PRINCIPAL’S NEWS:

Welcome back!

Children and Families Empowered for a Lifetime of Learning. Our vision statement for the Early Childhood Program reflects what we believe in. We see every year as a new opportunity to partner with you to help your child succeed and grow through the home and school partnership. We invite you to be an active participant in your child’s classroom by getting to know the teaching staff. You can also be involved participating in our Policy Council, Colorado Preschool Advisory Council, and/or attending the different events we will be offering this 2015-2016 school year.

I am privileged to return as the Administrator and I feel honored to work with our highly qualified and dedicated staff. The Early Childhood years are critical times of development for students and families and I look forward to working with all of you to make this year successful.

Sincerely,

Lamb Caro, EC Administrator

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

- First Day of Preschool: 8/26/15
- No School: Labor Day- 9/7/15
- No School: Teacher PD Day-9/8/15
- Policy Council: 9/21/15 5:00 PM
- P-T Conferences- October 22nd Evening and All day October 23rd

Best Start for Babies Fall Classes

Beginning September 3rd- November 5th

Thursdays 5-8 PM

Where: Fort Collins

For questions and enrollment at: 970-377-3388 ext. 212 or beststartforbabies@gmail.com.
KEEPING KIDS HEALTHY!

Welcome Back to School from the EC Health Office!

As a reminder, school busses and cars are back in full force on the neighborhood streets and around Schools at this time of year. This greatly increases the chances of accidents with small children running into the school building or running through the parking lot to meet their families. It is very important to teach your children how to be safe when crossing the street, or walking through the parking lot at school.

- Do not allow children to cross streets alone. Teach your child to ask an adult for help before crossing the street or parking area.
- Do not allow them to run or dart across the street or parking area.
- Use sidewalks as much as possible.
- Teach children to be careful at cross walks. Even if the flashing sign says “walk”, look both ways for cars turning or not obeying before crossing the street.
- Teach children to treat driveways like intersections. Stop at the edge, and then look right and left for cars pulling out. Teach them to look for back-up lights on a car which means they are moving.
- Children getting off the bus must always cross in front of the bus, look left and right for oncoming cars and make sure the bus driver sees you before you cross. The bus driver will signal that it is safe to cross.
- Parents crossing the street with children must use the cross walk. It teaches children to do the same and it is much safer. There is often a crossing guard or flashing light that will signal the driver to stop and look for pedestrians. Running across the middle of a street is never safe.

Here’s to a safe 2014-2015!

Christiana Shorten - EC Health Coordinator
Fruit Pizza

Here's what you will need to make it:

• fresh flour tortillas
• peanut butter
• raisins
• apple
• knife
• bowl

Here's what you have to do:

1. Check with a grown-up before you start this.
2. Spread some peanut butter over the tortilla.
3. Cut the apple into thin slices and put them all over the peanut butter -- like a pizza topping.
4. Then sprinkle the raisins over the tortilla.
5. Dig in!

Social Emotional Resources

Welcome to school! I’m sure you and your child are excited and possibly a little bit nervous. I hope that you have had a smooth transition into the school year. If you run into any bumps along the way, please feel comfortable talking to our fabulous teaching staff about your concerns.

My name is Mary Bowman, the Early Childhood Mental Health and Autism Coordinator. Susan Bartlett is our School Social Worker and Therapist. Susan and I will be working together to bring ideas, resources and information to you about the social and emotional needs of young children. As we move through the year, you will receive information about:

❖ Hugs (our mascot) and “PBIS”- Positive Behavioral and Intervention Supports
❖ Home strategies
❖ Parenting support
❖ Community resources
❖ Web-based resources
❖ And more

Feel free to contact either one of us at any time at 613-5000

Have a great year!
Dear families,

As the new school year draws near, we would like to share with you a resource to help you encourage your children to read at home and on the go. Unite for Literacy offers a free digital library of picture books that are narrated in 30 languages. The books can be read on computer, tablet or smartphone, without a login, at [www.uniteforliteracy.com](http://www.uniteforliteracy.com)

Here are three ways to help your child enjoy reading:

· Read together every day
· Talk about what you read
· Relax and have fun!

We hope you will visit the Unite for Literacy Library often and make reading together a part of your daily routine.

**Family Engagement**

Welcome! As a family with a preschool child, you have become an important member of the Early Childhood team working towards preparing your child for Kindergarten. Throughout the year, you will have opportunities to share your knowledge about your child and what s/he needs. We will be finding strategies to help your child’s learning and development and will share those strategies for you to try at home. We strive to keep on-going communication with you and will support your learning at home efforts. Our common goal is to have your child ready for Kindergarten and continued success in school. We are going to have a wonderful and exciting year! We are glad you and your child are here!
Please come join the

Parenting Young Children Project!

The Colorado State University Parenting Young Children Project is seeking families with 2-2.5 year old children that have low income and are struggling with high levels of stress in their lives.

We hope to learn from these families about what works for them: how they handle big challenges as well as small, daily challenges, especially in the parenting of toddlers. The ultimate goal is to better understand parent-child interactions in order to improve prevention and intervention programs for families.

This study involves surveys and observing parents and children as they interact with each other (play and solve puzzles) in our laboratory. We make every effort to ensure that families feel comfortable during each 1.5 - 2 hour session. Families are asked to come 3 times over a 1 1/2 year period, and are compensated for their time ($115 total for one parent, $210 total if both parents participate, we welcome single parents!). This is a project funded by NIH that has been approved by the CSU ethics board. We are in the process of recruiting 50 more families over the next year. If interested, please call (970) 491-6058, or email us at parentchild@colostate.edu. "Like" us on facebook at www.facebook.com/parentingyoungchildrenproject.

Follow us on FaceBook:

www.facebook.com/ThompsonIntegratedEarlyChildhood

Get fun ideas, information on school events, and sometimes just a nice message to help your day go well.

We are also on the web at:

http://tinyurl.com/thompsonec