



Ebenezer
CHILD CARE FROM THE HEART.

Downtown Kids Chronicle

340 West St. Paul Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53203

Open Monday-Friday 6 am—6 pm

(414) 224-0990

www.ebenezerchildcare.com



December 2022

Center Happenings

Tuition Due:

Monday, December 5th
Monday, December 19th

What Can We Do:

December 8: Family Fun Night

Building on such a fun pizza night in October, we're excited to bring families back together in December to celebrate the festive time of year with cookie decorating and various activities around Ebenezer. We're asking families to contribute \$5 for a pizza order once again. Please bring \$5 cash to the event, or there will be an electronic payment option on the day of, as well. Stop by the muscle room anytime after 4:45!

We're covered on volunteer bakers, but if you would be willing to contribute cookie decorating materials (frosting, sprinkles, etc.), please email Jordan at jordan.cannon88@gmail.com

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Coordinator's Corner



"Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth, for the touch of a friendly hand and for a talk beside the fire: it is the time for home."

— Edith Sitwell

In the spirit of all that is around us this time of year, I found this quote to sum it all up best. It is about spending time with family and friends. If you think back to your childhood holidays, do you remember the gifts you were given or do you remember the time you shared with the gift-giver? Chances are, it's the memories of reading stories, baking cookies, going ice skating, etc. that come to mind when you think of the holidays of your childhood.

This month will create the opportunities for gatherings to do

just that. The tricky part is taking a moment out of the hustle and bustle of this season to actually enjoy the important things. It's a wonderful time to teach children the values of gratitude and giving.



With next month being January, we will be doing our new annual fundraiser of Penny Wars! The war will begin on January 3rd and will end on January 31st at 6pm. I will be posting more information in the weeks to come!!! Last year was so much fun and the classrooms that won received some really cool items. Can't wait for what this year brings!

A reminder to be sure that your child has all necessary outdoor gear every day. Coat, hat, gloves/mittens, snow pants and boots are much needed to protect your little one from the cold when we go out to play. We go outside every day!

~ Ms. Nicole

Happy Birthday!

Look who has a Birthday!



Callum F- 10th
Victoria F- 17th
Kali J- 21st
Hugh F-25th
Owen C- 28th
Luna F-30th

Ms. Emiley- 15th
Nolan B- 18th
Christian W- 23rd
Ms. Adrianna-26th
Theodore M- 29th
Laurel L-B- 31st

Ms. Nicole F- 31st





Curriculum Specialist Corner

~ By Nicole Falzarano
Curriculum Specialist

Teaching Your Child About Feelings from Birth to Age 2

Introducing Ms. Adrianna!

Position/Hire Date

Train Room Lead Teacher

December 10, 2020

Education/Experience

B.A. Liberal Studies with concentration in International Studies, Spanish and History

Her Teaching Style

Is one of encouragement, praise, building confidence and positive self-esteem in each child.

ECE Philosophy

I believe that every single child is deserving of love and respect, and it is our responsibility to show/teach them that.

ECE Goals/Aspirations

To take my studies, experiences and passions to work for UNICEF.

Family/Hobbies/Interests

Dance, Traveling and Reading.

From birth to age 2, parents and caregivers have a big part to play in helping children learn about feelings. The most important thing they can do is meet their babies' needs, love and nurture them, and comfort them when they are upset. This type of responsive care helps very young children build a strong, loving relationship with the adults who care for them. Feeling safe and secure, loved and nurtured, is the biggest and most important ingredient for a child's healthy social-emotional development. There are other things that you can do to help your baby or young toddler begin to learn about feelings and how to express them. These are all good habits to develop while your child is young so that they become part of your every day interactions and routines.

Talk about feelings.

At first, babies and young toddlers will probably not understand when you say, "I can see you are angry because Jessie knocked your blocks over" or "You are so sad that your balloon flew away." It might even feel a little silly to talk to a tiny baby about his/her feelings. But this is an important part of helping your child learn to identify and describe his emotions. When you use feeling words over and over as your child grows, he will eventually come to understand what you mean. As your child's language skills develop, he will start to use these words on his own.

Teaching Feeling Words

We often think only of teaching words for common emotions like happy, sad, mad, etc. But there are many, many other feeling words that we can use to describe the range of complex emotions each of us (and our children) experience every day. Children benefit when they develop a "feelings vocabulary" that they can use to communicate what they are feeling and experiencing. While babies and toddlers won't understand these words right away, over time and with practice they will grasp their meaning and begin to use these words themselves. Here are some ideas:

Brave	Frustrated	Embarrassed	Safe
Cheerful	Curious	Jealous	Relieved
Worried	Friendly	Angry	Peaceful
Joyful	Shy	Bored	Overwhelmed
Frightened	Ignored	Surprised	Loving
Calm	Lonely	Silly	Cranky
Excited	Interested	Uncomfortable	
Confused	Proud	Stubborn	

Putting it all together and understanding feelings is an important part of a child's social-emotional development. Babies and toddlers experience feelings just like you do and know when you are feeling happy or down as well. When you use words to describe emotions, share in their good feelings, and comfort them when they feel sad or overwhelmed, young children are learning important social-emotional skills. This learning takes a lot of practice on their part, and a lot of patience on yours. But the time and effort are worth it. The social-emotional skills children develop in the first two years are ones they will use and build on for the rest of their lives.

Parent Socials

Looking to connect with other families and take full advantage of the community at Ebenezer? Check out these three upcoming events!

December 14: Mom's Night Out

Eight moms attended Mom's night out in early November, and we had such a great time, we wanted to plan it again! We hope to see some new and familiar faces at Component Brewing (2018 S. 1st Street) for Music Bingo on Wednesday, December 14th! We'll meet around 6:30 and Bingo starts at 7:00pm.

RSVP by December 11th, Mom's Night Out RSVP

December 19: Dad's Night Out

Catch the Packer game and get to know some other Ebenezer dads! Meet up for Monday Night Football on December 19th to watch the Packer's take on the Rams at the Third Street Market Hall at 7:00pm.

RSVP by December 16th, [Dad's Night Out RSVP](#).



Virtues of the Month: Peacefulness & Unity

Ebenezer's Virtues of the Month Program is about empowering everyone to live by their highest values. There are 52 virtues that provide empowering strategies of excellence. This month's virtues are:

Peacefulness is inner calm and tranquility. It is giving up the love of power for the power of love. Peacefulness is resolving conflict in a just and gentle way.

Unity is inclusiveness. It is finding common ground in our diversity. Unity is seeking peace in all circumstances.

To learn more about the virtues project, visit virtuesproject.com.

Connect with us socially:



Refer A Family or Employee and Get Rewarded!

That's right! When you get a family to enroll at one of our three centers, or an employee to join our team, you'll receive one week of



free tuition (up to \$250)! All the family has to do is mention your name at the time of enrollment and stay enrolled for a minimum of four weeks. New

employees need to mention your family's referral at the time of their interview and be employed for six months for you to receive your referral reward.

Please help us spread the word about Ebenezer!

The Original Fantasy Fudge Recipe

Anyone who has been fortunate enough to get a gift of fudge from our Executive Director, Beverly Anderson, knows it is to die for! That's why we asked her if we could share her recipe this month! Enjoy!



Note: This recipe was found on the back of a well-known brand of marshmallow crème. Many were surprised when it was changed. However, this is the original! You may find that most packages of chocolate chips are 10 ounces now: 12 ounces of chocolate chips is roughly 2 cups.

Ingredients:

- 3 cups white sugar
- 3/4 cup margarine (don't use butter)
- 2/3 cup evaporated milk (small can)
- 1 (12 ounce) package semisweet chocolate chips (actually need 2 cups, see note above)
- 1 (7 ounce) jar marshmallow creme (Beverly uses Kraft)
- 1 cup chopped walnuts (optional)
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Directions:

Grease a 9x13-inch pan. Mix sugar, margarine, and evaporated milk in a large, heavy saucepan over medium heat, stirring to dissolve sugar. Bring mixture to a full boil for 5 minutes, stirring constantly.

Remove from heat and stir in chocolate chips until melted and thoroughly combined. Mix in marshmallow creme, walnuts, and vanilla extract. Transfer fudge to a lightly greased pan and let cool before cutting into squares.

Ebenezer Receives \$50,000 Grant from The Greater Milwaukee Foundation

We are excited to announce that we have received a \$50,000 grant from Greater Milwaukee Foundation Capital Fund to assist with our \$70,000 playground renovation at our Oak Creek Child Care Center.

Our Oak Creek location opened in October 2004, and all of its outdoor play spaces were completed by May 2009. After years of wear and tear from adventurous children, it is time to clean up our existing playground, make it safer for the children enrolled in our center, and provide more natural elements to promote an appreciation for the great outdoors.

The Green Team of Wisconsin, Inc. will complete the project. Details on it can be found on our blog on our website at EbenezerChildCare.com.

"We're incredibly grateful to the Greater Milwaukee Foundation for supporting us in this massive renovation process," said Beverly Anderson, Executive Director of Ebenezer Child Care Centers. "Their generosity enables us to show our commitment to our environment, the city of Oak Creek, and the next generation of leaders."



Ebenezer

CHILD CARE FROM THE HEART

December's Parenting Tip: Giving The Gift of Time

If you ask most parents, they will agree that their homes are cluttered with things for their kids. That's why, as you approach the holiday season, it might be worth considering giving the gift of time this year versus things.

According to Beverly Anderson, Executive Director of Ebenezer Child Care Centers with locations in downtown Milwaukee, Oak Creek, and Wauwatosa/West Allis, "In today's world where we are so busy, giving the gift of time really is a precious thing to consider."

Fitness Time

Anderson says there are many ways your family can spend quality family time focusing on health and wellness.

"A family membership to the YMCA or another area health club, where you can go swimming or play basketball or racquetball together, is a great idea. Another fun idea is downhill skiing lift tickets or purchasing snowshoes that you can utilize in our county and state parks. Finally, there are many yoga studios which offer family yoga that are worth checking out as well."

Vacation Time

Family vacations make memories that last a lifetime, and whether you travel far or stay closer to home, the time away together is precious.

Anderson suggests watching Groupon for travel specials and using a vacation as an opportunity for your children to learn.

"There are so many great museums, historical venues, and attractions aimed at helping children explore the world around them just waiting to be visited. Pick a destination to visit and decide what to do together."

Cooking Time

Cooking is a lifelong skill that everyone needs to learn, so purchasing cooking classes aimed at kids, simple kitchen tools, or kids' cookbooks that your children can use to help cook, is a great idea.

Anderson also suggests purchasing meal kits or assembling your own kits to make special cooking sessions. For example, you could

purchase all of the fixings for healthy snacks, and then have a time where you make ants on a log (celery, peanut butter, and raisins) together. Or, you could purchase pancake molds, pancake mix, and syrup and have a quality Saturday morning baking session for breakfast.

"The idea is to get kids comfortable in the kitchen while having fun together."

Game Nights

Anderson suggests you start an ongoing tradition of game nights.

"Consider starting the night with a special dinner, like making your own pizzas, and then select some games to play or a puzzle to make together. The quality time you spend together will far outweigh cluttering up your house with more things this holiday season."

Ebenezer Child Care Centers is a not-for-profit, locally based agency committed to providing early childhood programs from the heart. The agency prides itself on being different from other child care providers in that it offers a home-like atmosphere; individualized, nurturing care; and a structured curriculum that is virtues-based for every child's developmental stage.

Every Ebenezer Child Care Center focuses on all aspects of a child's development: cognitive, physical, emotional, and social. In addition to providing quality care, the agency also offers other educational programming all aimed at helping parents.

The agency has locations in downtown Milwaukee, Oak Creek, and West Allis/Wauwatosa. The agency's main office is located at 1138 South 108th Street, West Allis. For more information, please visit the agency's website at www.ebenezerchildcare.com.