



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

One of our focus areas for May and June is the wonderful diversity that children, families and staff bring to DICC. Current times in our world appear to be challenging this wonder and we often experience less than positive media about people and happenings taking place. While we must be informed of current events, it is always healthy to remind ourselves of positive things. Honoring our community is a perfect action. We do this every day, yet we will highlight books, music, curriculum and hands on experiences that nurture and develop diversity - what it looks like, how it feels, what it brings, what it teaches. It will be integrated throughout children's learning.

It is exciting to hear the staff and our collaborators create ideas and plans. We will begin with the book, *What a Wonderful World*, written by Bob Theile and George David Weiss and illustrated by Tim Hopgood. There are music and videos that go along with this based the original song by Louis Armstrong. We are expanding our libraries, materials and resources so that the children experience cultural similarities and differences within teachers lesson plans. And yes, this starts as young as in our infant room and along the entire continuum through after school! We will continue to share more about this. Please share your ideas with us!

Respectfully, Denise

This Month We Celebrate...



Mothers
And

Appreciate our Teachers

JOIN US—March in the Ithaca Festival Parade!!

Help make our participation in the Ithaca Festival Parade a success and great representation of DICC. We are scheduled to march in the parade on Friday June 2nd. The theme is the 70's. We are in the process of getting tie died t-shirts for all of the children and more. A letter went home with the children, so please connect with the teachers with ideas and your ability to participate. More to share, so look for the upcoming details....THANKS!

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dates to Remember

Mon, May 29	CLOSED Memorial Day
Fri, June 9	CLOSED AM—Staff Development PM—Parent Teacher Conferences
Fri, June 2	Ithaca Festival Parade
Mon, June 19	DICC Board Meeting

Parent Teacher Conferences, June 9

The afternoon of Friday, June 9th all classrooms will have parent teacher conferences. Please sign-up for an opportunity to meet with your child's teachers to discuss their strengths and challenges.

Are You Ready For Summer?

Warmer days are coming. Please be sure your child has weather appropriate clothing especially shoes for playing and extras within their classrooms.



CLASSROOM NEWS

Blue Room

The babies love to hear stories. We make funny faces and animal sounds that go along with the story. We are enjoying their happy responses to language.

Butterfly Room

We are continuing to work on our fine and gross motor skills. We have also started talking about some of our body parts and will be working on those as well. Welcome to our new friends Toby and Elisabella.

Firefly Room

The kids are learning the importance of moving their body and why we should eat healthy foods. We are hoping this and our large motor activities

Purple Room (After-school Pre-K/Kindergarten)

The purple room is welcoming Ms. Mo, who has invigorated a love of storytelling in the children! She's been reading lots of fairy tales with paper puppets to the class.

Dragonfly Room.

We are practicing proper and polite words. Working diligently on improving our table manners as well as sharing. Also busy planting vegetables and sunflowers.

Rainbow Room

We are learning about things that fly—specifically birds and bugs. With lots of new friends in the Butterfly room we are also working through transitions and getting accustomed to new friends/teachers.

Grasshopper Room

The children are reading sight a word books at circle time. This gives them the experience of how they will learn to read in school and the knowledge of how letters are put together and used.

Yellow Room (School-Age After-school)

We have children with a wide variety of reading interests and books for all of them! In our room there is a scheduled homework time. If children do not have homework, they enjoy a book quietly so others can complete their school assignments.

