



BRIGHT HORIZONS AT Clever Kids Learning Center

From the Director

October 2 and 3 are portrait days for all the children in the center. Please make note of the signs by the sign-in kiosks to remind yourself of which day your child is scheduled. If one of the days does not work for you, please let your child's teacher know so we can use the opposite day. October 11 is when proofs will be returned to the center for you to see. October 25 is when photo orders are due and photos will be returned November 8th.

Since we have many new families this year, it is time to remind you that we do not celebrate Halloween here in the center. Please enjoy all costumes and candy at home if you choose. 100 children in costume in receiving candy from 100 children is just too much. Much of our population is unable to understand the concept of real and pretend, so costumes can be disconcerting. In a smaller setting with parents available to comfort a young child, Halloween can be more enjoyable. We do speak to the concepts of Harvest and Fall changes all around us, so you will indeed see a pumpkin or two! However, they will not be carved with the name of Jack!

This is what 588 pairs of socks looks like!



Dates of Closure for 2019

- Oct. 14 – Columbus Day
- Nov. 11 – Veteran's Day
- Nov. 28 & 29 – Thanksgiving
- Dec. 25 – Federal Observance of Christmas

Classroom Events

Parent/Teacher conferences will be offered in the Preschool Classrooms parts of October and November. Be on the lookout for the sign-up sheet.

- Friday, Oct. 18th – Infant 2 Painting with Parents Party 3:00-4:00
- Friday, Nov. 1st – Preschool North Parent Party

CARING MATTERS

**Once again, we asked and
you delivered!**

Our Sock Drive for the Coalition for the Homeless was a great success and I can't thank you enough. We have the greatest parents that care, are ready to participate and take action to help the community in need. Just imagine how many feet you helped keep warm this fall and winter.

I delivered all the socks on September 25th and the ladies from the coalition were very pleased and amazed with our donation.

THANK YOU,
Iwona





Infant 1

During October, there are quite a lot of things falling down. Leaves are tumbling to the ground, apples are being picked and taken off their trees, and birds are heading south to keep warm. But, this October we figured we should do the opposite and build things up. We learn to use both fine and gross motor skills, how to problem solve, as well as how to work together when we build. Using both large and small blocks also gives us an opportunity to learn basic shapes, like squares, triangles, and rectangles. We can learn by having many different colored, sized, and shaped blocks to play with throughout the day and to also have teacher lead activities to encourage the children to want to build and use the blocks. This is also a wonderful time for the children to learn how to figure out their problem solving skills by figuring out ways to keep the blocks stacked up. That is a small window into what we are doing this October!



Preschool 1

The sounds of singing and music have been resonating from the Preschool 1 classroom. The children have shown much interest in shaking instruments to create sound. In response to their interests, objects to shake were added to many learning centers.

We learned that in order to get a reaction, the action of shaking these items were required. We learned it by working with objects that must be shaken in order to work. We also learned, that by moving our body parts is how this shaking occurs.

The children practiced with items such as whisks, funnels, strainers, rain sticks and instruments. These activities strengthened large motor and cause and effect skills.



Social-Emotional Learning: The Foundation for All Other Learning

At **Bright Horizons®**, we know that social-emotional development is the foundation for all other learning. When children are valued, protected, and nurtured, they feel safe to learn and grow. That's why we place such an emphasis on building trust, creating strong relationships, and teaching social-emotional skills.

Our Approach to Social-Emotional Development

From the beginning, Bright Horizons has prioritized social-emotional well-being. Jim Greenman, former SVP of Education and Development and nationally recognized education expert, coined the phrase prime times, to refer to the simple, everyday moments in a home or classroom that build trusting relationships, e.g., talking to children over a meal or reading together at the end of the day. Prime times are a foundational part of the Bright Horizons approach.

Teachers also receive ongoing training on a variety of topics related to social-emotional development, such as how to:

- ▶ Create a peaceful, yet engaging, classroom environment that encourages children's curiosity and independence
- ▶ Observe, understand, and support children's social-emotional development. Children gain social skills in a predictable sequence, just as they learn other skills like walking or talking
- ▶ Understand child development and have appropriate expectations for young children, patiently helping them to the next step. Teachers, for example, can help preschoolers learn to ask for a turn or identify their feelings
- ▶ Offer positive guidance when children are struggling with big emotions. Children need a calm, empathetic response and clear, consistent limits

In other words, we believe that social-emotional growth is as important as every other area of a child's development. We work with a variety of organizations, including the National Association for the Education of Children (NAEYC), the Center on the Social-Emotional Foundations for Early Learning at Vanderbilt University, and the Devereaux Institute to continually fine tune and improve our understanding of social-emotional development.

It matters to us that children are happy, that they feel valued, and that they're learning the skills they need to develop strong, trusting relationships with friends and adults. This is one way we keep our promise to nurture and care for the whole child and create joyful places for childhood.

Growing Readers Review Now Online!



The Growing Readers program at Bright Horizon is a resource designed to help parents find great literature, share the joy of reading, cultivate an appreciation for books, and foster early literacy skills with your child. Starting with the latest issue, the quarterly Growing Readers Review is now online!

This issue features Bright Horizons Book of Excellence Award winner, *Julián is a Mermaid*. This book shares a beautiful message of individuality and inclusion. For more about this book and the rest of this issue's book selections, visit brighthorizons.com/growingreaders.

Featured Family Webinar

The New School Readiness

brighthorizons.com/bhwebinaroct2019

It's back-to-school season! Are you thinking about your child's educational success and looking for ways to support the journey? Watch our webinar on-demand to go beyond the traditional concept of school readiness and learn about the "6Cs" — essential skills for learning that will stay with your child through adulthood.

Rachel Robertson, education and development vice president at Bright Horizons, and author and early childhood researcher Kathy Hirsh-Pasek, Ph.D. take you through interactive exercises to explore each of the "6Cs" and reflect on how to work with your child to boost development.



Cooking with Children – Two Year Olds

The cooking activities your child will be able to help with will depend on their age. Two-year-olds are learning to use the large muscles in their arms. Try activities such as:

- ▶ Scrubbing vegetables and fruits
- ▶ Carrying unbreakable items to the table
- ▶ Dipping foods
- ▶ Washing and tearing lettuce and salad greens
- ▶ Breaking bread into pieces
- ▶ Pouring and stirring ingredients



Bright Horizons at Clever Kids Learning Center

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Monday – Friday 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

