



From the Director



May is my favorite month here at the center. I love celebrating the amazing teachers and staff all month long. We have planned some fun ways for parents and children to participate.

- How full is your Bucket- Help your child leave a note of appreciation in the buckets hung by the check in computer.
- Visit https://appreciation.brighthorizons.com
- Look for emails with links to Sign Up Genius.
 Each Wednesday we are asking parents to provide ingredients for special treat meals that will be in the lounge for teachers to enjoy.
- Spirit week- Teachers and children can plan fun outfits for each theme day
- Monday, May 6- Silly Sock Day
- Tuesday, May 7th- Sparkle and Shine Day (wear something sparkly or shiny)
- Wednesday, May 8th- Pajama Day
- Thursday, May 9th- Throw Back Thursday (dress from another era)
- Friday, May 10th- Biggest Fan T-Shirt Day (anything you are a fan of)
- Goodie Bag Week- for the week of May 20th we will have a goodie bag for each teacher set up in my office, you can bring in small trinkets or gift cards to leave in the teachers bag all week long. We will email out a list of teacher's favorite things.

BRIGHT HORIZONS AT

Important Dates

Dragonfly Nature Program - May 1
School's Out (SA) - May 1
Picture Day - May 2
Mother's Day Tea - May 10 (4-5:30)
KPrep Celebration - May 17

Reasons to Celebrate

Amber 2 Yrs - May 15 Malaika BDay - May 18 Kristin 1 Yr - May 21 Tracey 2 Yrs - May 31









What brought you to Bright Horizons? What makes you stay here? I came to Bright Horizons because of Brandi. What makes me stay is my passion for children, the values of the company, the employees, and families.

How long have you worked in the field of Early Childhood Education, what brought you to it, and what is most rewarding about it? I have been in this field for 35 years. I love helping children grow into successful adults!

Has being a mother made you a better teacher, or has being a teacher made you a better mother?

Being a teacher has made me a better mother. I am more patient and I slow down more.

What are your favorite activities to do with children? I really like to do whatever makes the children happy, but I enjoy doing sports, art, cooking projects, and science experiments.

What is the best thing that families have ever done for you? A child in my care was experiencing some challenges and difficulties. His parents went out of their way to let me know how much they appreciated the time, attention, and love given to their child.

What is the best advice you can give to someone going into the field of Early Childhood Education?

Run! Do it if you truly love seeing the development of children, and early education is your passion.

What's next on the HORIZON for you both professionally and personally?
Retirement, more vacations, and expanding my business!

I AM MYRA GILCHRIST AND I AM BRIGHT HORIZONS!

Kingergarten Prep READY for SCHOOL

Goodbye Celebration

Friday May 17, 2019

Class of 2019

Mason B.

Brandon Gavin Jack

Federica

Claire Dylan

Charlotte

C





Reading with your child may be one of the most meaningful and memorable ways to spend time imagining and learning together at home. Growing Readers emphasizes the importance of reading aloud to children and cultivating a love of great books.









Choosing a book from our library helps you:

- Select great books for your child, at each age and stage,
- Strengthen your child's educational development,
- Introduce and discuss themes, explore new concepts or guide your child through life's experiences.

Growing Artists at RCC

Art Studio

Under the overarching theme of *collaboration*, Mr. Patrick instigated a new addition to the showcase using the book *Slug Needs A Hug*, a story about a young slug who works with his friends on a new look to help him get a hug from his mom. In this spirit, our growing artists collaborated on one large piece, finding a place for each friend to contribute to its new look.



Garden Works at RCC

The tulips are blooming, bees are buzzing, and birds are chirping. Spring is here! Keep an eye out for new things happening in our gardens. If you are interested in getting involved, stop by the front desk.







Center Highlights



Spring is here and that means more daylight, more warm weather, and more rain. All great elements for engaging outdoor play with friends.

Check out some of our center's highlights from the month of April.







Center Highlights









Center Highlights



Soccer Shots is back!

To learn more or enroll for Soccer Shots at RCC visit,

SOCCERSHOTS.ORG/RDU





Simplicity Parenting

Wondering how to make the most of home and family life? The secret might just be doing less.

Let's face it – parenting isn't always easy. But if you secretly wonder if we're making it harder than it really is, you're not alone. The recent trend of "minimalist parenting" or "simplicity parenting" encourages parents to reclaim their homes and families by creating simpler, more satisfying lives.

- ▶ Trust Yourself. A generation or two ago, parents learned the ropes from their own families. Today's parents have access to advice from a wide range of experts (and non-experts). A search on Amazon for "parenting" books yields over 70,000 titles. That's a lot of advice, and while some of it's certainly helpful, it can also lead to information overload. Have you ever felt like you're spending more time reading about parenting than actually doing it? Read a few books, talk to friends and family members you trust, and then trust yourself. Every parent makes mistakes, but no expert can replace the love of a devoted parent. Relax. You've got this.
- Get real. Life isn't a glossy magazine ad or a Pinterest pin. Life with kids is raucous, joyful, exhausting, and messy. One of the quickest ways to zap your parenting zest is to compare your experiences with someone else's seemingly perfect life. Children dawdle, have meltdowns, spill juice cups, and on and on. Understanding and accepting these realities can minimize the energy you spend feeling frustrated, and allow for more time to enjoy all the wonderful aspects of childhood and family life.
- ▶ Guard your time. When it comes to money, health, and talents, we're all different, but there's one thing that is equitable across the board: time. We each get 24 hours in a day, no more, no less. Those 24 hours add up to weeks, months, and years. The cliché that time flies by when you're raising children is true. Before you know it, your rambunctious toddler will be headed off to college. How do you want to spend that time? Shuttling your kids to multiple activities? There's nothing wrong with extracurricular activities, but too many can cause stress and rob you off that most precious commodity time with family. Avoid feeling pressured by friends whose preschoolers speak Mandarin, play the violin, and swim on a competitive swim team. Instead, carve out rhythms and routines that speak to your family.
- ▶ Create a village. Some of us are lucky enough to have nurturing extended family members nearby. Many parents today are going it alone parenting without a close family network. Be intentional about building friendships and support. Find community in your neighborhood, at the park, or through a rec center, church, or your child's school. Social media is also a great way to connect with other families. Try to build relationships with people of all ages and walks of life.

Spread the Love During Teacher & Staff Appreciation Month

Teacher Appreciation Day is May 7, but at Bright Horizons, we're celebrating all month long!

Our teachers, support staff, and leadership team work hard year-round to make your family's experience the best it can be. Please take a moment to share any stories, comments, and well wishes for those who touch your family's life each day.

Visit our Teacher & Staff Appreciation website throughout the month of May to spread the love for your child's teacher or an exceptional staff member. Your thoughts make a difference and mean a lot to all of us.

appreciation.brighthorizons.com

Share the Love on Social: #LoveMyBHTeacher

What better way to celebrate Teacher Appreciation Month than by asking children why they love their Bright Horizons teachers? Throughout the month of May, you're invited to share a short video (30-60 secs) from your child's perspective.

Across Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter, **be sure to tag Bright Horizons and use the hashtag #LoveMyBHTeacher** — we might even feature your child's video on Bright Horizons' social media channels.* We can't wait to see the fun, creative way your child says "THANKS!"

Featured Family Webinar

Engineering in Early Education

You've heard of STEM — science, technology, engineering, and math — but you might be intimidated by the idea of introducing these concepts to your child, especially engineering. Watch this webinar to learn how to make engineering kid-friendly and get tips on exploring this future-forward topic with infants through schoolagers.

Family Webinar Recording - Engineering in Early Education | brighthorizons.com/webinarEIEE

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