



Hale Early Education Center

November 2019 Newsletter

November Curriculum and Program News

Dr. Lois Hasty, Preschool and Early Childhood Education Coordinator

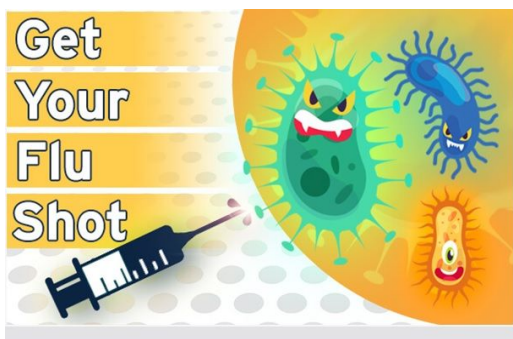
The school year is off to a great start. Thanks to all of you for following our updated safety procedures that pertain to drop-off and pick-up. At our quarterly safety committee meeting, the team discussed ways for our building to become more consistent with procedures at the other schools, while also recognizing that our school is unique. As for the children, they responded very well during both the fire drill and lockdown drill that the complex held so far this school year.

One of our goals this year is to strengthen the support we provide to families. If there are any particular issues that we can support you with at home, please do not hesitate to ask. Information about our winter center-wide family events will go out soon as well. Our playgroup for siblings/relatives of children in our program is also starting back up on November 7th. Please see "Mark Your Calendar" below for more information.

Storybook Character Day Reminder

HEEC will hold a Storybook Character Day on Thursday, October 31st. Children may dress up as his/her favorite storybook character and, if possible, bring the book to school to share with classmates. This has become a wonderful way to celebrate with a focus on literacy and learning.

Fall Reminders From the Health Office



Get your flu shots by Halloween to avoid a big scare

As we approach Halloween, things can get pretty scary with goblins and ghosts....but one scare you should not have to deal with is coping with the flu. The Centers for Disease Control advises that you get your flu shot this year by the end of October.

The flu season starts in the early fall and runs through the spring. Being vaccinated against the flu is particularly important for young children, the elderly and people with existing health conditions. Today, it's quick and easy to get a shot - they are available at your doctor's office, walk-in clinics, and most major pharmacies.

Don't take chances - why wait? More than 48 million people were sickened by influenza last year. It's nothing to take chances with - in the 2017-18 season, more than 80,000 people in the U.S. died from flu-related complications, almost double the number of vehicle-related deaths.

Sometimes people avoid getting vaccinated because they get scared off or misinformed by persistent flu myths. Learn the facts from Harvard Medical School's [10 common flu myths](#). Remember, your child needs to have proof of vaccination on file by December 31, 2019 or they will not be allowed to return to school until they receive it.

From the PTO

Happy Autumn!

I would like to introduce our HEEC PTO. This year's officers are: Angela Rejman-President, Shana Bennett-Treasurer and Sarah Gawronski-Secretary.

For anyone who is unfamiliar with the PTO, we are a group of volunteers who work together to promote communication between our families, staff, children and community. We also help organize fundraisers and events that enhance the educational, social and developmental experiences here at Hale.

The fundraisers that we promote help to provide financial assistance to our schools in so many ways. These funds may be spent on assemblies, recess equipment, treats, books, etc. We have recently finished our fall fundraiser which was Yankee Candle. The fundraiser forms were due back by Oct. 21st but you can still order online until January 8th! With your generous contribution we are hoping to use the funds towards a spring assembly.

This year's PTO is looking to build a stronger connection between the school, families and our community. We hope that the families here at HEEC will utilize the PTO as a resource for information and assistance. The PTO is always looking for new ideas and assistance. We welcome anyone to join in our meetings. All meetings are held in the HEEC Lobby at 6pm.

The meetings are scheduled for the following dates:

- December 2nd
- February 3rd
- April 6th
- June 1st

We hope to see everyone at our next meeting. Feel free to contact the PTO anytime at Heecpto@gmail.com or join our HEEC PTO Facebook group.

With gratitude,

The HEEC PTO


Mark Your Calendar

- Nov. 5th - No School for students - Election Day and Staff Development
- Nov. 7th - Playgroup begins - 9:00-10:00AM - *meet in the lobby (please bring license for your badge)*
- Nov. 27th - Early Release Day
- Nov. 28th and 29th - No School - Thanksgiving Holiday Break

Coventry Public Schools
Michele Mullaly
Director of Teaching and Learning
November 2019 Newsletter Submission

“What more can we do at home to support our child’s growth, development, and learning?” is a question we hear from our parents often, and in their communication with parents and families our HEEC teachers provide many ideas and strategies for parents to use at home. The Connecticut Office of Early Childhood (OEC) has also developed a document, “Supporting All Children Using the Connecticut Early Learning and Development Standards: A Guide For Families,” in which they provide suggestions for parents related to the standards that underpin our curriculum. This month why not focus on strategies related to Cognition, Social and Emotional Development, and Physical Development and Health? I am including the resource form the Guide for Families for your consideration.


EARLY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS



Cognition


This area includes:

- Showing curiosity
- Making sense of the world
- Staying with something
- Working hard-to-solve problems



Support your child's development by:

- Giving your child lots of chances to explore.
- Encouraging curiosity so they enjoy learning.
- Helping them figure out the answer to their own questions.
- Talking to them a lot, even if they don't understand everything you are saying yet.



Social and Emotional Development

This area includes:

- Building relationships
- Gaining an understanding of oneself
- Expressing feelings
- Learning how to play with other people

Support your child's development by:

- Giving your baby lots of love, positive attention and praise helps them learn social and emotional skills. Responding when your child cries helps them learn about communicating.
- As they get older, helping them learn words for their feelings.
- Helping them learn ways to calm and be in control of themselves (e.g., quiet time or using a soothing object). Find time for them to play with other children.

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