2019 JANUARY NEWSLETTER



From the Center Director

Greetings and Happy New Years!!!

I do hope that everyone has an enjoyable holiday season! On behalf of the center, thank you all for the wonderful thoughtful gifts and treats. The team and I are so very thankful for our very generous parents. We are all very appreciative!

I am excited for this upcoming year at the Harbor! It has been nearly three years ago since I came to the center and my promise to the team and the Harbor parents was to have a successful **program** where children are learning and growing. We strive to have a program where we continue to think outside the box. We plan to build and maintain **parent partnerships**! As a team, the Harbor hopes to be a place where other centers will come and learn from our program.

We have accomplished a great deal in three years and I feel confident that the Harbor is a great place to be for children, families and teachers. The learning is visible, partnerships are strong and thriving and our community support is consistent.

The center has flourished in the last three years and we all look forward to continuing down the same path for 2019. In a few days you will get information regarding our annual parent's surveys. I ask that each parent take the time to complete this survey. The goal is to get 100% family participation. The information that you share will help me see where we need to continue to grow. Your feedback will be helpful to our home office team in seeing where they need to focus their energies on for the upcoming year. Your feedback will support teachers in understanding your needs as a parent. Taking the survey is crucial for our continued success!

I thank you for trusting our team and believing in my ability to take the center and team to the next level in early childhood education. I am so very delighted with of all that we have done and look forward to another amazing year ahead!

Jacqueline

BRIGHT HORIZONS at The Harbor Center Buzzzz



Important Dates

January 1- Center Closed in observance of New Year's Day January 11- DC Librarian visits the Harbor

January 21- Center Closed in observance of Martin Luther King Day January 25- February tuition due January 29- National Puzzle Day

Reasons to Celebrate



Declan Stewart Liam Maya Ms. Trinell Oliver Rex

CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS



Infant Team Team Lead Cierra Beasley Infant A Trinell & Crystal Infant B Jasmine & Dajanette Center support Taylor, Tearra, long term substitute Ayasha



Toddler Team Team Lead Devan Gaines Toddler A Jubelle & Courtney Toddler B Cheryl & Donya Center support Taylor, Tearra, long term substitute Ayasha



Two's

Team Lead Angelique Wandag Winchelle, Alisa, & Ahmari

Ahmari currently supporting preschool & Ayasha is supporting in Two's

Center support Taylor, Tearra, long term substitute Ayasha



Preschool/ Kprep

Team Lead Ken Baptiste Loraine & Haneen (Loraine currently on medical leave) Ahmari from Two's supporting Shanarra & Ken Chiquita main center support teacher Center support Taylor, Tearra, long term substitute Ayasha

Giving Gifts from the Heart

Have you considered that generosity is a learned behavior that delights the givers as well as the receivers? By making gifts and cards for others, children experience the intrinsic joy of giving something they have created.

It's easy for adults to decide what to make and which materials to use. But remember, this is an offering from children. Within the realm of available resources, help them develop their ideas. Inspire their thoughts about the recipient. "What do you think you'd like to make for Aunt Alice?" "What does she like to do?" Remember, it's what children create that counts; suggest they draw pictures and dictate their sentiments.

In addition to family and friends, think about people beyond those we typically hold near and dear to us. Cards, artwork, and crafts made by children are a heartfelt way to say you care and show appreciation to military personnel, firefighters, police officers, librarians, residents in nursing homes, and others in the community.

Children are very resourceful and might have their own ideas for gifts. Below are a few simple gift suggestions to consider:

Picture frames

Children glue four wooden tongue depressors together to make a frame and then decorate the frame with paint, and add recycled materials such as odd puzzle pieces, small pieces of paper or fabric, and twigs. Be aware of choking hazards with young children.

Decorative boxes

Children paint recycled or purchased wooden/cardboard boxes and then decoupage photographs from magazines or photos of themselves onto the surfaces.

Sculptures

Children can create sculptures using commercial or home-made clays, wood, or recycled objects. Be sure to have lots of glue on hand.

Paper holders

These might be as simple as finding a unique rock, painting it, and using glue to attach a clothespin. A second option is to glue wood scraps together, paint the sculpture and add one or two clothespins to the top.

Planters

Children paint pots and use Mod Podge (purchased at a craft shop) to attach colorful tissue paper (cut into small squares). Another option is to use photographs and pictures from magazines.

Jewelry

Children make necklaces or bracelets by stringing commercial or homemade beads. They can create pins by gluing found objects (such as loose puzzle pieces or Legos) to a pin back and painting over the creation.

2019 Parent Satisfaction Survey

We value your feedback!

Each year, we ask families to give us important feedback and opinions about our center. This information helps us assess our strengths, and identify areas for improvement. We are truly committed to providing the highest quality education for your child and we believe that every opinion counts.

The survey is available from January 2nd – 31st. Please take a few moments to share your thoughts!

brighthorizons.com/parentsurvey

Featured Parenting Podcast Episode

Building Your Parenting Village



Overwhelmed by working parenthood? Stop trying to do it all alone. "People say I need help, but I don't know where to get it," says our guest Daisy Dowling. Get Daisy's tips on who to ask for help, how to rally your village of volunteers, and why her secret isn't doing more — but getting more done.

Ep. 22: Building Your Parenting Village brighthorizons.com/bhpodcastep22

Bright Horizons at The Harbor

100 F Street NE, Washington DC 20549 202-408-9271 | theharbor@brighthorizons.com Monday – Friday 7:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

