

September 2022

Greenbelt Children's Center



September Newsletter



Dear Parents,

We look forward to the start of the 2022-2023 school year! Thank you for bringing your child well prepared each day – their smiling faces are a delight!

New rates take effect and Annual Materials Fee is due.

We are working very hard to keep everyone safe and healthy at GCC. We are counting on our families to do the same.

Some reminders:

Weekly PCR testing for all staff and children.

Monitor your child for symptoms daily and keep your child home if they exhibit any symptoms of Covid-19- fever of 100.4, vomiting, diarrhea, nausea, rapid breathing, fatigue, coughing, nasal congestion, loss of smell or taste, headache, body ache or sore throat. Also monitor for bruising or swelling not caused by injury. Fevers and rashes will require doctor's note to readmit, as a precaution for Monkey Pox.

Quarantine your child for 5 days after Covid exposure. And Isolation plus negative test after 5 days to return after testing positive or wait until Day 11 to return.

Daily health checks will continue. Scan the QR code so you can start the daily health check at home each morning.

Wear a mask at drop off/pick up and pack extras for your child daily. Inform family and friends to bring picture ID at every pick up. It is our job to request it and keep children safe.

Parent Information:

To see a typical daily schedule, visit our website at www.greenbeltchildrenscenter.com, we will also be posting our monthly Newsletter, and Menu to our website *each month* so that we keep you informed with news and activities of the Center! Look for pictures of activities and information on the GCC Facebook page and be sure to friend, like and follow us! We request that each parent sign up for Mrs Gee's Class at **remind.com by texting: @gccpar** to 81010, to receive emergency alerts!

Lending Library begins this month, and you can look forward to books that will be sent home to read to your child. When finished, return them for the teachers to log and switch out another set to take home. If EVERY family reads the 10-book minimum, the class gets a reward! Book Club Events are different and will give books to keep and build the home library.



Parent Handbooks & Forms...



Family Handbooks are being revised, and the addendum is a helpful reminder of commitments we each make to keep each other safe during the pandemic. **We thank you for completing and returning all the forms required at this time.**

Beautiful Artwork!

Each child has a **Folder** in the Bluebag for artwork, notices, and information placed there for to take home. Teachers will be checking all the contents sent from parents each day. We ask that you go through the bag each evening to wash soiled clothes, masks and linens and to look for notices from GCC.



Keep in mind that children's work will often be displayed on the classroom walls before being filed to take home, so there may be some lag time before you get your little artists work sent home!

Also remember that we will collect documentation samples as part of your child's assessment process, so some work will be saved by teachers, in your child's portfolio, to be shared at Parent- Conferences held twice per year.

We are So Happy/Proud/Excited!

Our Center has again been awarded the **highest score possible from Maryland Excels: 5 check marks!** Congratulations to our **outstanding faculty** for providing such excellent care and striving to continuously improve the quality of our program! We must also thank our **wonderful parents** as well - it is for you and the children that we work towards these goals. For information on the Md Excels program, visit <http://marylandexcels.org/> We were surprised when NAEYC came to GCC in August to validate our re-accreditation.



MARYLAND EXCELS
CHECK FOR QUALITY EARLY CHILDHOOD
AND SCHOOL-AGE PROGRAMS

The GCC Monthly Newsletters, Calendars & Menus are all on our website:
www.greenbeltchildrenscenter.com

September Newsletter

We love our teachers!

Please welcome our wonderful faculty!
Mrs. Flora Gee-Director

Room 1 Classroom:

Position not yet filled -PGCPS Certified Teacher
Ms. Christine Grabisch – Teacher/Assist Director
Ms. Donna Bell-Nance-Teacher/Assist Director
Ms. Rehana Ali – Teacher

Rm 2 Classroom:

Ms. Ximena Saltos- Lead & Bilingual Teacher
Ms. Patricia Messenger-Teacher
Ms. Doris Nava-Teacher
Ms. Barbara Spears-Teacher

Room 3 Classroom:

Ms. Mary Edward- Lead, Teacher
Ms. Versia Thomas – Teacher
Ms. Simone Lovelock – Teacher

Office:

Flora Gee, M.Ed. Director
Ms. Sandy Raynes-Office Asst

Substitute Teachers Part Time Staff: Ms. Shahinoor Rahman, Ms Naima Kelly, Ms. Bridget Thompson, and Ms Katherine Thomas, & Ms Tonya Walters, volunteer.

We said goodbye to Ms Sonika who left to teach kindergarten in August after 14 years at GCC; Ms Maria transferred to a school in her neighborhood this year.

Tips for Turning Everyday Activities into Learning Activities

You are your child's first teacher! We are your partners in helping your child become ready for kindergarten!

Talk, listen, read, play. Learning begins in everyday moments. This information comes from the "Countdown to Kindergarten Campaign" of the [Maryland Family Network](#).

From the moment he is born, your child is learning about his family, his environment, and his own amazing abilities. As he grows, every experience contributes to his knowledge and his self-confidence.

When he arrives at kindergarten, he will be able to use all the skills he has learned. His kindergarten teacher will invite him to look at books, draw pictures, share stories and make new friends. The kindergarten teacher will observe and record your child's progress- looking for the skills that will help him succeed in school. If some skills are missing, she will plan activities that help him develop these skills.

Parents are the key to their child's success in school!



Quote of the Month:
When you carry out acts of kindness, you get a wonderful feeling inside. It is as though something inside your body responds and says, yes, this is how I ought to feel.
-Harold Kushner

Our Child Development Specialist, Claire Lerner, will return this year offering Parenting Workshops to support you. We see you parents and know how difficult the pandemic has been.

We will be providing children as many rich experiences in the classroom as possible!

Look for a special Science presentation this fall for the children!

