Welcome to December!

Snow is in the air! The children are enjoying the new discoveries that come with winter. We will soon be bringing out the sleds and snow shovels on the playground! Please remember to send warm clothing for your children as they will be going outside as often as the weather allows.

Winter Break
GSRP: Closed December 21 - January 3
Young Preschool: Closed December 24 - January 10

Recap of 4 of November's Family Activities

Parent Café: MCC Public Safety Visits!
Parents as Partners: Daily Routines!
MCC Connoisseur Club Shares a Story and Thundercake!
Community Helpers: Flint Firefighters Visit and Talk about Fire Safety!
Parents as Partners

Join this informal gathering of parents and staff as we look at Michigan’s Early Learning Standards for Pre-kindergarten and discuss ways to support learning at home and school. Drop in!

This month’s topic:
Managing Time!
Wednesday, Dec. 16
2:30-3:00
Room #110

This months’ topic:
Language and Literacy - Alphabet Awareness!
Tuesday, December 8
7:30AM - 8:30AM
Stop by to pick up a fun, learning activity to use at home!
On Thursday, December 17, parents and children enrolled in the MCC Great Start Readiness Program are invited to meet the teachers at the For-Mar Nature Preserve at 12:00 noon. Families may enjoy an interactive learning experience exploring how animals get ready for winter! School will be dismissed at 11:20 that day and children are the responsibility of the parent/guardian or parent appointed adult while at For-Mar. The GSRP will pay costs for the attending adult and the enrolled child.

Are you interested in volunteering in your child’s classroom? Plan on attending our...

VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION/ TRAINING
Tuesday, December 8
2:30 - 3:00
Room #110
Parent Voting Day!

Join in the decision-making process for our curriculum by voting for a Language/Literacy - Alphabet Awareness activity! Stop by the Family Resource Room #110 to cast your vote!

Introducing our GSRP Early Childhood Specialist, Jenni Hearn!

Jenni Hearn, our Early Childhood Specialist from the Genesee Intermediate School District (GISD) will be joining us for our 1st Parent Advisory Team meeting and will share information about our assessment tool, the Child Observation Record (COR). Drop in Wednesday, December 9, from 2:30-3:00 in the Parent Resource Room, #110. See you there!

Hello! My name is Jenni Hearn and I am the Early Childhood Specialist working with Mott’s GSRP classrooms. As the ECS, my main role is to provide classroom support and mentor the teaching staff in order to ensure that your child is receiving a high quality preschool experience. Feel free to pull me aside to chat any time you see me on site. I would love to get to know you and learn how I can help meet your child’s needs in the classroom.
December Parent Advisory News!

Parents
Make a Difference!

YOU Can be a Part of our
GSRP Advisory Team!

Simply drop in on Wednesday, December 9th, on your way to pick up your child and help us identify ways we can improve our GSRP to better meet the needs of your children! Stop in Room # 109 from 2:30 - 3:00. We will have one Free bottle of TIDE for each family that stops in as our small way of saying THANK YOU for helping to make a positive difference toward a high-quality preschool learning experience for children here at MCC ECLC!!

We Need YOU!

Genesee County
Great Start Parent Coalition
A Great Start for Every Child: Safe, Healthy, and Ready to Succeed!

Looking for a way to help make our county a GREAT place for children? Attend a Great Start Parent Coalition meeting and find out ways you can help! The next meeting is: Caroling!

Saturday, December 12
Crossroads Adult Foster Care
7036 Bray Rd., Mt. Morris
3pm-5pm
RSVP to Great Start Parent Liaison
Sarah Zyburt (810) 591-5126 or szyburt@geneseeisd.org
In Case of a Power Outage: 810-235-3658

In the case of a power outage while school is in session, MCC Early Childhood Learning Center will use our landline phone number. This number will be used to communicate with parents ONLY in the case of a power outage at school! Please note this number for future reference.

Old Newsboys

The goal of the Old Newsboys is to make sure no child is left behind on Christmas. Visit: http://www.onbflint.org/ for eligibility requirements. The dates of registration are:

Nov. 2 - Dec. 23
Monday Friday
8:30AM - 4:00PM
Saturday, Nov 21 & Dec. 5
8:00AM—12:00 Noon
Closed for lunch 12:00pm-1:00pm

Toys for Tots

“The mission of the U. S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program is to collect new, unwrapped toys during October, November and December each year, and distribute those toys as Christmas gifts to less fortunate children in the community in which the campaign is conducted.” The dates to sign up for this giving event are:

Monday, Nov. 30 - Saturday, Dec. 12 excluding Sunday
4425 S. Saginaw St.
(810)- 715- 4401
9:00am-5:00pm

Resources for Genesee County families!

For critical needs — food, clothing, housing, utilities assistance and more — Genesee County residents can dial 2-1-1 every day of the year, 24 hours a day. Trained call specialists will help you connect with almost any human or social service in Genesee County.
Reading Just 20 Minutes a Day with Your Child can Help Make a Life-Time Impact!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student “A”</th>
<th>Student “B”</th>
<th>Student “C”</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>reads 20 minutes each day</td>
<td>reads 5 minutes each day</td>
<td>reads 1 minute each day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3600 minutes in a school year</td>
<td>900 minutes in a school year</td>
<td>180 minutes in a school year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1,800,000 words

282,000 words

8,000 words

90th percentile 50th percentile 10th percentile

By the end of 6th grade Student “A” will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. Student “B” will have read only 12 school days. Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary? Which student would you expect to be more successful in school…and in life?

(Nagy & Herman, 1987)
Red Room Literacy Activity

During Large Group Time, we learned Hickory Dickory Dock Song!

Science and Technology

Natural and Physical World: First, we found out what we knew about pumpkins, such as they are round, orange, and grow. We tested our theories during a Sink and Float experiment. We then cut open the Pumpkins, and using tongs and magnifying glasses and we found pulp and seeds. Our Book: The Pumpkin Circle
DAILY ROUTINES AND NEW FRIENDS!
We have been very busy! The children are familiar with our daily schedule, procedures and routines. They are making friends and working on solving conflicts as they occur. We also established our classroom rules together. Your child was to share them with you as homework last week.

ALL ABOUT ME!
This week we are doing All About Me. We read a story titled The Colors of Me and then drew pictures of ourselves.

APPLE MATH!
Last week we did apple tasting and completed a graph that is displayed in the classroom.

NURSERY RHYME TIME!
We are also doing a nursery rhyme every 2 weeks. The rhyme this week is Little Miss Muffet. You will a copy of this to take home. In class we will be acting out the rhyme together during large group.
Classroom Happenings

We have been working on “Me”. We are learning about ourselves. We traced ourselves, charted our eye color and counted our fingers and toes. We have been discussing our favorite things, emotions and how things make us feel.

We have a new game we are playing. It is a matching game with facial emotions. This allows the children not only to do a matching activity but also have a discussion about emotions and even situations that they felt like the face shows.

I will soon be scheduling parent teacher conferences. This will be a “wrap up” of the semester and you will receive your child’s portfolio. (This is some of the work they have done this semester along with some photos of them at school.)

*Please remember to dress your child for the weather.
*Please make sure they have extra clothes for accidents and if their clothes get wet.
One idea I have for helping my child learn letters is:

- Letter matching (Issac’s mom, Robyn)
- Repetition (Josiah’s mom, Juantoria)
- Finding things that start with that letter (Lia’s mom, Tia)
- Computer work (Carson’s dad, Carlos)
- Using pictures (Gabriel’s mom, Keri)

Thanks to our parents for sharing these great ideas! Look for more ideas to come in future newsletters!
The Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) is a free child development program that serves eligible children who are 4 years old by September 1st of each school year. The MCC GSRP is operated by Mott Community College and is funded by the Michigan Department of Education.

MCC Happenings!

Annual Help-Portrait Event

FREE Individual or Family Portrait

Date: December 5, 2015
Time: 12:00 - 5:00PM
Location: MCC Event Center

MCC Photography Department and MCC Transitions School of Cosmetology