Important Dates

January 13th No school BPS

January 14th Bi-monthly tuition due at drop off

January 20th MLK Day. Childcare closed

January 31st Monthly and Bi monthly tuition due at drop off

February 14th Bi-monthly tuition due at drop off

 Valentine’s Day Party

February 17th Presidents Day. Childcare closed

 No school BPS

March 2nd-6th Childcare Closed

January Birthdays

January 7th Webb turns 4

January 17th Courtland turns 2

January 26th Mallory turns 4

**Parent Participation Opportunities**

We are offering parents different opportunities to participate in their child’s experience while at childcare. Along with volunteer opportunities, we are also including ways for parents to contribute in other ways to their child’s learning experience. The opportunities this month include:

* If anyone is interested in reading to the children between 10:00 and 11:00, please contact Erica to set up a date and time that would work best.

**Family-Caregiver Conferences**

We will be scheduling family conferences for February. There will be a sign up sheet for your convenience located on the cubbies by the sign in/out sheet. Please sign up for one of the dates and time provided on the form. If none of the times prescheduled work for your family or interfere with work hours, please see Erica about making other arrangements.

It is important that we are able to meet with each family for family conferences. At these meetings we will be reviewing previous conference notes, setting individual development goals for your child and going over your child’s Assessment results. This is also a good time for us to share any concerns we may have and gives us all a chance to sit down in private with no other distractions.

**Childcare Menus**

It is once again time to make some changes to our childcare menus. After a year of cycling the 4 menus of meals we serve to the kids each week, we have a really good idea of the foods that the majority of the kids like and dislike from our menus. We also made changes based on ease of preparation and clean-up for the caregivers, and nutritional content in each meal. The new menus will take effect the week of Monday, January 20th. As always, the menu will be posted above the bulletin board.

**2019 Tuition Tax Statements**

I will be preparing 2019 tuition tax statements and will have them to each family by January 31st. You will receive 2 copies of the statements. One copy is for your records and one copy needs to be signed and returned no later than February 7th.

**2020 Tuition Letters**

This week there will be a letter to each family detailing their tuition payments that are due in 2020. We will still be placing a tuition reminder in each child’s box when a payment is due and will detail any differences between the statement and the total due on the reminder slip- such as the addition of fee’s as detailed in the Childcare Handbook or any difference in Best Beginnings billing.

If anyone has questions regarding your tuition, please contact Erica.

**Best Beginnings Changes**

Just a reminder to all of our Best Beginnings families that the State has made some changes to the Best Beginnings Program that were effective October 1st, 2018.

Some of those changes will effect your scholarship immediately and some won’t effect you until your renewal period. Some of you will notice that your bill amount is higher or lower than normal. W2T has not raised or decreased out tuition amounts since September 2018 and any change in out of pocket expenses directly correlates with the changes made to the program at a State and Federal level.

Waddlers to Toddlers charges a flat monthly rate for each child in our care. Each month we take your child’s monthly tuition rate and subtract your monthly copay and the amount the State covers to get your out of pocket total.

I also want to remind Best Beginnings families that you may or may not have 2 absence days each month to use and if they are not used, they carry over to the following month. As a provider, I do not have access to how many absences your child has left or if you qualify for those paid absences. I always submit the days a child misses as a paid absence day and the State determines whether they will cover it or not.

 A paid absence day cannot be used in conjunction with a day in which our childcare is closed. We cannot bill Best Beginnings for those days at all. Any days in which the childcare is closed is to be paid out of pocket. This is stated many times in the Childcare Handbook and contract. Please refer to the 2020 calendar and be sure to budget accordingly.

I am diligent when inputting hours and always comb through invoices to find any discrepancies before handing any of you a tuition total each month. I try my hardest to keep you all informed of any changes to the Best Beginnings program and to offer my knowledge of why the amounts change so often, but your best course of action is to contact your caseworker. 😊 I will always answer any questions you all have to the best of my knowledge.