

Bright Horizons at Spotswood News

Spotlight Family

Hello, we are the Contini Family - Charles, Kim, Emelie, Annabelle and our awesome babysitter Francesca - from Monroe Township. You can find Emelie and Annabelle running up and down the halls of Bright Horizons five days a week. When not at school you can find us at the park, at home making works of art for display on the kitchen wall or digging in the sand at the Jersey shore. We could not be more thrilled how much the girls love school and how absolutely wonderful the teachers, staff and families are at Bright Horizons. We look forward to watching the girls grow and strengthen their friendships over this coming school year.



Important Dates

9/3: Schools Closed for Labor Day
9/5: First Day of School
9/7: Grandparents Breakfast
9/10 – 9/14: Parent Appreciation Week
9/18: Breakfast To Go
9/24: parent Partnership Meeting 5:00-6:00pm
9/27: Curriculum Night 6:00 – 7:30pm
Come see what Bright Horizons has in store for your child this year!

Reasons to Celebrate

We Congratulate Ms. Melisa and Ms. Denise on their 10 year anniversary with Bright Horizons!

This month we welcome Ms. Anastasia to our team!

We say Happy Birthday to...

9/5 Rishika
9/23 Oliver and Justin
9/26 Avery

Bright Horizons at Spotswood

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CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

Infant

Daily exposure to the arts is one of our infant signature practices. With *Art Smart*, teachers guide infants through artistic experiences that allow them to engage in sensory activities that explore their creative side. This month our infants painted with colorful ice cubes to make unique works of art!



Toddler

The toddler years are a time of rapid social-emotional growth. The *Caring Matters* curriculum offers a foundation for helping toddlers and twos safely and confidently build their independence. Our toddler friends learned to show empathy by playing with their baby dolls. They learned this by feeding their dolls and rocking them to sleep for 'nap time'.



Preschool

Literacy is important at every age. The preschool years are an exciting time of robust language development. Our *Language Works* curriculum gives students the opportunity to express themselves at their own pace each and every day. This first week of school introduced writing journals to our preschool students. They learned to use writing as a form of communication.



Kindergarten Prep

Routine and classroom rules are an important ritual during the first week of school! Our Kindergarten Prep class has already established a morning meeting schedule with calendar, helping hands, and a cooperative group game.



READY FOR SCHOOL NEWS

Cooking - A Family Affair

Gathering in kitchens nourishes our bodies, minds, and souls. Preparing meals together as a family enhances relationships, invites contribution, and helps children understand basic cooking principles. Also, children develop patience as they discover that delicious food doesn't just magically appear. Although cooking as a family affair is probably not as easy as adults whipping up a quick dinner, with a bit of forethought, more cooks stirring a pot can be fun and has tremendous benefits for everyone involved.

Cooking with children helps them learn about nutrition and hone basic reading, math, and science concepts. Reading recipes and learning kitchen vocabulary expands literacy skills, while counting, measuring, and fractions, foster mathematical thinking. Young chefs learn about chemistry and the physical properties of matter as they mix ingredients and watch them combine, separate, expand, change color, develop scents, and change form.

Research shows that children who help in the kitchen develop healthy eating habits because they tend to eat what they prepare. Below are a few suggestions for toddlers and preschoolers.

Toddlers

Choose simple cooking tasks that match your toddler's skills and attention span.

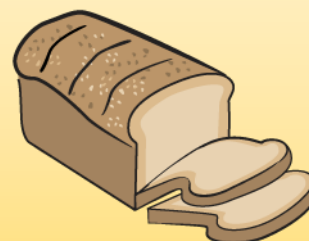
- Wash fruit and vegetables.
- Measure, pour, mix, and stir ingredients.
- Put ingredients in a crockpot or blender.
- Mash potatoes.



Preschoolers

Discuss nutrition and why our bodies and minds need the right kind of fuel to work correctly.

- Help plan meals.
- Chop, grate, peel, and cut ingredients.
- Shuck corn.
- Crack eggs.
- Count and categorize ingredients (wet and dry items).



BRIGHT HORIZONS NEWS

Learn about the year ahead at Curriculum Night



Ask about our upcoming Curriculum Night event!

<Event date – Start/End times>

During Curriculum Night, you will learn what we have planned for the year ahead for our center's curriculum as well as community center events. Spend time in your child's classroom, ask about the curriculum for their age group, and ask their teacher about future project plans. This event can also be a great time to connect with fellow Bright Horizons families!

Learn about our Bright Horizons educator promises. As Bright Horizons Educators, we promise to...

Nurture and care for the whole child

Craft curriculum based on expert research

Support and develop teachers

Implement an emergent and integrated approach to learning

Cultivate curiosity through projects, exploration, and play

Encourage children to be confident experimenters and problem solvers

Build an inclusive and respectful community

Create joyful places for childhood



Check out all the places you can connect with us!