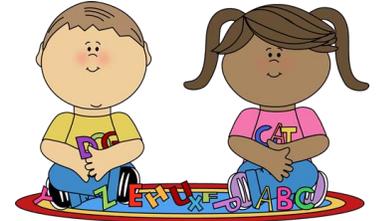


May/June 2018

Dear Parents,

There are many wonderful changes that this month brings: beautiful flowers, warm sunny days, soft spring rains, and a variety of insects and wildlife that children can observe. During the next few weeks, the children will be busy with units on insects, spiders, and animals. The culmination last month's units on things that grow was to observe the flowers and plants growing outside and some rooms will be measuring plants for growth in May. **Rooms 1 & 3 are also learning about the concept of changes and will have two field trips: B&O Railroad Museum and a Transition Field Trip to a big elementary school-Greenbelt Elementary.** Please sign the permission slips to allow for your child to attend the trips. **All Room 1 parent chaperones must show proof of their PGCPs commercial background check before being allowed to chaperone.** Be sure to get this done in advance, so that you may attend the trip. This can be done online at the PGCPs website. Please join us if you can!



Thank you!

Thank you for helping to make our Week of the Young Child celebration so special for all the children last month!! They had such a great week! Keep those love ♥ notes coming in your child's lunch! Thank you to Ms Mary Edwards, Room 2 Teacher, for playing her guitar on Music Monday and for all the faculty that helped the children to prepare Turkey Tacos for lunch on Tasty Tuesday. Thank you to Avion, AJ-Room 2, for arranging for the Spiderman visit on Work Together Wednesday. The children created lovely art on Artsy Thursday and special thanks to the parents/grandparents who came to participate at our Friday Family Day. The LEGO car building activity was very challenging, and we were grateful for the family members who helped and encouraged the children to stay with a difficult task. Using skills of patience and perseverance when something is hard is a life lesson. Not everything in life will be easy! It made the day so special to have parents or grandparents here! Let's do it again next year!



Teacher Appreciation Week!



Parents, every year we count on you to show your kindness and generosity for the teachers and staff at GCC during Teacher Appreciation Week! **The dates for this are Monday, May 7th through Friday, May 11th.** We invite parents to contribute in any way possible, for the staff this week. You can participate at any time during the week with flowers, breakfast, balloons, gift certificates, cash bonuses, thank you cards, thoughtful letters of appreciation, a certificate for a future lunch, plants, etc.!! Let's help to make

the teachers feel that we appreciate all that they do for the children. In fact, sprinkle kindnesses on them the whole month. It doesn't have to be only one day! One parent would like to see parents work together to bring in components of breakfast every day that week and perhaps collect \$10 or more per family for a cash bonus to the staff from the parents of GCC. Thank you for all your efforts! If there are parents who would like to cover naptime during the Teacher Appreciation Lunch on Friday, May 11th, please contact Mrs. Gee, Director.

Announcements!

We have re-published at Level 5 in **Maryland EXCELS!** Congratulations to GCC! We maintained all achievements for best practices and highest level of quality!

<https://www.marylandexcels.org/>



Celebrating Through Art:

The First Lady's Mental Health Awareness Youth Art Display 2018. There were many children from GCC that submitted art work that has been chosen to be on display at this event in Annapolis at the House Office building for the reception and program from 4-6 pm. Some artwork will be on display on an iPad and some will have the actual artwork hanging in the gallery. Families attending this cultural event were to rsvp and print out Event Brite ticket. Identification will be required for all adults entering this state building.

Math Family Learning Parties!

Have you ever wanted to know how you as the first and lifelong teacher of your child, can teach math skills to your young child, then this is for you!

On four Tuesday evenings **May 10, 17, 24 and 31**, from **5:30-7:00pm**, our Prince George's County Public School and Judy Center partners will be here for four hands-on family/child parties that promote young children's development of school readiness skills. This opportunity teaches parents/guardians how to make everyday moments teaching moments through playing, singing, talking, reading, and doing fun activities. May 31st, there will be a Transition to Kindergarten presentation. Free dinner, take-home materials and child care! Must sign up and commit to attend all 4 parties in the series by May 3rd! Check your child's Art Folder



End of the School Year Celebration



Our **End of School Year Celebration**, includes a special **Music Recital with Music 4 Life**, involving each classroom presenting to parents with song and dance that they have been learning! The recital will be in the **Terrace Room of this building on Friday June 8th from 10:30-11:50am**. We will have a sign-up sheet for contributions for the luncheon party which will be held in each classroom. This will also be our last Book Club Event for the year, so we are hoping for volunteers to read to the children either before the recital or at rest time as children settle down on their cots.

Our last day for 2017-18 school year is **Thursday, June 14** and GCC will be closed for the Teacher In-service day Friday, June 15th. Summer program starts on Monday, June 18th. How time has flown!



SUMMER PROGRAM IS COMING!

Greenbelt Children's Center



Your child's summer schedule and activity fees should be received in the office by Friday, May 18, 2018. Some weeks are close to being filled! All special events have been confirmed. We look forward to the Family Night Potluck dinner that has been scheduled for **Tuesday, July 17th at 5 pm!** So, get out those favorite family recipes! We suggest that families prepare a dish that is special to their family cultural background, while keeping safety in mind (no nuts or seafood). Leroy Hyson Edutainment will delight us with educational musical entertainment and audience participation! Join us for as much fun as you can this summer! We enjoy having parents here at GCC! Please remember to post the GCC summer calendar on your refrigerator at home so you can keep up with all the special enrichment activities scheduled for your child!

Children will enjoy going to the pool as part of the program on each Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Remember to send your child dressed in swimsuit with clothes to change into on those days, along with pool shoes & towels! The children have been watching the pool be readied for the season and they can hardly wait for summer to begin!

Families who were income eligible in the public pre-k program will continue to receive support from the grant subsidy for your child through 11 weeks of the summer program for 2018.

Reminders:

- **ALL CHILDREN should WEAR SAFE SHOES WHILE ON THE PLAYGROUND!** Sandals, jellies or dress shoes are simply not safe for outdoor play. You may keep an extra pair of playground shoes (sneakers) in your child's cubby. Boots and old clothes are great for working in the garden!
- **TICK SEASON HAS ARRIVED!** Please check your child daily for ticks and consult your physician for information about tick bites and removal of ticks.
- **Never leave your baby in your car while you run in to drop off your child!**
- **ALWAYS use car seats,** buckle up and place children in the back seat of your car.
- Please drive slowly in the parking lot in case a child bolts away from parent!
- GCC will be closed on Monday, May 28th for the Memorial Day Holiday.





Healthy Futures and the student interns from the **University of Maryland School of Public Health** will complete their program of mediation, healthy snacks and physical activities with each classroom. We were very happy to partner with these ambassadors for good health and look forward to a Lacrosse demonstration that they would like to present to GCC! Lacrosse scholarships are a great asset for future consideration!

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

It is that time of year to check your child's extra clothes box to take out the big bulky sweaters, etc. and replace your child's supplies with seasonally appropriate clothing, from socks on up!! Remember to label all belongings with your child's name! If your picture of your child or family needs to be re-taped to the extra clothes box, **please ask a staff member to help.**

Please remember our policy about packing nutritious lunches. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated. Remember to pack two servings of fruit and vegetable in every lunch every day. Fruit roll-ups and fruit snacks are candy, not fruit, and have no nutritional value. Teaching young children about healthy eating gives them a valuable life skill. Healthy eating habits developed in early childhood can last a lifetime.

Wolf Trap Artist in Residency Program returns!

Teaching Artist, Mary Gresock will lead each classroom in a Wolf Trap Music Residency.



We dedicate May 13th to all our wonderful mommies!

...or to anyone that fulfills that role for a child!

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!!



WE DEDICATE JUNE 17th TO ALL OUR SPECIAL DADS!!!

...or to anyone that fulfills that role for a child!!

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!!



ReadyRosie for Your Family!



ReadyRosie

Parents at GCC have free access to ReadyRosie, an innovative educational service that provides parents with instructional videos to build their child's school readiness skills. Delivered via email or text, ReadyRosie demonstrates how parents can turn everyday activities into teachable moments. Activities shown in the videos are simple, take only a few minutes to complete, and are available in English and Spanish. While most early childhood and elementary educational technology tools are directed at the child, this is a resource for parents, grandparents and caregivers.

Ready Rosie was created with the belief that parents are a child's first and lifelong teacher. It gives parents ideas of how to better engage their children while at home, in the library, in the car, at the grocery store or wherever they are spending their time. We want you to know that there is always an opportunity for learning and talking to your child and it does not take hours of practice. ReadyRosie embraces our mobile culture and makes our everyday environment a real-time learning laboratory!

If you have not received an electronic invitation to join ReadyRosie, please ask your child's teacher to send you an email so you can access this easy and wonderful way to support you as first teacher to your child! Look for the Monday messages that Ready Rosie will send to you each week and know that you can go to the Ready Rosie site and access all sorts of resources from the ReadyRosie library. Let us know what you think of this service and how you are using it with your family.

Congratulations to Greenbelt Children's Center
for 28 Years of Early Childhood Excellence!
We celebrate our anniversary this month!

