

Patti's News!



(206) 232-4453

September 2009

Welcome From Our Director

WOW! I have lived in Seattle for over 30 years and never experienced such a wonderful summer! I hope you all enjoyed the fabulous weather too! Welcome to Patti's Play Center! The teachers and I are all very excited to start school, meet the new students, and reacquaint with the returning students! We have lots of great activities planned each day. Your children will be kept busy with art projects, story time, table toys, play dough, snacks, outside play and much more. Our themes for the classroom change monthly. This month is Transportation and Fall, so we will do lots of creative activities and art projects to correspond. It's going to be a terrific year! Ready, Set... Go!

Cathy Jankovich

Patti's Welcomes Two New Teachers!

This summer Patti's hired two incredible new teachers to join our team, Teacher Susan and Teacher Alex. We are happy to introduce them to you...

Susan Anderson

Susan comes to us from Faith Lutheran Preschool where she was one of the lead teachers for 2 years. Susan attended the University of Tampa (GO SPARTANS!) where she took courses in Child Psychology and Developmental Psychology. Prior to becoming a mom and taking some time off from the workforce, Susan worked in the social services field for 7 years. Susan, her husband and three kids (2 boys and a girl) moved to Kirkland from Chicago in 2006. Susan loves to swim, go the movies with her kids, and take family hikes with their dog, Daisy. Susan is also a volunteer at her children's elementary school and likes to cheer on her sons at their soccer and baseball games. Susan is very excited to join the Patti's staff and looks forward to meeting all the children and families!

Alex Cruz

Alex was born and raised in Bellevue, WA. He attended Eastside Catholic High School. While at Eastside, he was highly involved in student leadership as Junior Class President and Student Body President. Alex then went on to Washington State University (GO COUGS!) and obtained a degree in Psychology and a minor in Criminal Justice. Alex has always loved teaching kids. He has 6 years of experience working with children, as an instructor at various activity and sports camps at the Bellevue Club and through his volunteer work at the WSU's children center. He was also a teacher at Emmanuel Day School. Alex currently resides in Bellevue on Cougar Mountain. He loves to drive his truck and is raising an adorable puppy named Millie. Alex is thrilled to join the Patti's team and meet all the students and their families!

Themes For This Month



Fall

Transportation

Afternoon Openings

Patti's still has openings available in the afternoon for 3-5 year olds. The afternoon session runs from 12:00 - 3:00. Children are welcome to bring a sack lunch and eat with friends.



Summer Celebration

A special thanks to the many kids and parents who showed their support for Patti's by marching in the Parade. It was fun morning!

The Monthly Newsletter

At the beginning of each month a newsletter (like this!) will be emailed to you. Paper copies will be available at the Center. The newsletters will include information about upcoming events, important dates, themes for the month, children's birthdays and much more. If you ever have any suggestions for the newsletter, please email the Communications Coordinator, Emily Ferrari-emilyferrari@msn.com

A Few Reminders...

1. Please label all of your child's belongings, including coats, lunchboxes, backpacks and shoes.
2. Do not allow your child to come to school with snacks or toys hidden in their pockets.
3. Dress children in play clothes with the expectations that things might get messy.
4. Don't forget a jacket. Our weather is unpredictable, and the children enjoy playing outside rain or shine.
5. If your child is not yet potty-trained, please be sure to provide us with a few spare diapers along with an extra set of clothing.
6. Please do not send your child to school if they are not feeling well. A fever, bad cough, green runny nose or a stomach ache is better cared for at home.
7. Call the center if your child will be absent - we worry if we don't hear from you, and often have other children on the waiting list in case a spot opens up.
8. Pick-up time is promptly at 12:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Happy Birthday to...

July

Jordon Balousek, Hugo Carbajo-Derennes,
Anna Carson, Charlie Chatalas, Kate Flynn,
Elise McDonald, Trey Thompson

August

Megan Helms, Addison Parmenter, Hailey Peterson,
Quintin Shiers, Max Vassau

September

Zachary Borda, Mia Bella Carlos, Luca Imbesi,
Gabriella Moline, Jacob Panagiotou,
Lucy Rooney, Abigail Sun



School Holidays 2009-10

September 4	Half-day, Noon closure
September 7	No School, Labor Day
November 11	No School, Veteran's Day
November 26, 27	No School, Thanksgiving
December 21 - Jan 1	No School, Winter Break
January 18	No School, Martin Luther King day
February 15, 16	No School, President's Weekend
March 29 - April 2	No School, Spring Break
May 31	No School, Memorial Day
June 10	Last Day of School
June 11	End of the Year Picnic

It's Hard to Say Goodbye...

Sometimes the first few days at school can be very difficult, especially for children who may not have spent much time apart from their parents. Please feel free to stay a few minutes with your child. At Patti's, we find it easiest if you engage your child in an activity, tell them that you'll be back, and then just leave. If your child cries, the staff is prepared to soothe them. Even if the good-byes are tearful at first, know that your child is in safe and loving hands. Soon your little one will be feeling right at home.

Here are a few tips to help ease separation anxiety:

1. Establish an easy good-bye ritual, such as a hug.
2. Stick to your ritual.
3. If your child is upset when you leave, wait 10 minutes and then call the center for an update.
4. If your child has a special blanket or security item, you may wish to bring it.
5. If your child has difficulties separating, it is best to keep your ritual and drop-off time short.

2009-10 Parent Board

Patti's is run by a board of parent volunteers. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact one of the board members listed below.

President	Lisa Beebe	206.232.8143
Vice President	Kim Werdel	206.409.7831
Treasurer	Lisa Lanctot	206.230.6970
Registrar	Karen Schmid	206.232.0306
Personnel	Nicole Dennon	206.432.6396
Payroll	Jane Moffitt	206.232.8300
Volunteer Coordinators	Shelley Helms	206.920.6512
	Katelyn Dolence	206.713.7565
Communications Coord.	Emily Ferrari	206.232.3990
Special Events / PR	Sarah LeClercq	206.232.2329
Safety	Trina Myklebust	206.524.6338
Fundraising	Andrea Chatalas	206.232.2104
Secretary	Angie Chatalas	206.275.1985

Patti's Website!

If you ever need information about the Center- school calendar, tips on saying goodbye, parent resources, play dough recipe, past newsletters, and much more, please check out our website- <http://www.pattisplaycenter.org/>