

ISLA VISTA CHILDREN'S CENTER

November /December Newsletter



HARVEST FESTIVAL

Thanks to everyone who participated in our annual event. Over 230 people attended! Thanks particularly to the Family Council who supported financially and the staff who organized the activities. Hope everyone had a good time. Look at the pictures on the digital picture frame by the front entrance – cute children! Thanks too to the volunteers from Lambda Theta Alpha who helped with games and clean-up.

Thanksgiving Treats

Parents are invited to share a Thanksgiving snack with their children on Wednesday, November 21st at 3 p.m. The Center will be closed Thursday and Friday, November 22 & 23 for the holiday. The staff are planning a special snack to share with their parents, please join us!

Exciting trainings!

The staff have been involved in some new trainings this fall. The Program for Infant Toddler Caregivers sponsored a training that 4 of our staff attended, on October 13 and 20th. Mary George attended a training on Discipline without Tantrums, offered by SBCC. On November 3rd, 15 of our staff attended a workshop on Challenging Behaviors. Lu and Kathy had additional training to help staff further their knowledge on the subject. The staff will continue exploring the subject during Staff Development days. In December there will be a training on Math activities for preschool age children and Social Emotional skill building workshop. Whenever staff attend a workshop they are required to share what they have learned at the next Staff Development day. Thanks for supporting our Staff Development days.

RECERTIFICATIONS

In preparation for our review by the State Department of Education in January, Lucia is in the process of recertifying all subsidized families. It is mandatory that families be certified annually to qualify for the CDE grant. Income and employment documentation must be reviewed for compliance. If families do not cooperate with the documentation, child care services will be terminated. When asked for information please be prompt and accurate to speed up the process.

SAY CHEESE!

School pictures will be taken on November 14, starting at 9 a.m. All children will be photographed and parents will receive the proofs within 2 weeks. Pictures will be returned before Christmas. Please let us know if you want your children photographed together.

- 11/7 Family Council 5:30 p.m.
- 11/8 Early Release Day - close at 2:30
- 11/9 Health Fair – IV Elementary School
- 11/14 School Pictures
- 11/21 Thanksgiving Treat
- 11/22-23 Center Closed
- 12/13 Early Release Day – close at 2:30
- 12/24&25 Center Closed
- 12/16-31 Center open reduced hours 8 - 4
- 1/2/08-1/4 Center open reduced hours 8 - 4

Parent Conferences

The teachers are preparing for conferences with the parents. Each class is given a day for conferences, please sign-up with your child's teacher for a conference. This is a good time to share your child's growth with his/her teacher. Please jot down any concerns you may want to discuss with your teacher. Parents will be asked to fill out the annual Parent Survey at the end of the conference as this is a requirement of our State Contract.

Need Help with the Holidays?

The Unity Shop can help families with presents for the children and food for the family. Contact our Family Resource Coordinator, Angelita Echeveste for a referral, 685-6900.

Where do you shop?

Do you shop for groceries at Albertsons or Vons? We can register your Albertsons Preferred Card or Von's Club card and Albertsons and Von's will donate a % of your purchases to the Center. No cost to the shopper and a big reward to the Center! Sign-up now!

Christmas Ornament Making Event

The Family Council is planning a family event in December for the children and parents to make Christmas ornaments. Watch for the posting of the date. This is a fun event to create some memories with your children.

Parent Mailboxes/Email

Did you know that each family has a mailbox at the Center? Check out your mailbox in the hallway; a list of names and numbers is posted next to the boxes in the hallway. The number corresponds to the box above the number. This is our way to communicate with families, distribute notices, bills, announcements, etc. Lucia has developed a list of email addresses to send out announcements, see her to add your address to the list and receive email!

WATCH FOR THE DETAILS OF THE ELKS CHRISTMAS PARTY – DEC. 9TH