

# Milestones Child Development Center

January 2012



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### January 2<sup>nd</sup>

Milestones CDC  
Closed

### January 11<sup>th</sup>

GSC Parent Coalition  
Mtg. 6pm First  
Presby. Church

### January 16<sup>th</sup>

TKPS-Professional  
Dev. Day No School

### January 20<sup>th</sup>

Hastings- Half Day

### January 23<sup>rd</sup>

Hastings No School

### Quote:

*No time is the perfect  
time to begin...  
Every successful person  
I've heard of has done the  
best he could with the  
conditions as he found  
them & not waited until  
next year to be better.*

-E. W. Howe

## Director's Welcome

Happy New Year...2012 is bound to be full of excitement, fun, and learning, and we can't wait to get the New Year off to a great start! I'm sure many of our families, staff, and children can appreciate when I say that we're breathing a sigh of relief to have our renovation complete. The project went extremely smoothly and finished on-schedule, and we're pleased that everyone seems to be settling in to their new spaces. We thank you all for your patience and understanding throughout the process.

Now that winter is in full swing, please remember that daily outdoor play is an important curriculum and program component for all classrooms. These opportunities for outdoor exploration, gross motor development, and variety in the daily activities and environment are so much fun for the kids and present wonderful learning experiences. Please plan for your child will go outside twice each day and provide weather appropriate clothing. We unfortunately are not able to accommodate keeping individual children inside due to lack of clothing or illness. If you have concerns that your child may not feel well enough to spend time outside, please plan for him or her to stay home until he or she is able to return and participate in the full daily curriculum, including scheduled outside play.

As always, thank you for your continued participation and involvement in the Center and program. Please let us know if you have any questions, concerns, or if we can be of assistance in any way.

Warmest Regards,

Andrea Richards & Emily Dunn

## Spotlight on New Milestones Staff

This month, we're spotlighting several new staff to better acquaint our families with the Center's newest team members:

**Kaylee Alexander...**has been at Milestones for about a month and is working as the afternoon Assistant teacher in the Infant Room. Kaylee is a Hastings native and has professional experience working in a childcare center. Kaylee has a wonderful attitude and always takes initiative to help out throughout the Center and the babies love playing with her.

**Lyndsey Alsko...**joined us in late November as the afternoon PreSchool Assistant teacher. Lyndsey may look familiar to some of you, as she has been a part of our Center as a parent for quite awhile. Lyndsey has a professional background in customer service and has acquired many transferrable skills as the parent of an Early Preschooler. Her friendly personality and enthusiasm for learning are among Lyndsey's wonderful qualities, and we're excited to have her on our team!

**Sarah Dawson...**started in the Infant room as an Assistant Teacher in mid-December. Sarah has taken care of young children for many years and has worked several summers at Camp Michawana. Sarah has such a warm, gentle, & nurturing way about her to which our Infants are immediately responsive. She is a fantastic new addition to our spectacular Infant room staff.



### Celebrating in January...

- 5<sup>th</sup> Kai (K-Enrichment)
- 8<sup>th</sup> Eric (School-Age)
- 8<sup>th</sup> Ms. Vicki (Substitute)
- 9<sup>th</sup> Tyce (PreSchool)
- 10<sup>th</sup> Carson (School-Age)
- 11<sup>th</sup> Haley (PreSchool)
- 21<sup>st</sup> Mason (Pre-K)
- 21<sup>st</sup> Ms Ashton (Infant)
- 31<sup>st</sup> Abigail (K-Enrichment)

## Infant Room News

I can't believe how fast this year has flown. I love being a part of each infant's growth! It's such an honor to get to love on each and every one of them. With this being said, it has been a fantastic year for growth and firsts for each child: from their first time recognizing our voices, sitting up, crawling, steps, and their first words. These things are what make my job so rewarding!

We have welcomed so many new faces in the past month...and more to come! Please help us welcome in Ericka, Addelynn, Madisyn, and Gage. Baby Hudson will be joining us soon. We have become a very busy baby room, and we added an Assistant Teacher in the middle of December. Her name is Sarah and she is great with each individual child. She is so soft spoken but she is fun and the infants love her!

I am still in the process of planning for January, but here are a few things I do have set in stone...we will be exploring farm animals and numbers, colored water, and hopefully some colored snow. I plan to take at least our older kids outside more, so if you could bring in snow boots, hats, mittens, and snow pants that would be great. ☺

~ Ms Emilee, Ms Ashton, & Ms. Sarah



## Toddler Room News

December was a busy month full of birthdays and holidays. As we ring in the New Year, we will be busy exploring different animals. Each week we will focus on a different type of animal. The children have shown great interest in farm animals, pet animals, sea animals, and zoo animals. If you have any ideas or specific animals that your child is interested in, please let me know so that I can make sure we have activities for it.

We all want to just stay in our pajamas during the cold weather, so what's better than actually getting to stay in them all day? On **Monday January 16<sup>th</sup>**, our class is having a PJ day. Please send your child in their PJ's and an extra set of clothes just in case.

Thank you for your patience as we are still getting settled into the classroom and figuring out what works best for all the children. If you ever have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to address them as soon as possible so I can work with you, because you all know how much you mean to me and to the development of your child.

~Ms. Nichole & Ms. Jessica

## Welcome New Families & Children!

- Kyla Brown (PreSchool)
- Gage Gruesbeck (Infant)
- Madisyn Leonard (Infant)
- Addelynn Nurenberg (Infant)
- Ericka Peck (Infant)
- Alyxis Rudd (PreSchool)
- Hudson Tagg (Infant)

\* \* \* \* \*

## Welcome New Staff!

Sarah Dawson  
(Infant Assistant Teacher)

## Early PreSchool Room News



Sadly, Ms. Leslie will only be with us for the first week of the month before she begins her new job. We wish her the absolute best in her new position and will miss her greatly. Although no one can "replace" Leslie, we are working diligently to hire a new, qualified Lead Teacher for our Early Preschool Classroom. In the meantime, we will utilize our substitutes to ensure adequate staffing for our Early Preschoolers.

Early Preschoolers will explore several winter themes this month. They will kick-off January with a Snowman theme. The kids will continue to get lots of outside time even though the temperatures are dropping and the snow has finally arrived. Please be sure to provide warm weather gear (winter coats, snow pants, boots, hats, mittens) each and every day.

## PreSchool Room News



Well here we are...Ready to start a new year.

First, I would like to apologize for not welcoming AJ and Sadie in our last newsletter. They moved up from Miss Leslie's class and we are very happy to have them both. Also we have 2 more new faces joining our class: Kyla and Alyxis. We will also be saying good-bye & good luck to Carisa, as she moves up to the Pre-K class.

A big "Thank You" is also in order for all the Holiday gifts for the classroom and for the children. Each and every child was excited to get their special treats/ goodies from their friends.

As we begin the New Year, I hope all of the confusion with moving and construction will quickly dissipate. I would like to thank all the parents and children for being flexible and working with us as we complete this transformation. With this move, we are running into one minor issue: Cubby Space. If you don't already, please provide a bag for your child's rest things, as we won't be able to pile things between buckets and on top of the cubbies any longer. I thank you in advance for your continued cooperation.

Hopefully we will be getting some snow soon :). So I may be revisiting the "snow" theme to make it a bit more relevant to the children. Other than that, I plan to work on shapes and numbers in the upcoming weeks. We will work on recognition as well as writing the numbers and drawing the shapes. Along with those, scissors are still a big hit, so you may see a lot of cut and glue collages as well.

Again Thank You for your support and continued cooperation. As always, if you have any questions, comments or concerns please don't hesitate to touch base with me.

~ Ms Jenni & Ms Lyndsey

## Pre-Kindergarten News

Happy 2012 to all of my families! Thank you to all that bought Christmas presents for the classroom! Your children are enjoying every gift that was given. I am certain that the boys like having a few more trucks to play with. Also, a HUGE thank you to the parents for the thoughtful gifts that were given to me! The book exchange was also a success; everyone that was here for the party was able to exchange a book.

This month we will be talking about “snow”, “penguins”, and “arctic animals”. Our classroom in all moved into our new location and we are almost settled in! With the move, our cubbies have been condensed so I am asking all parents to make sure that your child’s nap/rest belongings fit into a bag. Please also limit toys from home so we can be sure everyone has a place for their coats and winter gear. I wish everyone the very best in 2012!



~ Ms.Karyn

## Kindergarten News



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**We're on the Web!**  
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Hello School Age Families!

I hope all of you had a fantastic holiday season, and found some time to relax and recharge! This New Year brings lots of new and exciting changes. We're just about moved into our new classroom and things are beginning to settle into place. We'll also be welcoming some new faces, not only in our classroom, but throughout the Center. Additionally, our curriculum will include lots of new activities and objectives. In January, we will celebrate the achievements of George Washington Carver, Martin Luther King Jr., as well as Louis Braille. Near the end of the month, we will start our Space Unit and explore the universe! On a housekeeping note, please take a look in your child's cubby and take home any unnecessary items; this helps give each child a fair and equal amount of space for personal items. Finally, thank you for all of the thoughtful donations to our food drive; so many families will benefit from your generosity!

As always, thank you for all you do,  
Ms. Christina

## REMINDERS AND NOTES:

- Sign-up is ongoing for Tuition Express, a convenient automated payment process for your weekly tuition. See Andrea or Emily if you are interested.
- Tuition payments are due on Monday for the week of care or your child's first day of attendance that week. A late fee of \$20 will be automatically added to your account if tuition is not received by 12:00pm on Tuesday of each week. If you have any questions about your current status and/or need statements please feel free to Ask Andrea or Emily for information.
- Year-End tuition statements for tax reporting purposes will be generated and sent out to all families automatically. You do not need to request a copy. Please watch your mail toward the end of the month.
- Please remember to have extra clothes for your child here at the Center...just in case!