



# Early Childhood News

CAC of Pike  
County Early  
Childhood  
Program

Please turn in your Parent Satisfaction Survey to your child's teacher or bus driver by May 22. If you have a child in Early Head Start and Head Start or in the home-based and center-based options, please complete a survey for both programs. Your input and feedback is appreciated and helps our program make improvements for the next school year. Call Stephanie Remy, Parent Involvement Coordinator at 289-2371 for any questions you may have.

## Special News



- ◆ Parents, be sure to mark your calendars for the make-up school days for your child. Please ask your child's teacher if you are unsure of what days your child should attend.
- ◆ End of the Year Family Fun Day will be held on Friday, May 30 from 11:00-2:00 at the Bristol Park in Waverly.

May 2014

## Getting Ready for Kindergarten



Parents can start getting their child ready for Kindergarten by doing the following things:

- ◆ Establish a bedtime and morning routine so your child gets enough sleep and is prepared for school.
- ◆ Have your child eat a healthy breakfast each morning.
- ◆ Make sure your child can do things for him/herself such as buttoning his pants, using utensils, putting on his/her coat, etc.
- ◆ Talk to your child about the changes at school such as; eating in the lunch room, bells ringing, finding the school bus, raising their hand to speak and answer questions, playground equipment, behaving for teachers, sharing with friends, and following the school rules.
- ◆ Practice skills with your child over the summer such as writing, cutting with scissors, counting objects, recognizing letters, colors, and shapes.
- ◆ Always read to your child so he/she can begin to see how letters form words and how words form sentences.
- ◆ Talk to your child's preschool teacher about the skills he/she needs to work on before going to school.
- ◆ Allow your child to solve his/her problems on his own and encourage him/her to recognize and express feelings positively.
- ◆ Visit your child's public school and teacher if possible and try to attend all parent/teacher conferences.
- ◆ Have all your child's health history, emergency contact information, and immunizations up to date.

## Kindergarten Registration and Field Trips

Children who will be attending Waverly Elementary will be visiting the school on Monday, May 5 with their preschool teachers. Children who will be attending Jasper Elementary will be visiting the school on Friday, May 16. The Eastern and Western classrooms are already located in the school and plan to visit the Kindergarten classrooms when plans have been finalized.

Parents need to make sure to take your child to Kindergarten Registration and to get all your emergency contact information updated before you go. Make an appointment with your child's doctor or go to the Pike County Health Dept. to get your child's immunizations updated before they go to Kindergarten.

## Styles of Discipline



How parents approach discipline and guidance of their child usually leans toward one of the three styles in the chart. Each style has strengths and weaknesses in different situations. The yes and no styles seem to work best because it helps children grow by learning to solve their own problems.

NO STYLE	YES & NO STYLE	YES STYLE
Strict, demands obedience, spansks, yells, threatens, sets limits on everything and the child has no choices, always has control.	Sets limits, but gives child choices. Has high expectations, but does not expect perfection. Rarely punishes, but asserts authority.	Permissive, doesn't set any limits, offers little guidance. Never punishes, rarely shows authority.
ATTITUDES	ATTITUDES	ATTITUDES
"Children should do what they are told."	"Children learn by thinking, not by threats."	"My children don't listen to me anyway and I'm too tired to argue about it."
COMMUNICATION	COMMUNICATION	COMMUNICATION
One way- child listens and does as told. Little interaction between parent and child.	Two way-parent listens and guides. Discusses choices w/child.	Non-existent-parent is uninvolved w/child.
IMPACTS ON CHILD	IMPACTS ON CHILD	IMPACTS ON CHILD
May lack independence, curiosity, and low self-esteem.	Tend to be more independent, self-confident, and have high self-esteem.	May lack poor self-control, be defiant, irresponsible, and have poor self-esteem.

### Pike Community Day

The Pike County Community Day will be held on Saturday, May 3 from 11:00-4:00 on the grounds of Pleasant Hill Nursing Center and Calvary Baptist Church in Piketon. There will be games, live music, food, inflatable bounce houses, face painting, auctions, free give-aways, dunking booth, health screenings and yard sale. Parking will also be available at Dr. Farinet's office on Indian Ridge. Piketon yard sales will also be going on this day.

### Family Reading Night

The Piketon site held Family Reading Night on Tuesday, March 18 and the Western site held one on Thursday, March 27. Approximately 50-75 adults and children attended at both sites. Piketon classrooms had activities that went along with Eric Carle books such as the The Very Hungry Caterpillar, The Grouchy Ladybug, and The Very Busy Spider. The infant and toddler classrooms did Dr. Seuss activities. The Western classrooms themes were transportation and science. Children received free books to take home when playing Bingo for books. Families at both sites enjoyed doing activities and reading books of the themes. A big thank you to all the families who were able to attend.

## Step Up To Quality Classrooms



The Community Action Committee of Pike County Early Childhood Program has been awarded four stars for Step Up To Quality at the Piketon site, Jasper Elementary and the infant toddler classroom at the Early Childhood and Family Center. Step Up To Quality is Ohio's Star Rating system for licensed early childhood programs through the Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services. The program has applied and is currently waiting for ratings for the Western and Eastern classrooms.

Step Up To Quality was created to help parents identify early childhood programs that meet higher levels of care and early learning using rating awards of one to five stars. What makes star rated programs special is the higher level of qualified teachers, fewer children per classroom, planned early learning activities, and a commitment to continuous improvement.

The Early Childhood Program is taking applications for enrollment for the 2014-2015 school year. The early Childhood Program has several center-based and home-based options for children ages 0-5 years old and for prenatal women. Parents do not need to wait to complete an application for their child in August. Enrollments start now for school admission in September. If you or anyone you know is interested in completing an application, contact Tiffany Bramel or Sue Stevens at 289-2371 Monday-Friday or visit the Community Action Agency located at 941 Market Street, Piketon.

## Home Safety Pilot Project

The Community Action Committee of Pike County Early Childhood Program was selected by the Head Start's National Center on Health to train at least 50 families about home safety. Families being trained either attended the all day Spring Parent Training Day, Kinship Group Meeting, or participated as a home-based activity. All families are encouraged to go inside and outside your home to look for potential safety hazards that may injure your children. A home safety checklist is listed for you on the back page of this newsletter.

Any family who would like more information about the project can call Stephanie Remy, Parent Involvement Coordinator at 289-2371.



## Thank You Families!

The Community Action Committee of Pike County Early Childhood Program would like thank all the parents and guardians that attended any of the school functions, volunteered in the center or on the school bus, and attended any of the program meetings. Without the support of parents and guardians like you, our program would not be as successful as it is.

We hope the school year was enjoyable for you and your child. We appreciate the time and patience you have shown during this year of transitioning into new locations. All parents and guardians are reminded that you are your child's first teacher and we are here to support you in providing the care and education for your child.

Have a great summer!



### **Preventing Burns at Home**

- ◆ Keep matches and lighters out of reach of children.
- ◆ Install and maintain a smoke alarm. Check batteries and change when daylight savings time changes.
- ◆ Cover electrical outlets.
- ◆ Turn pan handles on the stove inward and use back burners for cooking.
- ◆ Set hot water heater to 120 degrees F or less.
- ◆ Test bath water temperature before putting your child in it.

### **Preventing Poisoning at Home**

- ◆ Keep all medicines and cleaning supplies in containers with safety caps in a locked cabinet and out of reach of children.
- ◆ Buy and install a Carbon Monoxide detector in your home.
- ◆ Act fast and call Poison Control Center if you think your child has ingested something poisonous. Keep the Poison Control number by your phone or enter the number into your phone 1-800-222-1222.

### **Preventing Falls at Home**

- ◆ Watch your child constantly when they are in the bathroom.
- ◆ Install window guards on upper windows.
- ◆ Use stair gates at the top and bottom of stairs.
- ◆ Always use the safety latch in your child's chair, stroller and grocery carts.

### **Preventing Choking at Home**

- ◆ Don't let children put small things in their mouths by checking your home at child's eye level for items.
- ◆ Toys, household items, and food can all be choking hazards (grapes, hot dogs, popcorn, watch batteries, coins, hard candy, etc.)
- ◆ Teach your child to chew his/her food fully before swallowing.
- ◆ Choose your foods you feed your child carefully. Anything smaller than the hole in a toilet paper roll is a choking hazard.

### **Preventing Drowning at Home**

- ◆ Never leave your child unattended in the bathtub, bathroom, pool, bucket of water, or alone near any water.
- ◆ Install lid locks on toilets and keep lid closed.
- ◆ Empty buckets and child pools after each use.

### **Preventing Suffocation at Home**

- ◆ Keep plastic shopping or trash bags away from your child.
- ◆ Keep toy chests, car trunks, refrigerator, washer and dryer doors closed when not in use.
- ◆ Keep cords on window blinds tied up and hung up over the window.
- ◆ Don't put pillows, toys, blankets in a crib with a baby.
- ◆ Place babies to sleep on their back.