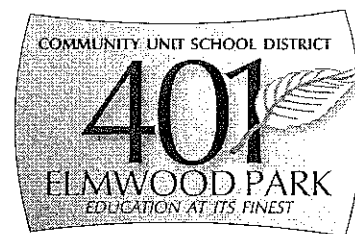


EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER NEWS



JOANNE MOURIKES RICE, PRINCIPAL

SEPTEMBER 16, 2011

PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

We had an exciting week here at the ECC! On Sunday, we had close to 30 ECC students turn out for the Elmwood Park 9/11 Memorial event. Our students opened the ceremony by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, and they did a great job!

On Thursday the PTO organized a wonderful Scholastic Book Fair for our families. We send a huge "Thank you" to Mrs. Akers, our PTO, president, and all the volunteers who supported this event, and the families who purchased books. The book fair is a big fundraiser for the ECC. Every teacher is also able to pick out books for her classroom for all the students to enjoy.

The ECC had a big turnout for our Open House. It was wonderful to see the excitement on the faces of our students as they showed their families their rooms and explained about all the learning they are doing.

This coming week for our Positive Behaviors and Supports (PBIS) program, we will be highlighting behaviors at the drinking fountain and on the bus. Please use the matrix below to review the appropriate behaviors with your child.

Drinking Fountain	Keep on red line Keep mouth on water only	Wait for your turn Keep body to self	Sit quietly after drinking
Bus	Walk in line to and from bus Walk in a line Walking feet Keep body to self Use quiet voice Look forward Use seatbelt Stay in seats	Keep body to self Feet still Use quiet voice and nice words	Listen to teacher with eyes and ears Make peace sign and countdown

On Friday, we will be celebrating blue rectangle day.

Triton College is sponsoring an outdoor movie night for local families. On Friday, September 23rd at 5:30 pm, "Cars 2" will be shown on an outdoor screen at the College Center Mounds, located on the west side of the Triton college campus. In case of rain, the movie will be shown indoors at the Robert Collins Center Theater. In addition to the free movie, there will be free popcorn and a free raffle ticket for wonderful prizes. Call 708-456-0300, ext. 3383 with any questions.

Mark your calendar! Picture Day is coming Thursday, September 29, 2011. Look for more information on your child's Picture Day flyer / order form. Visit Lifetouch.com for clothing suggestions, online payment details and more.

Important Dates

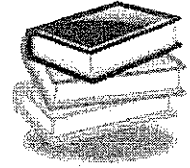
Sept. 29th – Picture Day

October 7th- Institute Day, No Classes for Students

October 10th- Columbus Day, No Classes for Students

Helping Children Learn

Tips Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School



Engage attention as the year begins

Children naturally have short attention spans, but paying attention to the teacher is a necessary skill for success in school. To help your child tune in:

- **Ask!** This might be all it takes to direct your child's attention. "Olivia, will you please put the ball down and listen to what I have to say?"
- **Use a gentle touch.** Rubbing your child's back may encourage her to sit a few more minutes to hear the end of a story. Putting your arm around her may keep her from fidgeting.
 - **Use a prop.** If your child will listen better to a stuffed animal "doing the talking," by all means use one.

Keep in mind that most young children can only sit still for about 15 or 20 minutes before they need a new activity.

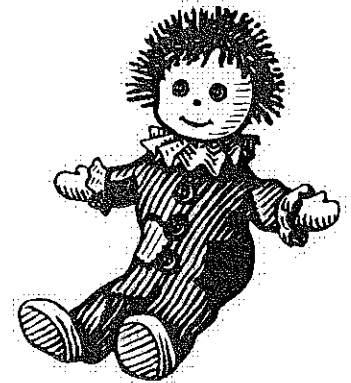
Source: L.O. Moore, *Inclusion Strategies for Young Children: A Resource Guide for Teachers, Child Care Providers, and Parents*, Corwin Press.

Make a smooth transition

Starting school is a huge event for a young child. To smooth the way, try to:

- **Arrive early** to let your child settle in.
- **Share something from home.** A special scarf or pocket-sized toy may help reassure your child that you'll be coming back to get him.
- **Focus on fun.** "Look, Ms. West has the sand table out! I can't wait to hear all about it!"

Source: D. Sullivan, "Easing Into Preschool," *Parenting*, www.parenting.com/article/easing-into-preschool-21354399.



Get your involvement off to a good start this year

Research shows that parent involvement from an early age helps children do better in school. Being involved tells your child that education is important to your family. That attitude is likely to stick with him. So:

- **Get** to know your child's teachers.
- **Check** with teachers to see how your child is doing in school.
- **Read**, talk and play with your child.