DIRECTOR’S DESK

Hello CDL families! Here it is again....another ending to another semester! We have had a great academic year at the CDL with some great family events, practicum students, and classroom learning experiences for your children. Please remember to wish your child’s primary good wishes. Graduation is just around the corner for them, and we will miss all of our students. Speaking of which, our new ‘crop’ of students will be starting May 21, and we are anxious to get to know all of them!

Our Week of the Young Child was a huge success! We are thrilled that so many families were able to participate in the events we had throughout the week - the Dance Party; Zumba, and guest readers and sharing of instruments! The teachers and children were especially excited to give to families Breakfast-To-Go bags at drop off! I want to thank the CDL teaching staff for all of their hard work to prepare for this special week. Additionally, thank you to all the parents for their most thoughtful gestures of teacher appreciation in the form of treats and snacks, thank you notes, and flowers— everyone felt the love!

I would like to thank all the parents who were able to attend the tours in the new facility. We had a great turn out with plenty of conversations and questions. Both Kristin Schulz and I walked groups of parents through, and we were pleased to be able to address so many good questions and clarify any concerns parents had regarding the new space. As information become available for me to share, I try and get it out to you via email. Please make sure to be diligent about checking anything that comes from me regarding updates and the merger as email is truly the more effective way to share information so that everyone gets it at the same time.

As we move forward in this new chapter, I would like to say that it has been a privilege to work with such a wonderful, family-like atmosphere at the CDL. I truly believe that we a very special program, and I envision that we will be transitioning our ‘specialness’ over to the new organization.

We wish everyone the best of luck with the end of your semester. If you are a student parent, good luck with finals; and, if you are a faculty parent, good luck with finals!

Lisa Schmidt
Co-Director of Operations
Hello Families!

April was an eventful month for us! During Week of the Young Child, we had guests from NIU read books to us. We danced away to our favorite songs and did Zumba with an instructor from Club 180 Nutrition. We delivered bags of mints and starbursts to Campus Child Care, the literacy students, and our FACS department. The literacy students gave every child a book called *The Story of Ferdinand* by Munro Leaf. Chandler and Ella’s parents, Mia and Xiao, brought in a Guzheng and guitar to play for us. We welcome Ella to our classroom who just transitioned from ITT West. The NIU nursing students did a demonstration on how germs spread and an activity on food groups.

After we went to the police station in March, the children expressed an interest in firefighters. We read books about them and they pretended to put out fires on the playground. Shantavia invited the DeKalb Fire Department to the CDL to give the children information about the ambulance and fire engine. They also talked about fire safety and encouraged the children to practice fire drills at home with their families. After they left, we listened to different emergency sounds and watched short video clips of emergency vehicles responding to emergencies with the flashing lights.

Tanisha had the children vote on a stuffed animal class pet during her lead teaching weeks. They chose a frog and named him Frogee! They spent the afternoon designing spaces for him to play and live in. We painted boxes and built block structures. They made a magna tile bed for him to sleep in and frequently include him in their play. Thank you for coming to family night and all of your treats during WOYC! We have conferences May 7th to 11th. Please sign up under your primary caregivers form.

Sincerely,

Kristi, Jamie, & Frank
Happy May East families!

Can you believe the end of the semester is almost here? We have been taking full advantage of the warm weather! The children have been engaged in pushing the shopping carts around our playground, kicking and throwing the beach balls, and “baking” tasty treats in the sandbox. Furthermore, the children have been helping the teachers clean in the classroom. Some of the fun cleaning task the children assist with are, sweeping, wiping tables, and folding laundry. In our block area the children have been engaged in the trains and train tracks. Children have talked about where they will go on the train and how fun their train rides have been with their families. We also had our HDFS 498 students observing and interacting with the children, please welcome them!

We also had so much fun celebrating **Week of the Young Child**. We participated in so many fun activities. We got our wiggles out at the Zumba party. We also painted our WOYC canvas with textured paint rollers. Along with that, we had guest readers, Ellie Bowers, Dr. Susan Bowers’ (HDFS Faculty) daughter visited us on Wednesday and read, “From Head to Toe” by Eric Carle. Liam’s mom, Sophie Li stopped by on Thursday to read, “Very Busy Spider”. The children were so excited about our guest readers! Thanks for everyone that participated and contributed in WOYC! Thank you again for participating in conferences!

We would like to say thank you to Jessica, our last lead teacher. She provided so many innovative activities for the children! As the semester is coming to a close we are sad to see our interns go. Congratulations Destiny, Jessica, Deja and Alyssa, we want to wish you the best of luck with your future endeavors! Alyssa, will be staying with us and we are ecstatic that she will be joining the team, please welcome her! We will be sad to see Courtney leaving at the end of the semester.

**Friendly Reminders:** We will be closed on May 14-18, 2018 to prep for the Big Move!

Due to the warm weather please be sure to bring sunscreen, sun hats, jackets and extra clothing for your child.

Have a wonderful day!

*Clarissa, Tena, Ecila, and Courtney*
ITT West Families,

April was a very busy and exciting month for us! We began the month with Family Night. Our interns provided the families with information on sensory development, fine motor skills and gross motor skills. They also provided some fun sensory experiences and motor activities. Last week we celebrated Week of the Young Child. The children passed out candy to celebrate as well as participated in yoga, Zumba, and a dance party.

Thank you to Priyal as she wrapped up her lead teaching. She provided many fun activities for the children including an emotion dice game, firetruck song and dance, and sponge painting. A big welcome to Jamie as she has started her lead teaching last week. So far she has made many changes to the interest centers bringing new toys into the classroom. She has also changed the dramatic play area into a Vet Clinic. She included a real stethoscope, different animals, as well as other medical play tools. We are excited to see what else she has in store for us.

Finally the spring weather has arrived and we have been spending a lot of time outside on the playground! Please remember to bring sunscreen and hats for your children.

Reminders:

- We are closed May 14th-18th
- Thank you in advance for signing up for parent teacher conferences which are April 30th– May 3rd.

Sincerely,

Megan, Magaly, Ecila & Krysten