



BRIGHT HORIZONS at the Harbor Center Buzz

From the Director

Greetings Harbor Families,

First, I want to thank all the parents who participated in the Friday Parent challenges... kudos to all!

Transitions are three weeks away. The next four Monday Memos will have tidbits on how you can support with a successful transition. Please be on the lookout for these best practices.

We are excited for the upcoming transitions; the teachers are ready to welcome the new children and families in their classroom.

We have been working around the clock with our recruitment team to find new teachers to be a part of our Harbor family!

When looking for teachers there are several things that I look for including:

- Education
- Trainability
- A passion to work with children and families
- The ability to adapt and be flexible
- Comprehends child development
- Warm-hearted
- Congenial

I am thrilled with the new teachers that will be joining us on August 21st! Please join us for a "Sip and See" with our new hires that Wednesday on the 9th Floor Terrace. Their first official day will be August 26th. We are still going through our internal eHire process and we might have a few delays, however it is looking like we are on track for the new team to begin their New Employee Orientation on August 19th.

Have a wonderful August!!!

Jacqueline Radcliffe

Important Dates

August 5th: Transition Tracking Pilot Program Begins

August 6th: Tiny Chefs

August 8th: Harbor Staff Goodbye Luncheon

August 10th: National S'mores Day!

August 15th: K-Prep Botanic Garden Field Trip

August 20th: Beale Street Puppets

August 21st: Sip and See with New Hires

August 22nd-28th: Transitions

August 25th: September Tuition Due

August 29th & 30th: Center Closed

Reasons to Celebrate



Minh

Hieu

Alain

Luke

Jacqueline

Sawyer

Bryan

Cierra

Annika

School Readiness: What Is It?

Teachers and families worry about school readiness and rightfully so. We want to give children every opportunity for success and happiness. This desire comes from a place of concern and caring. The challenge is in supporting children's growth in a way that is truly helpful and reflective of their needs. At **Bright Horizons®**, we believe school readiness is not about preparing for one moment, but rather, a lifetime of learning. Yet our national obsession with getting a child ready for school seems primarily focused on preparing them to excel in academics right out of the gate, rather than building a foundation for school and beyond that is inclusive of all aspects of development (whole-child development).

We know more than we ever have about early development. We know how much children are capable of, what helps a child thrive, and what hinders their growth. We understand that academics are an important part of learning, but not superior to social-emotional learning, physical development, or executive function. We know the pushdown of school expectations is hurting young children and we are confident it is important that we, as early education experts and advocates, push back up. It's not wrong to build skills to prepare for school, but it is wrong to isolate them and teach them too soon or inappropriately. In the words of Magda Gerber, "Earlier is not better."

Since the beginning, the Bright Horizons approach has been centered on how children learn best, prioritizing relationships and social-emotional learning, making academic learning meaningful and embedded within play, building brains and bodies in a joyful and wonderful environment, and ensuring plenty of opportunity to explore, think, and discover. This is what readies a child, what builds a strong foundation for all that is next.



Cooking with Children

Children love being involved with cooking and preparing food. Cooking is also a great way to engage children in learning and to create teachable moments all while having some messy fun.

When cooking with one- to two-year-olds –

Make sure they are safely restrained in a high chair and give them samples to taste or smear as you keep up a steady stream of commentary. Look for tasks they might be able to accomplish with your help, such as pouring tiny portions of ingredients (e.g., a quarter cup of milk or water) or simply dropping ingredients into a bowl.

You're invited to Curriculum Night!

Your child is ready for the next big education steps and at we've got an exciting year in store.

Join us at Curriculum Night to find out what the upcoming year will look like. Find out what your child will learn; meet and talk with his or her teacher; connect with other families; explore the fun, enriching activities we offer; and discover how your child's interest inspire learning.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Thursday, September 26, 2019 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.



Featured Family Webinar

Your First Year of Parenthood

Are you a new parent acclimating to life with a new baby? The first 12 months can feel like an emotional roller coaster – exhilarating, joyful, and overwhelming, all at the same time. Don't worry – you're not alone! Most new parents feel that way, too.

Watch this **Bright Horizons®** family webinar, [Your First Year of Parenthood](https://www.brighthorizons.com/bhwebinarjuly2019). We'll talk to parenting experts and podcast hosts Marti and Erin Erickson about navigating your new normal — from bonding with your baby, to preparing for that big transition of going back to work and starting child care, to finding me time in your busy days.



www.brighthorizons.com/bhwebinarjuly2019

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Monday – Friday 7:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

