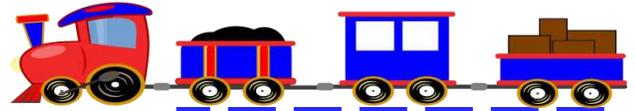




# Morningstar Learning Center Newsletter

June 8, 2017



## June Theme: Transportation

*This next month all the classrooms will participate in activities surrounding this theme.*

The **Infant Class** will continue studying all the ways of transportation. They have been enjoying our new songs, books, and projects. They have also really enjoyed being outside.

This week the **Toddler Class** will be learning all about boats. They will start learning the letter "B", what sound it makes and practice tracing the letter. They will do an experiment making boats to see which ones sink and which ones float the best.

This week the **Preschool Class** is on the move! This week we are studying vehicles of all shapes and sizes. From cars and trucks to bikes and planes. We're going to discover all of the exciting ways to get where we're going!

This month, the **Spanish Class** will be learning greetings in Spanish along with good morning songs that they will use to begin each Spanish lesson. Table time activities will surround the theme of transportation and each child will work on a transportation book. Below are the links to the two good morning songs:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5iJfyD\\_tuf4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5iJfyD_tuf4)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tOj4hEk2CtU>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IRXeDfxcjje>



### Summer Routines

Please see attached flyer for a message from our guidance counselor Danielle about summer routines.

### Important Dates

June 13	Scholastic Book Orders Due
June 14	Final Story Time with Robbebe for the Summer
June 15	July Account Statements e-mailed to families



### Director's Desk

**Stephanie's Office Hours:** Monday-Wednesday 8:30am-10am

**Faye's Office Hours:** Wed. 8:00am-9:30am

**Lori's Office Hours:** Thursday and Friday 8:30am-10am

Or by appointment

### Scholastic Book Orders

They are **due June 13**. We will start up again this Fall Quarter. The online ordering class code is: GTWBL.

### Basecamp to Kindergarten: Not just for Pre-Kindergarten students!

#### Toddler and Preschool Families:

Make sure to check out the Basecamp to Kindergarten Activity Bags located on the top landing outside the preschool classroom.

These bags are filled with educationally based games, books, and dvds. Each bag has a parent resource folder that gives families helpful tips including: establishing daily routines, tips for raising readers, and how to teach your child to tie their shoes. These bags are designed to help children learn skills that will eventually help them find success during their kindergarten year. There is a check out sheet on the wall outside the Preschool door. Come and give them a try!



# STAFF PIR DAY



## Summer Routines

With summer right around the corner, there are a lot of exciting activities and events coming up for several families. As much as we want your children to thoroughly enjoy their summer and the joyfulness that comes along with childhood, we encourage you to consider the benefits that may result from maintaining a light summer routine or schedule. As you probably already know, routines are incredibly beneficial for many reasons:

\*Routines **provide emotional benefits** by helping children feel safe and comfortable in their environment. It gives them a sense of what to expect. They reassure children that their needs will be met. They also provide multiple opportunities for children to experience success, which promotes confidence, self-esteem, and self-control.

\*Routines **help parents maintain consistency in their expectations**. They reduce power struggles and help children to cooperate more. They can greatly ease transitions and the behaviors associated with them. It gives children the opportunity to take control of themselves and their activities, which helps them to build more confidence and competence. Children who feel more independent, feel less of a need to be oppositional and defiant.

\* Routines **help children learn how to organize the world around them**. They help them slowly increase their responsibility and care of self. Young children still do not understand the concept of time, so they measure their days in accordance to the events that occur throughout. Printing off pictures and creating a visual schedule that they can look at and initiate themselves is a straightforward way to set clear expectations.

\*Routines **provide an opportunity for learning**. Children are able to learn many skills within the routine and the specific tasks associated with it. They learn methods associated with math, sequencing, and counting. It also can help them continue working on the skills they have learned in preschool throughout the summer. Studies show that some children can experience a loss of cognitive ability during summer if they take a complete break from learning.

Creating a token-economy type of rewards system in your house provides great incentive for children to follow these routines independently. One example of this could be a chore chart where kids can earn stars, stickers, or stamps for completing tasks that are expected of them such as doing chores or reading books. You could also create punch cards to encourage certain behaviors or to keep track of tasks. Once they receive a certain amount of these “tokens”, they can earn a fun treat or family activity.

Children (and adults for that matter) feel more secure when their lives seem predictable. They become more confident in themselves and the world around them which sets them up for even greater success. A routine can also greatly ease the transition into the following school year and reduces maladaptive behaviors, which can help them get a jump start on all the new things they will learn next year!

From all of us at Morningstar Learning Center, we wish you and your family a very happy and safe Summer break! If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask. Any of our staff would be happy to help.

Thank you,  
Danielle Osti, MA-CMHC  
Guidance Teacher

