

**Garrison City
Early Childhood
Center
Communication
Circular
Vol. XXI
September 20,
2006**

**Summer Comes to
an End!**

Yet another season draws to an end and the change in seasons presents weather conditions that can vary from morning to night. Please provide appropriate clothing for your child to accommodate temperature fluctuations.

Protection from biting insects continues to be important during fall until we have our first frost. Make sure to provide child safe insect repellent (recommended by your pediatrician) to be left at the Center. Insect repellent will be re-applied according to the individual bottle's instructions.

Say Cheese!

Two days have been reserved to have pictures taken at our Center. The

dates are **Tuesday Oct. 3rd** and **Wed Oct. 4th**. Children that do not attend the Center on either of these days can schedule a time to come

in between 8:30-10:30am on either day. A confirmation/reminder will be sent home to all children, to inform you of the day that your child's picture will be taken. Because of new technology, Portrait Design requests that you **DO NOT DRESS YOUR CHILD IN GREEN!**

We will be using the same company that we did last fall, Portrait Design. We have signed up for the Proof Program, which allows you to view the pictures first and then choose the pose you like before you order. All children that have a picture taken, regardless of purchase, will receive a complimentary class composite to take home. In order for the pictures to be returned in a timely manner, Portrait Designs will only process the orders received and mailed by a designated date. This date will be announced on the day photos are received for your review. All orders can be

processed after this date but, they will be assessed an additional fee and will not be guaranteed by Christmas.

Summer-Fest

Our third annual Summer-Fest was a HUGE success! Thanks to everyone for all of the delicious brunch donations! Farm animals from The Traveling Barnyard were enjoyed by child and parent alike. I especially enjoyed the llama with the new haircut! We also enjoyed Wildlife Encounters and the exotic animals we experienced. Did you know that our families are so dynamic that we even discovered that one of our a dads can catch a flying squirrel? Way to go Derek!

Trike-A-Thon

Children of GCECC enrolled in the Leap Frog and Tree Frog rooms will host a Trike-A-Thon for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. There are two children that live in NH that will benefit from the proceeds of this event. This event will take place on **Thursday September 28th**. Here's how it works:

- Collect sponsors (see

sponsor sheet for details)

- Bring your child's bike and a helmet to school that morning (Please label.) Let your child's teacher know if providing a bike is a problem.
- Return sponsor sheet by **Oct. 10th**.

The children will be able to decorate their bike at school prior to the Trike-a-thon. A fantastic safety curriculum is built into the event and prizes can be earned by participants. Participation in this event is voluntary. If your child does not attend on a Thursday, they are welcome to still participate. See your child's teacher for details. Families that do not have children enrolled in these rooms can make a contribution to St. Jude if they wish and we will send it along. The starting bell rings at 10:00am sharp!

Halloween Celebration

Our fourth annual Halloween Celebration is set to take place on **Tuesday, October 31st**. The festivities begin at 9:00am sharp with a costume parade! Get into the **SPiRiT** of things by dressing in a costume

yourself. The parade will be followed by age appropriate spooktacular games and activities! Please see your child's teacher if you would like to send in a healthy goodie or other party donation. While these things are welcome, they are not expected!

Same Friendly Face. New Job Description

Ms. Sherry has worked as a Toddler teacher at GCECC for 2 ½ years. Those of you that already know her love her sweet personality and high energy! During the past 2 years, Sherry has had a dual role as being the Person in Charge when I am not here. As the Center grew and developed, so did the responsibilities of maintaining all the necessary aspects of running a quality Center. Ms. Sherry was offered and has accepted a full time position as Person in Charge. Her input and creativity will be an asset to the entire Center. Ms. Jennifer has been hired to assume Sherry's position as a Toddler teacher in the Tadpole room.

Portfolios

I hope that everyone enjoyed their child's portfolio. A lot of TLC and work went into creating these treasured keepsakes during the last 12 months. Please take the time to express your gratitude to your child's teacher. A few words of thanks can go a long way!

Portfolio Changes

The Center's original portfolio guidelines were to create two pages per child per month. This can become a challenge for certain age groups as there are not as many projects that create an actual product in the younger rooms. We are in the process of redefining the portfolio guidelines, along with the team members in each individual room. Our goal is to create portfolios that highlight specific milestones and/or masterpieces that are age appropriate without jeopardizing the quality of care that we provide our children.

Dover Fire & Rescue Visit

On Thursday; November

9th, The City of Dover Fire and Rescue Service will visit our Center. Some of Dover's finest will bring along pieces of their safety apparatus for the children to sit in and explore. One of the firefighters will dress in all of his safety gear and equipment in front of the children. It is important that children know that a firefighter is simply a person, in a safety suit, that is there to help.

DFD will also bring the "Smoke Trailer" to demonstrate how to stay low and safe in a fire. Participation in the smoke trailer is intended for children over the age of three. If you do not wish to have your child participate, please let us know. Safety procedures for children such as Stop, Drop and Roll, being safe in the kitchen and safe around heating devices are also discussed. Another important fact that they touch upon is NOT going back into a burning building. They also talk about having a special "meeting place", pre-established for all family members, to meet at in case of a fire. Does your family have a special

"meeting place"?

GCECC Logo Wear

Order forms will be distributed; extras are available in your child's classroom, for clothing and accessories with the GCECC logo. These items are available for children and adults. This is the second Center-wide order however; items are available at any time of the year if you wish.

These items make great gifts for the holidays! The deadline for this order will be **October 20th** to ensure delivery.

Emergency Information

We will have you check your child's Emergency Information sheet before the date of your child's enrollment anniversary. Please ensure that all phone numbers, addresses and contact people are current and then initial and date the back of the form. All changes to this information during the course of the year must be made in writing, dated and signed and sent to the office.

Driveway Paving

The Center's driveway will be widened, starting at the end of this week. This should aide in passing, specifically around the sharp corner. Please keep in mind that there may be some delays as you enter and leave the Center. We kindly ask that you still abide by our 10MPH speed limit as you are on the driveway!

Scholastic Book Orders

Scholastic catalogs are periodically distributed throughout the year. A packet of fliers for autumn will be sent out soon! These books are often offered at a big savings over bookstore prices. Books always make a nice gift and are perfect for any occasion.

Comment Boxes

The old tuition boxes in each classroom are being given a new job! These boxes will now serve two purposes; as a comment box and as a correspondence box with the office. Feel free to write down any questions or concerns you might have. Any subject of a sensitive nature should be sealed in an

envelope. Our hope is to facilitate the lines of communication and expedite the turn around time for any of your questions. I welcome a phone call or meeting with you in person at any time.

Take Care,
Cheryl

“Think for yourselves and let others enjoy the privilege to do so, too.”

Voltaire

**Sunscreen &
insect repellent**
ARE A MUST!
WE GO OUTSIDE EACH AND
EVERY DAY.

Have you updated your emergency information lately?

- Have you:**
- changed jobs?
 - changed cell phones?
 - moved?
 - altered pick up people?

We need to know!

**SECURITY
ALERT**

Unless you know the person, please don't let them into the building. Politely ask them to wait outside and then find a teacher. They will direct/inform people to the appropriate place.

child's lunch if they will be with us after 4:45 pm.

Pack an extra snack in your

A minimum of one complete change of clothing must

be left at the
Center at all
times!

LABEL, LABEL.

Babysitter Needed?

Please inquire at the office.

Please

Labels are
beautiful.

**EXPIRED
MEDICATIONS
MUST BE
DISCARDED BY THE
CENTER.**

leave car
seats
on the
front
porch.

Did you know?

Our Center must
conduct a minimum of 9
fire drills each year with
one of them taking place
during the winter
months.

leave car
seats
on the
front
porch.

**Got the
lunch box
blues?**

Please see your child's
teacher if you need some
ideas.

Label everything!

**817-9027
Call this number
if you can not get
through to the
Center.**

The answering machine will
prompt you to call this number.