

Phyllis Bodel Childcare Center at Yale School of Medicine, Inc.  
August, 2008 Newsletter.

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Dear Parents,

**The Board of Directors:**

Each August we send out an invitation and request to all our parents to join the Board of Directors either on a committee or as an officer. Attached to your email is a sign up sheet. We hope that parents will seriously consider participating in the decision making of the Center. Your input and support are very important for the operation of Phyllis Bodel. If you have any questions about the role and responsibilities of the Board, please check your handbook, ask a current Board Member ( they are listed on the bulletin boards on both sides of the Center) or stop by or contact the office. The best program happens when parents participate.

**Transitions:**

It is that time when everyone, parents and teachers alike, begin to think about transitions. This month, parents will all be receiving a schedule for transition and the information about the rooms, teachers and peers who will be their child's room in September. It is a busy time and one that requires patience and support for the children. There is no rush at all, if a child is not ready for a new space by September, we can take as long as they need. It is all about the children and we have found through the years that by following a slow schedule of transition, children are always happily settled in their new rooms by the middle of September. Communication is key so please do not hesitate to contact the teachers of the office if you have any questions or concerns.

**Calendar:**

August 1: There is **NO** All Staff. The Center opens at 7:30.  
August 15: Board Meeting, Mezzanine at Noon.  
August 21 and 22: Center Closed. Staff Development Days  
August 27: Last Day of Kindergarten  
August 29: Last Day for Pre-schooler's leaving the program.  
September 1: Labor Day . Center Closed  
September 2: Kindergarten Open House and Center Welcome Breakfast in Harkness Lounge, 7:30-9:30. All parents current and new families invited.

**Special Thank you's:**

To Harry Gollin's Mom and Dad for a copy of Good Night Moon in French.

Carin Van Gelder, Erica Herzog and Elizabeth Drye, Mommies of Jack, Julius and Matthew for driving to and chaperoning the Kindergarten Beach Day.

Brennan Clarke and his Mom, Karen for hosting the Kindergarten Beach day and for the "treasures".

Jack Van Gelder and his Mom, for the accordion and Pirate Ship for the Kindergarten.

Jack and Alexandra Van Gelder's Mom for the puzzles for Toddlers.

Our own Myckhia Reed for the smocks for Toddlers.

Kiyoko and Kantaro Sasaki's Mom and Dad for the drawing paper for first infant and toddlers.

**September Breakfast:**

Several years ago the center began to set up in the "Big Room" a table of fruit and juice and posters and information sheets about upcoming activities, calendars, health and safety information, teacher introductions, etc. Information we hoped would be helpful to new families, and to current families who may be moving from one classroom to another, or just wanted to visit with colleagues and meet families new to the Center. Slowly it has grown and we want to invited The Portfolio's are maintained monthly by the teachers of each room and are part of our NAEYC Accreditation. They contain pictures of activities within the classrooms, and we hope they offer a window into your child's day and the "teaching" that takes place everyday. We hope to see you then.

**FACTS Contracts:**

The Phyllis Bodel Childcare Center, not unlike any small non-profit business, relies on timely collection of tuition ( upon which our financial health is based) to meet our bills, pay our staff, etc. To ensure a smooth transition in September, we need the FACTS contracts back to allow time for set up and to eliminate any problems. Please return your contracts as soon as possible. .

**Other Information:**

**Parking:** I have not heard anything back about Cedar St. parking. I will of course let you all know immediately. For now, we will follow our "rules" and trust that the City will do the right thing and give us space. Even if they increase slots on South Frontage, that is not handicap accessible and we still need Cedar St.

**Sky Lights:** After years of worry about those glass skylights, they are scheduled ( date not yet determined) to be removed and a safe alternative put in their place. Watch the lawn for that construction.

**Spare paper and envelopes:** If you office is making changes to staff, etc, or ask your business managers if they have old paper and envelopes. The children go through stacks and we happily recycle.

**Sunscreen:** Just a final reminder regarding the importance of sunscreen. If you have not applied it in the morning, please take a moment to do so. We go out everyday!

