



JOHN KENNEY CHILD CARE CENTER at Heller Park October 2019

211 Mill Road, Edison, NJ 08837 (732) 287-4888 Fax (732) 287-2161

Subsidized Quality Child Care
for Heller Park Employees, Edison Residents, and Edison Employees

Back-to-School Night

Thank you to all of the parents who attended our back to school night on Wednesday, September 18th! We hope that everyone enjoyed experiencing how your child learns throughout the day. We are looking forward to a fun and exciting school year with everyone!



Parents met with their child's teacher in each of their classrooms and talked about the classroom schedule, expectations, and goals for the year. Each teacher also expressed the importance of play and how much the children learn when playing in each center within their classrooms. If you missed Back to School Night and would like a packet / an overview of what was discussed please see your child's teacher.

School Picture Day!

Wednesday, October 2nd

Yellow, Green,
& Blue Room
Individual &
Class Pictures

SAY CHEESE!



Thursday, October 3rd

Red & Orange Room
Individual &
Class Pictures

General Reminders

- ⇒ Please try to bring your child to school by 9:00 A.M. so they can receive the maximum program advantage as well as not to disrupt the educational program for the rest of the children.
- ⇒ If your child is going to be absent, please let their teachers know, let the office know, or mark "sick" or "absent" using the Tadpoles parent app.
- ⇒ When you enter your child's classroom each morning please immediately wash your hands and your child's hands. This way we can reduce the amount of germs that are spread in our classrooms.
- ⇒ Please remember that it's **important that children wear steady footwear, preferably sneakers, to school daily so they can climb, run, and jump during active play in the gym, on the porch, and on the play ground.**

Flu Shot Reminder:

Children six months through 59 months of age that are attending a child care center need to receive the flu vaccine by December 31, 2019. **NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE.** After December 31st, your child will be considered delinquent and will no longer be able to attend the child care center until the vaccine is received.

For more information, please see the memo attached.

If you have any questions regarding the flu vaccine please see Roxanne or Natalia in the office.



Building Social and Emotional Skills at Home

<https://www.naeyc.org/our-work/families/building-social-emotional-skills-at-home>

School classrooms are busy places where young children learn all sorts of things, including social and emotional skills such as how to express feelings and how to work together with friends on a project. Here are some suggestions for helping your child develop social and emotional skills at home.

Puppets. Teachers sometimes talk with children about conflicts and help them think about solutions while using puppets and families can try this technique at home. Puppets are a great way to introduce children to feeling words like *happy*, *sad*, *angry*, and children will sometimes talk to puppets about their feelings. Puppets can also help in discussions about challenging topics, like getting to bed on time.

Think out loud. When your child hears your thinking process, it helps her understand how to cope with frustration and solve problems: "Whoops. My favorite shopping bag has a hole in it. I'd better take another one with me to the grocery store."

Read bedtime stories. There is something magical about this end-of-the-day routine that makes it the ideal time for talking about feelings. Discuss the characters and events in the story. Invite your child to share her thoughts and feelings by asking questions: "What do you think he should do? How do you think she feels? What would you do if you were this character?"

Do a job together. Instead of asking your child to do a chore alone, do it with her. The two of you might fold laundry, set the table, rake leaves, or paint a wall. Help your child join in by shortening the handle of a broom to make it child-size or providing a small paintbrush or roller.

Play games. Card and board games and outdoor games such as tag or hop-scotch offer built-in opportunities for helping children learn to take turns, cooperate, handle frustration, and more. While playing games together, focus on fun instead of winning or losing.

Prevent potential problems. Before a friend comes to play, help your child put away toys he does not want to share. Before taking a bus to the zoo, provide a step-by-step explanation of what you will do: "We will wait at the bus stop for 5 minutes, then get on the bus and sit together and watch the sights go by for about 30 minutes [explain this as the length of one episode of a favorite TV show]. Then we will walk three blocks to the zoo and tour the lion house before anything else!" During the trip, remind your preschooler of what will happen next.

Source: Adapted from the *Message in a Backpack*, Teaching Young Children 4 (4): 12

Have you downloaded the new BoxTop App?

Earning money for our school is now easier than ever! You can now earn money for our school by scanning your store receipt with the Box Tops mobile app.

Our first Box Tops deadline for this school year is October 31st! This will be the last time we will be submitting clipped Box Tops so please bring in any Box Tops that you have collected. We receive 10 cents for each Box Top collected!



an easy way to earn cash for your school!

We're looking for Volunteers!

Our Parent-Teacher Club (PTC) is looking for volunteers to help plan a variety of events this year! Our first event will be our Fall Harvest Festival on Saturday, October 26th! If you're interested in helping plan this event or any of the other events throughout the year, please fill out the attached PTC volunteer form and give it to Natalia ASAP.

Fall Harvest Festival

Saturday, October 26th
11 AM—1 PM

Come wearing your costume and join us for crafts, snacks, and games!

