



Long Beach City College Child Development Center—LAC NEWSLETTER

Special Interest News from Vicki, Site Supervisor

The month of April was full of activity. We held celebrations for Week of the Young Child and TV Turn-Off Week consecutively. TV Turn-Off Week was promoted by a bag of activities that the teaching staff developed and sent home with the children. Week of the Young Child culminated with a huge Circus event that was filled with fun and creative activities that celebrated the children.

Our Open House was held on the 25th of April and was a huge success! Most

parents attended and brought friends and family members who were able to visit all the classrooms and speak with the staff. We had a large number of people who are interested in attending the program attend as well. This shows that the parents, faculty and staff are spreading the word and supporting our programs.

As we get close to the end of the semester I am feeling excited about all the developmental growth in the children. Those going off to Kindergarten are

prepared for the new experiences that they will be encountering in elementary school. Those returning next semester are ready to continue to explore, experiment, problem-solve and more when they return in the Fall.

The school pictures have been received and orders placed. We are now waiting for the class composites to arrive. If you are still interested in ordering pictures please contact the photography studio directly. Pictures With Class (562) 431-1467.



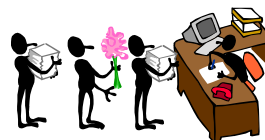
Summer School at PCC & Fall Registration

Summer registration was over almost as soon as it got started. We were full within the first 2 days! If you are still interested call Hurtie @ PCC (562) 938-3079 to get on the waiting list.

The Summer session begins Monday, June 4th. The hours will be Mondays - Thursdays 7:00am to 5:00pm & Fridays 7:00 am to 11:30am.

Fall semester begins August 20th!

If you are interested in attending in the Fall, please see Karen or Trish for information about the registration process.



Long Beach City College-
Child Development Center

Spring Semester 2007

MAY

Special points of interest:

- ☺ Raising-A-Reader Celebrations at the Park 5/15 & 5/16 (Rooms 1AM, 3AM & 5AM)
- ☺ County Fair 5/17
- ☺ Room 2 Parent Participation Day at the Park 5/17
- ☺ Parent Conferences weeks of 5/21—5/30
- ☺ Closed 5/28 ~Memorial Day

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RAISING-A-READER UPDATES

The children have been so excited about taking home their red book bags and reading with their parents. I have received many positive comments from parents on the experience they have had in participating in this opportunity. The classrooms have done their group library visits and many families have already completed more library visits on their own. We continue to foster a love of books here at the center, with many opportunities for literacy experiences daily.



The Raising-A-Reader participating classrooms will be going to the park to celebrate the end of the R-A-R program this semester. All families who participated in the program, completed the pre-survey, completed the required 2 library visits, and completes the post-survey will receive a special gift from R-A-R.

We look forward to offering the program again in the fall. If your classroom did not participate this time, they may still have an opportunity next semester.

Many thanks to Anne Witenstein, from the Long Beach Library Foundation, for sponsoring R-A-R at the LBCC Child Development Centers.



Reading with your child each day promotes a lifelong love of Books!

Room 1 - Mrs. Rogers (AM) & Mrs. Roberts (PM)

Room 1 A.M. - Mrs. Rogers

Spring has sprung in room one! We have been growing grass, bulbs, sprouting potatoes, growing corn in our greenhouses, and this week we watched carnations drink. The children were very excited when their flower changed from white to their favorite color. Our science center isn't the only thing growing around here. The children of room one have sprouted and their social development has blossomed. We are seeing less

parallel play and moving towards cooperative play. The children are creating their own games and are anxiously awaiting visits to the big playground. I'm beginning to feel anxious about saying goodbye to this wonderful class.

Room 1 pm Mrs. Roberts

Spring is in the air... and in our classroom! Our corn is sprouting and will soon be ready for transplanting. Our ants have



been busily burrowing in their new habitat and our classroom is bursting with color as we enjoy spring-inspired art & science. Sadly, for the first time ever, our silkworms did not hatch. Leaving the eggs in the car in the hot sun last May must have been too much for them!

We are looking forward to some special events planned for these last weeks of school (like a class trip to the park) and plan on making the best of our last weeks together before summer break.

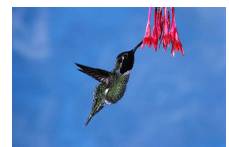
Room 2 - Mrs. Acosta, Ms. Mary Ann, and Ms. Alma P.

We have spent the first couple of weeks in April exploring and investigating insects. We have enjoyed going on grasshopper hunts, easing the leaves and flowers back as we look for their green little bodies. We also spent the week before break preparing our caterpillars, feeding and watching them as they spun their cocoons. We returned to find our butterfly habitat filled

with beautiful butterflies. We will spend the next couple of days observing and documenting our butterflies, preparing them for release.



We will spend the next couple of weeks cultivating our outdoor garden. The children will be busy planting seeds, watering and turning the soil. We will also be adding various types of bird feeders, hoping to attract distinct birds.



THE BUCANEER BASH RASIES ALL-TIME HIGH!

On Saturday, April 21st the El Dorado Golf Club hosted the Long Beach City College Foundation's annual fundraising event for the Child Development Centers. This year a new event called the "Buccaneer Bash" was held which included dinner, dancing to a live band, raffles, silent auction and a live auction. The theme was pirate inspired and guests that purchased a table for 10 participated in a table decorating contest.

There were 200 people in attendance (we sold out) and everyone had an enjoyable evening. The band, King

Salmon, played a wide range of music that had many on the dance floor most of the evening.

We had a record number of raffle baskets, silent auction items, and donations brought in this year. Thanks to all of the people who participated. We were able to raise a record number of funds to support the Child Development Centers at LAC & PCC.

A big thanks to Catherine Garcia who spearheaded the families efforts at LAC. We are fortunate that she will continue on next semester. Inter-

ested in helping out for next year? See Vicki!



The Buccaneer Bash raised approximately \$15,000

Room 3 - Mrs. Eslava (AM) & Mrs. Thrift (PM)

Room 3 am is still test tasting new and unusual foods like:

Ube, a purple yam, quail eggs and BABY FOOD!



The children enjoy sampling new foods. Do you have an idea for trying a new or unusual food?

We planted marigolds to take home and to beautify the side patio and made butter to go with our snack. We're looking forward to walking to the library—what an adventure!

Room 3 pm

Our field trip to the Iacoboni library was great. The children got their own library cards and got to check out books almost all by themselves. We had our picnic-style snack after our visit and then, as part of a class project, we started to look for man-made vs. nature-made things in the environment. We found out that trash is everywhere so, on our way back, we collected trash as well as nature-made materials. We have been talking about recycling and

making new things from old, so our next project will be making new paper from old pieces of paper.



Our reading experiences have developed an interest for knowing how the authors and illustrators of our stories look. We've looked at photos of them and talked about their lives. The children are showing a lot of interest in learning more Spanish words and songs. It's so much fun! Thank you, parents, for all your support and help when working in the classroom.

Room 5 - Mrs. Ludka (AM) & Mrs. Atkinson (PM)

The morning group in Room 5 is experiencing super hero mania. There are still a few kitties roaming the classroom, but thanks to the addition of some new capes, super heroes are taking over. If you notice one of our caped crusaders flying over any of the fences, please remind them to return their cape to the classroom after their flight. The interest in sharing books from home has been gathering support. We like to encourage the practice, but as this gains momentum it may take a couple of days before everyone's book gets read aloud. Another thing to keep in mind is that we have differing levels of attentiveness. The rule of thumb is, the simpler, the

better. Save the lengthy, complex books for one-on-one reading. The class is anticipating their field trip to the Iacoboni Library, one of three visits for the Raising a Reader program. Remember to get in two family trips before the end of the semester! Wow! Summer is almost here!



Room 5 PM—It has been exciting to observe how the children are recognizing letters in their own names and even their friends. Listening to others has been developing well as children take

turns singing a song by themselves to the group. They have formed definite friendships, and are learning to negotiate and solve possible conflicts by themselves. We are seeing "non-art" children come to the creative table, and formerly "drawing and pasting" only children going to other areas... what growth! Along with having fun riding the bus and visiting the Fire Station, we learned never to hide, but to call out and go towards assistance on our hands and knees if there is a fire.

We look forward now to walking to the library and getting our own library card!

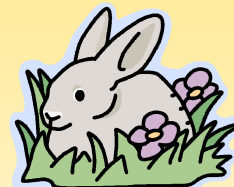


Long Beach City College- Child Development Center

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NUTRITION FUN!



Bunny Salad

1/2 pear (fresh, jarred or canned)
Lettuce leaves
2 cucumber slices
2 raisins or black olives
1/2 cherry tomato or maraschino cherry
Thin strips of cheese

Lay the pear half on the lettuce with the flat side down. Push the cucumber slices into the top for ears, raisins or olives for eyes, and a cherry for the nose. Add cheese strips for whiskers. Your cute little bunny is ready to eat!



We would like to honor both Karen and Trish in celebration of Administrative Assistant's Day. The CDC~LAC staff presented each of them with a gift basket and words of gratitude for all that they do!

Room 6 - Mrs. Williamson, Ms. Kelli, Ms. Alma M. & Mrs. Eslava (PM)

If your children tell you they have been eating some unusual things at school they are telling you the truth. This month we have been having a variety of tastes tests. We tasted the purple ube yam which was well received, as well as the regular orange yam. We tasted fresh grapefruit and made fresh squeezed orange juice which was a real hit with everyone. The most popular taste test included the quail eggs which Mrs. Eslava brought in, along with a chicken egg. We hard boiled them, compared the sizes, color and best of all each had the experience of taking the shell off and eating it. Yummy! They all wanted more!
They say be careful what you wish

for... Earlier last month Mrs. Williamson purchased a green tree frog for the children as a classroom pet. We then put out a request for a small aquarium to house our new pet. To our surprise Jack's parent's brought in a huge aquarium with yet two more classroom pets. We now have two large Dumpy frogs which the children adore, but they think we still need one more green tree frog to keep "Woody" company. "Woody" is the name the children had voted on for the original frog. We are in the process of naming the new frogs.



If you hear crickets in our room your ears are not pulling a trick on you. The frogs eat crickets. To take

care of these pets we are recycling cans and plastic bottles to purchase bedding and crickets weekly.

We could use help with cleaning the huge aquarium which you can count as parent hour credits in the classroom.

Please check the black laundry basket in our room for lost items. We are getting ready to toss out unclaimed clothing.

Robert Munch is our favorite author. Ask your children about some of the books he has written.

