Welcome to the summer semester at Campus Child Care. With the hot and humid weather, there is no question that summer has arrived! We have already taken advantage of many warm days and lots of water play. We would like to welcome all new children and families along with those who are returning. It’s great to see all of you!

This is a transitional time of year when most children have moved to a new classroom, some of our teachers have switched classrooms, and five teachers are off for the summer. So, many children have at least one, if not two, new teachers. We recognize this is an adjustment for them (and you) so the teachers will be working to build new connections with each of you. Please be sure to have an intake meeting with your child’s teacher. Also, you will also notice fewer student workers in your child’s room because we do not need to employ as many during the summer months. We have just four classrooms open this summer — Infant/Toddler, Two’s, Pre 1 & Pre 2.

If you have not received your enrollment packets they will be coming out soon. Also, remember the signed contract (are due back with any additional paperwork attached by the deadline noted on the cover letter. If you have questions please call Janene.

During the upcoming August interim please note that the entire center will be closed on Friday, Aug. 12 for professional development and new student orientation.

We will be planning a Family Gathering this summer on Tuesday, July 26th. Please sign up to join us on Family Day as we love to share our center and learning with you. There is more information on page 5 of this newsletter.

This will be our only newsletter for the summer session so please read everything thoroughly and don’t hesitate to ask if you have any questions. We will send out email updates if there is anything that you need to be aware of.

Carol Schroeder will be retiring from CCC after 13 years of service and Christy Pelikan has accepted a new position with the CDL starting later this month. We are excited for these two staff members starting new chapters in their lives and are sad to see them go. Please take a moment to wish Darius, Odysia, Scott, and Noah are all suited up for water play during outdoor activity time from 11:00-12:00pm.

Have you filled a Bucket Today?

Emergent Curriculum

Sunscreen Information

Family Day Participation
them well in the coming weeks. We will keep you posted on information to be part of our hiring process for new staff as it become available.

Enjoy the summer; it goes by quickly!

Kristin Schulz, Acting Director

Infant/Toddlers

What a great group of infants and toddlers we have together during the summer semester! Welcome to Kennedy Grace and Noah, Kennedy Ann, Harvey, and Javanna. They join Nora, Liam, Heaven, Connor, Ava, Luca, and Paul. The toddlers are still learning about giving the babies their space. But they already know about gentle touches from their time in the infant room. Hip hip hooray for early learning!

Our biggest goal these past few weeks has been to help the children feel comfortable with the new teachers in the classroom. This is a big deal for the children and probably for you as parents also! We are loving getting to know your children, what routine makes them comfortable, what makes them laugh, and what holds their interest. We also enjoy getting to know their families so please feel free to stop and talk at pick-up and drop-off times. Children feel the level of comfort you have with us and when we all can work well together, that makes their world feel safe. If you can bring family pictures for us to laminate and allow the children to handle, they’d benefit from that home/school connection too. Feel free to simply email your pictures to one of us and we’ll print them off here. Photos of grandparents, pets, and close friends are welcome too, just let us know who they are so we can talk about them with your children!

REMINDERS

- The last day of summer semester is Aug. 5. Full-day care is available during **Interim** (Aug. 8–18); applications are due by **July 10**. Anyone who requests care **after** this date will be charged the ‘extra care’ fee of 10%.

- We will be **closed** on 2 Fridays to provide time for professional development, classroom prep and new student orientation. These dates are **Aug. 12 & 19**.

- If you find that you need to withdraw from **Fall semester**, you will need to let us know ASAP or you will be billed for the first 2 weeks of that semester, no refunds for forgetting.

- The Center will be closed on **Monday, July 4th**.

- Please let your child’s teacher know if s/he will be **absent** or arrive late on his/her scheduled days. It is easier for us to make decisions regarding staffing or on-campus walks when we know who will be here each day.

- Child care rates for the fall semester are posted on the CCC web site.

- If you know any **NIU student families** looking for care this fall, let them know applications are available on our website for available space in our twos and preschool classrooms.
We are challenging our infants with that very important tummy time several times a day. Playing on their tummies strengthens their core muscles. They are learning to enjoy reaching for and grabbing manipulatives. And there’s so much you can see in the classroom when you are lying on your tummy with your head and chest up! A couple of our infants are learning to sit well. Younger babies can get used to using those muscles by sitting between our legs with plenty of support for when they wobble. We talk to the infants about what is happening during each part of the day because even at their young ages, they are learning receptive language and readies themselves for talking.

The toddlers are the ones who are experiencing a language explosion. It is good to see them following spoken directions, proving to us that they understand our words and want to comply. This group of toddlers is busy all day long. They love dancing and listening to music, climbing, jumping and crawling, listening to books, drawing on paper, and exploring manipulatives. We try to give the children as many and varied opportunities as possible to learn and grow. We’ll be doing more painting and sensory activities as the summer continues. Once again, we talk about everything we are doing to challenge their thinking and expand their vocabularies!

Summer weather is here! We are enjoying water play during those hot days out in the sun. The toddlers weren’t wild about the sprinkler but the ladybug circle that had water spraying up from was more of a hit. We provide a variety of water toys to use in the water table. Scooping and pouring water can be mesmerizing for these little ones. We also keep cool by bringing out our water bottles for drinks, wearing sunhats and taking advantage of the shade.

We hope that you are able to enjoy some kind of break during these warm summer months! Everyone needs some time off from work and studies. Enjoy!

Carol Schroeder, Pam Yockey, and Hillary Rosher

**Two’s**

Welcome families! We are so excited about our 2’s classroom for the summer. In our first weeks we have spent a lot of time getting know each and every one of the children and learning their individual interests and personalities. We spent a lot of time outside on the playground climbing on the climbers and going down the slides. The children were busy riding the bikes around and pushing
their babies in the grocery charts. A few of our friends experienced the tire swing for their first time.

This summer, you will notice that we have begun a study. That is where we expand on a topic they are interested in. This semester the children are showing an interest in what’s going on outside our classroom window. They noticed the animal life such as birds, squirrels, chipmunks, and insects. They are interested in the plant life as well so in order to teach them more about these topics we have been exploring what’s going on outside our window. They feed the animals, help pull weeds, and are helping to add new plants. This is where parent involvement is helpful. If you would like to contribute a plant or come help us by building a butterfly feeder or bird house with the children, please let us know. We are looking forward to seeing how the study grows!

On our warmer days we provided water play to give the children a great sensory exploration activity. There are many opportunities for the children to play in the water. The teachers provide time to play in the sprinkler, use the water hose, and explore the media table. In the media table we provide different materials to encourage the children to scoop, pour and dump the water. This challenges the children’s fine motor abilities, provides the children opportunities to share and gain sensory experiences. Some of the children have had fun simply running and splashing in the puddles on our water play days outside.

Thank you so much for getting your Million Words or Less and Intake form to us. Denise and I have been looking at the needs of the children and families this semester; we have gotten a lot of feedback about parents wanting to teach their child to use the potty. I have good news, this is an area I have a lot of experience (approximately 23 years of potty training other people’s children as well as my own two)! There is one very important thing I can tell you, when they are ready to use the toilet, you will know!! This is one of a few areas of learning that you can support, give guidance, and model but if a child is not ready it will be very frustrating for all people (adults and children) involved. There is an article on our website (located under parent resources) that has a lot of useful information about toilet learning. Feel free to check it out! If you’d like a copy of the article, let us know!

We really look forward to getting to know each and every one of you as our school year progresses. Please remember you are always welcome to come talk to us if there are any ques-
Preschool Room 1

We have started our summer out with so many fun activities. The first week alone we went to the Heritage Garden to pull weeds and check on all the vegetables, went to the MLK Commons to be entertained by the STEM Outreach group, and had two water days. Now if that doesn’t get the children excited about coming to the center, I’m not sure what will. We have other activities planned throughout the summer, each being unique and memorable.

The Heritage Garden is next to the Carriage House right across the street. They have planted vegetables that would have been planted during the time period of when the carriage house was used. The children were interested in all the vegetables that were growing and we were lucky enough to be able to cut some Kale. We used the Kale in a smoothie, but too many of the children were not impressed. We may have to add more sweet fruits to the blend for them to like it.

The STEM Outreach group brought liquid nitrogen to the MLK Commons to demonstrate how it can be used safely. I think the teachers were more amazed than the children. Most of the children knew we were getting ice cream, so I think they just wanted that to happen. We are having them come to the center later in the semester to set off rockets!

The weather has been very corporative for water play. The first day the children had a BLAST!!! The children have a variety of things they can do during water play. Bikes can be washed, the sprinkler is out for the children to jump through, and tubs of water are filled with different water toys. The children will always have the option to participate in water play. They have the climbers, tire swing, or hill to play on as well.

If you have not brought in your child’s water bottle, swim suit, towel, and water shoes please do so. We will have water days on any hot days which could be all five days.

In the classroom the children have been interested in the vanilla play dough. We have added gems, ice cream cones and cups, and wooden sticks for candles. The children have had many parties with this play dough.
We are planning on doing tie dye shirts sometimes this summer, we are asking if possible to bring in white t-shirts to tie dye. We think this will give the children an opportunity to mix colors and watch new patterns develop.

We hope to invite families to come in for a special event in the next couple of weeks. We will update you when a date and activity are set.

Sherie Newman and Bri Wicker

Preschool Room 2

Summer is in full swing in our Pre 2 Classroom! Christy and I would like to welcome you and your family into our classroom. We have many returning families and some new families and it has been a pleasure, thus far, to get to know each one of you. We have a lot of great curriculum plans that have been created with your child’s specific needs in mind that we look forward to implementing throughout the course of the semester.

We began our semester by enjoying the warm weather and the sunshine. We have utilized our water play materials while outside on some of our really warm days. The children have loved splashing, pouring, and dumping the water into buckets, on friends and themselves. We have also created a water slide on our playground which the children absolutely loved. The laughter was contagious and it provided an excellent and fun way for the children and staff to stay cool! Water play is an excellent avenue for learning as we can discuss top-

Family Day– Tuesday, July 26th 8–5pm

A sign up sheet will be posted in each classroom for you to pick the best time to join us. Reading a book to the group at drop off, eating snack, playing on the playground or letting us visit your office, building a block structure or making pancakes are just some of the opportunities you could join in on!

You don’t have to stay long and we will have a treat for you when you do leave, made especially by your child’s classroom!!

We look forward to spending some time with you, so save the date today!!
ics such as evaporation, liquid, depth and other terms.

Christy and I have also really enjoyed getting to know the children that are new and returning to the classroom. While we understood some children’s skill set upon entry into our classroom, others’ we are just learning. We have eagerly observed and documented many of their skills to have a basis as to where the children began the semester in comparison to where they will be upon departure of our classroom. Christy and I have also really enjoyed getting to know the children that are new and returning to the classroom. While we understood some children’s skill set upon entry into our classroom, others’ we are just learning. We have eagerly observed and documented many of their skills to have a basis as to where the children began the semester in comparison to where they will be upon departure of our classroom.

The children are sponges and love soaking up new and exciting information, which is why our emergent curriculum is such an important part of our curriculum planning. We have noticed many of the children’s interests and have designed activities that correspond with that in order to gain their interest in learning. We are looking forward to learning more about nature, gardening, and animal life as these are some of the common interests in our classroom.

Some of the lessons that Christy and I really want to focus on this summer will be “Bucket Filling” and welcoming our friends into our School Family. Some of you may have heard your children and teachers talking about Bucket Filler or being Bucket Fillers. In short, the idea of Bucket Filling is based on the book called, Have You Filled A Bucket Today? By Carol McCloud and David Messing. This book encourages young children to fill an invisible bucket by doing things like using kind words with others, treating others with respect, and showing loving actions like giving hugs and kisses. The book also uses the term “Bucket Dippers” and this is used to reference the idea of using hurtful words and actions with others. This dips out of others’ bucket. When your invisible bucket is full, you feel safe and loved but when your bucket is empty and dipped out of, you look sad or upset. It’s a great message and the children really connect with the book. We will encourage all of the children to fill their own buckets and others’.

Christy and I hope that you all have found a home in Pre 2 and feel welcome and safe. We are so grateful that you have chosen us to care for your child. We understand how important your child is to you and we care for your child in a warm and welcoming way. Please know that our classroom is always an open door and we welcome you with open arms! Here’s to a wonderful summer!

Emily Stoll and Christy Pelikan
Sunscreen Information

You may have noticed all of the children have a white coating of sunscreen all over them when you pick them up. I’d like to explain why CCC uses Tropical Sands mineral sunscreen. (Not an advertisement just information)

A few years ago we were applying the regular store bought sunscreen two to three times a day on each child. One of our teachers had been doing a lot of research about the chemicals in sunscreen and how by nature they are absorbed into the body through the skin. We did not feel good about exposing the children day after day to some of those chemicals so we researched natural sunscreen products and came up with this one.

This product has high Broad-Spectrum UVA and UVB sunblock protection. It is a mineral sunblock (6% zinc oxide and 6% titanium dioxide) that contains no potentially dangerous chemical sunscreen ingredients that could be absorbed into their body!

This lotion works by creating a protective shield to reflect UV rays away from their skin. It’s SPF 30, water resistant, non-allergenic, includes no chemical fragrances, no chemical preservatives (parabens) or emulsifiers, and is non-nano.

We feel good about the protection it provides and the lack of chemicals we are adding to their bodies and if you have more questions please feel free to use the link blow to learn for yourself. As always, if you would rather we use another brand you are more than welcome to bring in your own labeled with your child’s name.