



What's Buzzing?

Oberlin Early
Childhood Center



November 2014

ANNUAL PIE FEST AND BASKET RAFFLE TIME

O ECC's 7th Annual Pie Fest is Friday, November 21st. Come and enjoy a piece of pie, activities with the children, and socialize with other families. Our theme this year is Fall!

At the Pie Fest we will also raffle off eight baskets! Each classroom has a theme. We are asking parents to donate items to fill the basket. The teachers will notify you of the classroom theme. You will have a chance to buy tickets to win one of the baskets starting November 10th. Proceeds will go toward Muscle Room equipment. Tickets will be \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

PARENT SUPPORT

Parenting Wisely is a parent training program facilitated by the Child Care Resource Center. Parenting Wisely is free and open to the public. They allow private appointments at your convenience. Parents with children ages 3-12 will be able to increase their knowledge and use of good parenting skills, decrease child behavior problems and improve problem solving skills. Call 440-960-7187 Monday, Wednesday or Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for more information or to sign up.

SPOTLIGHT ON OECC STAFF



Janet Gregory
Teacher
Since 2001

Each month we will be spotlighting a staff member. This month Janet Gregory was chosen. Janet has been a Toddler Teacher in the Yellow Room for 13 years. During that time she has had the pleasure of taking care of many toddlers, each with their own personality. Janet says that one of the benefits of being a toddler teacher is the hugs she receives from the children in the morning and as they leave in the evening. She loves seeing the children grow up and move on to other classrooms and also enjoys meeting the parents. Janet graduated from Oberlin High School and has earned her Child Development Associate credential. She has lived in Oberlin her whole life and has interests in gardening (she has a green thumb), crossword puzzles, and taking care of her mother.

OUR VISION

All children thrive!

OUR MISSION

Nurturing the healthy growth of young children

OUR VALUES

Respect

We view respect as the foundation of every relationship.

Diversity

We see diversity as recognizing and valuing the richness of differences.

Collaboration

We collaborate to strengthen and optimize opportunities to achieve common goals.

Access

We are committed to enhancing access to opportunities for children, families, and staff.

Creativity

We believe that creativity empowers individuals and groups to reach their potential.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Joanne Rahn, Chairperson

Elizabeth Wilmer, Ph.D., Vice-Chairperson

Janice Zinser, Ph.D., Secretary

Josh Levy, Ph.D., Treasurer

Barbara Feldmar

Nicole Dye

Nancy London

Del Mason, M.D.

Charles Peterson, Ph.D.

Liz Riddle

Kira McGirr

Emily Troiano

Sharon Pearson, Oberlin City County Rep.

Jennifer Harris, Executive Director

REMINDERS

Please remember that we are not able to provide services to school age children in the event of an unscheduled school closing.

Don't forget that in the event that OECC closes due to an emergency all families will be notified via our One Call system. If you have not received text or voice messages in the past, please verify the numbers we have on file in the front office.

Make sure to mark these upcoming dates on your calendar that OECC is closed:

- Thursday, November 27th
- Friday, November 28th
- **Friday, December 5th Close at 12 p.m. – Professional Dev.**
- Wednesday, December 24th
- Thursday, December 25th
- Wednesday December 31st

The 2015 calendar will be available next week. Please note that the center will be closed on Thursday, January 1st for New Year's Day and on Friday, January 2nd for our floating holiday.

UPCOMING EVENTS

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

Available conference dates and times will be posted in each teacher by November 7th. Don't forget to sign up for your child's conference. Talking with your child's teachers is a great way to build your relationship with the teacher, to find out what your child is learning, to plan for exciting milestones (transition to baby food, crib to bed, toileting, self-help skills, kindergarten, etc.) and to bring up any challenges that you may be experiencing.

TIS THE SEASON OF GIVING - HOLIDAY HELPING HANDS PROGRAM

OECC has collaborated with Oberlin Community Services to sponsor families in the Holiday Helping Hands Program. This program will begin in December. We will place tags on a small tree in the lobby. Please choose a tag or two, buy the item listed, and turn it into the office by Monday, December 15. These gifts are provided to children who live in Oberlin!

WAYS TO SUPPORT OECC

Support OECC by donating to the center through the Oberlin Community Campaign, United Way or individual donations; volunteer your time at the center; serve on the board; donate materials to the center.

WHAT IS OBERLIN KIDS?

Oberlin Kids is a community collaboration made up of 14 community partners, with OECC serving as the Lead Partner. Our mission is to ensure all children in Oberlin enter kindergarten healthy and ready to learn.

FIRST FAMILY FUN EVENT!

Our first Family Fun Event was a huge success. We had over 70 children and 40 adults join us at the Splash Zone Field House for bounce houses, games, obstacle courses crafts, face painting and lots of fun. Parents and children alike enjoyed navigating through the inflatable obstacle course and jumping with their kids in the bounce house.

SEEKING OBERLIN FAMILIES!!

Over the past month Oberlin Kids has enrolled 124 families and provided services to 50 families through the On Track for Kindergarten program. Join Oberlin Kids or refer a family with kids by having them call 440-935-5287 or registering on our website oberlinkids.org.

WHAT PARENTS ARE SAYING!

"She started with a delay in crawling and walking a year or so ago. Now that she is done with Help Me Grow services, I am glad to have someone else helping to keep an eye on her development". Mother of a 2 year old.

"I didn't have any money for gas in my car to take my kids to an appointment. Jenn gave me a number to call to get a gas card from Oberlin Community Services." Father of two.