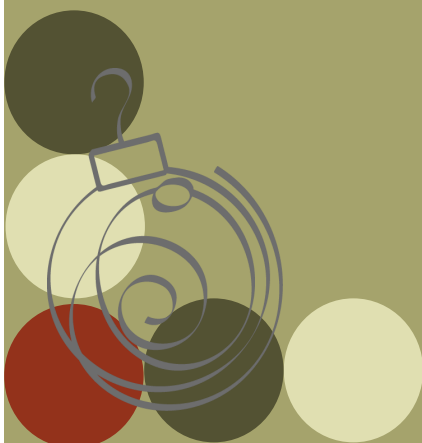
During our sports unit, we really tested our muscles in our toddler Olympics. We threw balls into a basket, crawled through tunnels and walked on a balance beam. We even ran in a friendly “race.”

Come by and see our shape collages in our room that we made during our shapes unit. To celebrate Thanksgiving, we made turkey handprints and Thanksgiving vests. We also practiced cleaning at our dramatic play center by using a mop, broom, rags, bucket and duster to keep our room spit spot.

This coming month we will be focusing on safety, emotions, “me” and winter holidays. Please send or bring in a family picture to add to our family bulletin board. The children enjoy sharing their pictures with each other and we don’t want any family to be left out!

More news next time,

Ms. Mindy & Toddler B





This month was full of pumpkins, gourds and squash as we celebrated Thanksgiving and the season of fall! We also studied healthy eating and sports/exercise. In December, we will learn about general and playground safety, emotions and manners and the winter holidays. Our song for our healthy eating unit is called “Vegetables are Good For You” to the tune of “Mary had a Little Lamb:”

“Vegetables are good for you, good for you, good for you. Vegetables are good for you, so eat them everyday. They’ll make you grow up big and strong, big and strong, big and strong. Make you grow up big and strong and keep you healthy too.”

To help learn the different types of vegetables, we made construction paper salads with lettuce, tomatoes, carrots, and dressing (paint). Our fruit taste test was delicious! We tried strawberry, banana, grapes, watermelon, lemon, pineapple, honeydew and cantaloupe. The graph hanging in our room shows each child’s favorite fruit!

After we weighed and measured pumpkins, gourds and acorns, we split a pumpkin in half and put it in a jar to observe the changes we notice over time. We predicted what would happen to the pumpkin after a few days. Some of us said, “it will be gooey.” Others said, “the seeds are going to come of it.” Come to find out, we were right! It is gooey and the seeds have fallen out!

Our classroom is looking for old magazines and recyclable materials for creative crafts. If you have any at home, please bring them in! Thank you!

We enjoyed spending time with our families at the Thanksgiving potluck dinner. Thanks for joining us! A special thanks to Brent Barnhart with Country Creek Produce Farms for donating pumpkins, gourds and squash for our fall theme.

Our class enjoyed a fun moment while we were dancing to “who let the dogs out” on the cd player. One of the students replied excitedly, “I let them out, I let them out!” We never grow tired of laughing and learning together.

Enjoy the rest of 2011,
Ms. Kristi, Ms. Lisa & Preschool A



Greetings from Preschool B!

This month was full of colors, shapes and Thanksgiving! We even made our own applesauce from scratch. After peeling, coring and cutting up close to 40 apples, we served the applesauce as a snack to the rest of the center. Thanks to Toigo orchards for donating the apples!

We also did some shape finger painting, shape picture collages and colorful window sun catchers. Learning shapes was fun when we sang the shape song and played musical shapes (musical chairs). Our dramatic play center acted as a post office and police station where we practiced our writing skills by sending letters to friends and family, as well as writing "tickets" to those who were not following the rules.

In our journals, we drew something that was the same shade as our favorite color. We also read about Brown Bear in "Brown Bear, Brown Bear what do you see?" a book by Eric Carle.

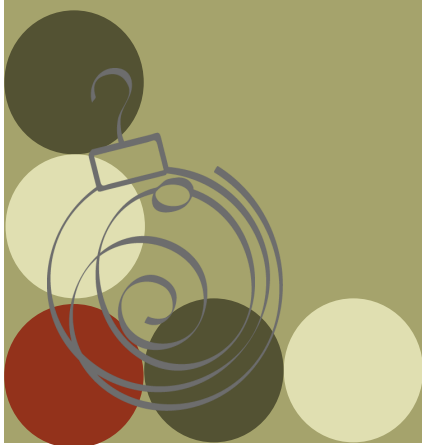
We had a great time at our Thanksgiving potluck! Thanks to everyone who brought yummy food and shared a wonderful evening with us.

December brings colder weather and units on healthy eating, sports & exercise, general & playground safety and winter holidays (Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanza).

We will be posting and sending home information about our holiday party very soon!

Happy December!

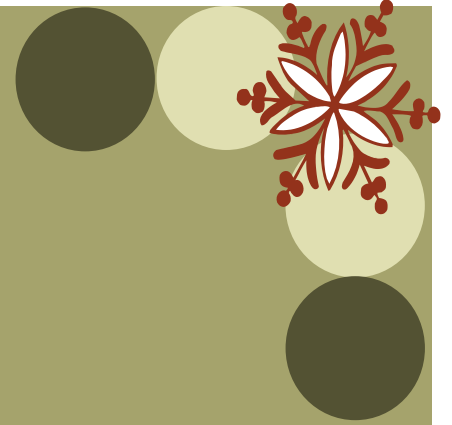
Ms. Erin, Mr. Nick & Preschool B



Teacher Feature—Ms. Kristi

Ms. Kristi lives in Chambersburg with her two boys, Ethyn (5) and Bradyn (3). She received a bachelors in elementary education and a certificate in early childhood from Penn State University. After joining the CFC in June 2005, Ms. Kristi is now the assistant director and lead teacher for Preschool A. But work isn't the only thing Ms. Kristi loves to do! She also enjoys spending time with her boys, hunting and fishing and being outside.

Ms. Kristi's favorite food is fudge, but she enjoys fresh fruit too! Her favorite season is summer because she loves the hot weather and being outside. Hummingbirds are her favorite animal. Did you know Ms. Kristi has never been on an airplane or a cruise? She hopes to do both in this coming April on a cruise to the Bahamas!



Thank you to all the families and friends who came to celebrate at our Thanksgiving Potluck! We enjoyed meeting and spending time with each family!



Thanksgiving Potluck Pictures

