“I am always willing to learn, however, I do not always like to be taught.”
Sir Winston Churchill

“I never teach my pupils; I only attempt to provide the conditions in which they can learn.”
Albert Einstein

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

SPCCC will be closed from June 30th until August 15th. The Center will reopen on August 18th and begin our fall contract period on August 25th. Please note that the deadline for submitting paperwork is July 18th.

Also, on Friday, July 11th, SPCCC will provide an arts and crafts booth for children at “Outer Market Mania” near Giant Tiger during the Potsdam Summer Festival. We hope that you will join us 😊

Flip newsletter over for other summer suggestions...

SUMMER BIRTHDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS:

JUNE
Ms. Heather (Prog.)
David (T1)
Jonathon (T2)
Samuel (PS3)
Patrick (PS4)
Andrew (SA)
Dennis (SA)
Nolan (SA)
Ronan (SA)
Rebecca (SA)
Jack (SA)
Ciara (SA)

JULY
Ms. Amanda (Inf.)
Ms. Tessa (T2)
Ms. Helen (PS3/SA)
Patrick (Inf.)
Taylor (T1)
Elise (PS3)
Gabriel (SA)
Ms. Fallon (PS3)
Audrey (Inf.)
Christian (PS3)
Tyler (PS4)

AUGUST

Thank You . . .
to all of the children and families that participated in the Trike-A-Thon! Together, you raised over $400.00 to benefit St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital. Prizes will be awarded to the top fund-raisers in the following weeks. Watch Noggin TV on the Nickelodeon channel to see us listed as a sponsor or visit their website at www.noggin.com this summer.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

😉 A Video Library has been organized and shelved in the Parent Lounge. Take a look at the list. If you see something you’d like to borrow just sign it out in the Office.

😉 Kleenex and Scholastic are partnering to offer a Back-To-School initiative. If we mail in 30 pull-tabs from Kleenex boxes by 8/15/08, we can win 15 new books for the Center.

Do my folks know that our artwork is on display in Albany? They should visit www.winningbeginningny.org

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

⭐ Ms. Linda attended the Medication Administration Training given on May 10th. There are now eight SPCCC staff members certified to administer medicine. Other employees have received an overview of the knowledge necessary for preparation, observation, record keeping, and follow-up procedures.

⭐ Two of the students that work at the Center were awarded honors from SUNY Potsdam. Ms. Cassy was given the Outstanding Mentor Award from the Sheard Literacy Center and Mr. Kyle was granted the Kenneth M. Campbell Scholarship.
Here are some ideas to try at home this summer.

Busy day survival tactics:
1. **Give children a time reminder** – In five minutes, it’ll be time to get your jacket on and get in the car.
2. **When there is no choice do not ask** - It’s time to go to the store instead of Do you want to go to the store?
3. **Offer something to take along** – Do you want to take your toy car or teddy bear with you?
4. **Voice specific clear directions** – Hold my hand when you get out of the car, then we’ll look for a cart for you to ride in.
5. **Talk positively about activities** – When we get to the Toddler Gym, let’s look for the big ball.
6. **Assign a responsible role** – You can carry this grocery bag to the car.
7. **Allow for just one more time and stick to it** – It’s time to go, so crawl through the tunnel just one more time.
8. **Encourage younger children to wave goodbye** – Wave goodbye to Kate’s teacher; we’re going to the store now.
9. **Make the change fun with suggestions for moving** – See if you can _______ (jump, hop, tiptoe) all the way in.
10. Sometimes the only option is to say, Can you walk there or shall I carry you?

**Let me help you cook!**
Cooking with your child is one way to practice math, language and science skills while you spend some time together. Young children need constant supervision while they are in the kitchen. Take special precautions near heat and appliances. Dull blade knives can be used to cut soft foods like bananas, cheese, or bread. Allow twice as much time as you think it might take. Relax and enjoy the experience.

*Two-year-olds* like to add the finishing touches to food such as toppings on pizza, cookies or cupcakes. *Three and Four-year-olds* are able to wait for baking or freezing and can use measuring spoons or rolling pins. *Older children* can follow a simple recipe written out with picture symbols like a cup or tablespoon.

**Fun activities:**

**For Infants and Toddlers**
- **Sound Memories**. Make an audio recording every month or so of the vocalizations your baby makes in the first year of life. Be sure to say the date into the recorder each time and it will be a keepsake for years to come.
- **What do you see?** Take a flashlight into any room in your house. Turn the lights out. Point the flashlight at different objects in the room. For a child learning new words, say *I see a chair* or *I see a toy truck*. For toddlers beginning to speak, say *There is a ___* (pause) and let them fill in the blank. With older toddlers, point the light at an object and ask *What do you see?* Then he or she can take a turn with the flashlight and ask you the question.

**For Preschoolers and Kindergartners**
- **Shadow Games**. On a sunny day, go outdoors and play these shadow games: 1) *Don’t Step on My Shadow* – Each time you say “Don’t step on my shadow” scurry away a short distance and stop. It will be an invitation to play as your child tries to catch the shadow behind you with an eager foot. Remember to take turns with this game; 2) *Can You Make My Shape?* Take a position, such as arms out to the side, and ask your child to make her shadow look like yours. Keep changing shapes, then switch and imitate the shapes she creates for you.
- **Instant Puppet**. To make a quick puppet, put a bandage around your child’s finger and draw a face on it. Then, put a bandage on your own finger, do the same and strike up a conversation with your child’s puppet.

**For Grade-Schoolers**
- **Secret Codes**. Suggest that your child invent an alphabet that corresponds to random numbers. They can use this code to send messages to each other with a slash between the code words.
- **Popsicle Puzzle**. Have your child line up a row of wooden popsicle sticks (side by side and close together). Run a piece of masking tape across them at the ends. Flip the group of sticks over to the other side (wooden panel) and use markers to draw a picture. Remove the tape and mix them up. Then try to put the puzzle picture back together again.