

NEWSLETTER

October 2011



Please join our Facebook page! Keep on top of news, reminders and announcements quickly and easily.

<http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/North-Toronto-Early-Years-Learning-Centre/133076586743694>

Castlefield Location - Parking

All parents at the Castlefield Location can relate to the parking challenge at drop off and pick up times. Currently Castlefield Ave is a no parking zone, but we have been trying to have the city amend the parking bylaws to allow temporary parking on the south side of the street.

There is power in numbers, so you can help us by sending off your own request for change:

councillor_stintz@toronto.ca

A little inspiration from Jodi...

As with every year I feel it is most useful to start out by explaining the Adlerian foundation upon which our school is built: the 4C's. Those of you who have been part of the NTEYLC family for a while will be familiar with the 4C's, but

for those parents new to the school I hope you find this inspiring.

Defined by Betty Lou Bettner, Ph.D. and Amy Lew, Ph.D, the 4 C's are beliefs about oneself that determine future success and happiness and develop in the first 6 years.

Fundamental to parenting and teaching from an Adlerian perspective is a belief that every action (cooperative or misbehaviour) of a child has a purpose. We believe that a child's basic aim ***in all instances*** is to solidify their place, contribution & value in a social group – family, school etc.

Children who intrinsically feel the 4C's behave cooperatively because they feel secure with their place in the world, have faith in their own abilities, believe they are worthwhile and are not afraid to make mistakes. With this in mind, our goal is to guide and encourage your children along on their journey towards feeling intrinsically these 4C's. *Connected* and *capable* are the first 2 of the 4 C's.

Connect – *I believe I belong.*

A child who feels *connection* believes they belong, feels secure, reaches out to others and willingly *cooperates*. Children who do not feel they connect feel insecure, isolated, are more susceptible to

peer pressure (as they are looking for belonging) and most often seek undue *attention*.

Our programs create opportunities for the children to make connections with peers, role model empathy and encourage helping and reaching out to others which in turn is evidence to them that they belong - they *connect*. Our job chart even has the very important job of hugger so all the children have the opportunity to feel close to others and help a friend!

Capable – *I believe I can do it - with effort I will succeed and can take care of myself.*

A person who feels *capable* intrinsically feels competent, they are willing to put in the effort, and they have self-control and self-discipline. A person who feels capable is free to assume responsibility and feels self-reliant. Children who do not feel capable feel instead inadequate, and may become *dependent* or *seek power*.

Most adults underestimate the abilities of children making the children feel inadequate. Children become irresponsible only when *we fail to give them opportunities to take on responsibility*. One of our catch phrases at N.T.E.Y.L.C. is **never do for a child what the child can do for him or herself** whether that be walking up the stairs, hanging up their own coat or backpack or putting

away their own toys. Once they learn a skill it should be theirs alone – no matter how inconvenient for you or how much longer it may take them – taking over rob their power and show your lack of faith in them.

Our programs are designed to create opportunities for children to take on responsibility and become independent. We teach the children to do for themselves by taking time for training (TTFT). Our TTFT activities are always executed in fun and playful ways that children find non-threatening and empowering. When you take the time to show a child how to complete a task, the child is then freed up emotionally to practice their way to successful execution. Even when a task is not completed perfectly, *the child feels proud of their effort*. When you encourage a child to make an effort, and acknowledge that effort, you show them that you have faith in their abilities and they will grow to believe, intrinsically, that they are *capable*.

So the next time your little one comes home with a coat on inside out, or shoes on the wrong feet, be happy that they did it all by themselves, and that they feel pride in their accomplishment!

Catch up with me next time for the 3rd & 4th of the Crucial C's: *Count & Courage*.

Jodi Davies
Registration & Administration

Did you know...

Children learn more when they are an active participant in the learning process? Children need to be engaged in every aspect of

their learning; they need to be hands on and a part of the discussion at all times in order to internalize the learning material and its respective learning objectives. It is for this reason that before a child is asked to do an activity we take time for training! We explain how to do each individual step within the activity, why it's being done that way and then engage the students in a discussion about the activity. This ensures that the child is fully engrossed in the objective of the activity *before* they are invited to manipulate and construct the activity provided. By taking time for training the children are better able to internalize the programmed learning objectives more holistically.

Catherine Ciardulli
Curriculum Coordinator

Reminders...

Topic Night with Alyson Schäfer
Thursday October 6, 2011
Castlefield Location, 7:00-9:00pm

Alyson Schäfer will be presenting *Alfred Adler's Childrearing Fundamentals*. So if you need your parenting questions answered this is an evening well spent! Tickets are \$15 and all proceeds are going to charity. Please look out for the flyer which will come home with your child in the next week.

This event is open to all; friends and family welcome!

Update your child's file

Many of you are missing information from your child's file such as immunization records and for those of you who were here

last year, confirmation of your child's student profile information. If Jodi or Catriona have contacted you we would appreciate your response promptly.

Castlefield Location Coffee in the Lounge

October 13 & 14 or 20 & 21, 2011

Look out for an invitation to visit with your child's teacher and meet with other parents from your child's class. Find out how things have been going so far, get your questions answered and enjoy a coffee on us!

Bedford Park Campus Open Day

Saturday October 15, 2011
10:00-12:00pm

We invite all of our Bedford Park families to join us at school to visit your child's classroom, and connect with other families and teachers.

Picture Day
Castlefield Location –

Thurs & Fri Oct 27 & 28, 2011

Bedford Park Location –
Thurs & Fri Nov 10 & 11, 2011

Parent's Night Out

October 28, 2011
5:30-8:30pm

Parent's Night Out is held at both Castlefield and Bedford Park locations several times a year. Parent's Night Out is an opportunity to drop off your child where they can enjoy a pizza dinner, movie and a craft activity. The children are cared for by two teachers from the school in their familiar surrounding with friends. This gives you as parents a few hours of freedom!

A registration form will be sent home with your child. You can sign up for these nights in advance or on an as needed basis. The cost is \$25 per child, per evening with a reduced rate of \$20 for siblings.

Kinder Q™ Parent/Teacher Reviews

Castlefield Location

Thurs & Fri Oct 20 & 21, 2011

Bedford Park Location

October 24 – 28, 2011

Look out for a sign-up sheet in the lobby.

Please contact your child's teacher if you have any questions.
Bedford 416-544-1039
Castlefield 416-484-9597

Toddler/Preschool Parent/Teacher Reviews

Castlefield Location

All classes

November 17 & 18, 2011

There will be no school on interview day. Interviews are for parents only. We are unable to offer childcare during interviews.

Look out for a sign-up sheet in the lobby.

Please contact your child's teacher if you have any questions.

Castlefield 416-484-9597

Bedford Park Location

Toddler - Caterpillars

November 18, 2011

There will be no school on interview day. Interviews are for parents only. We are unable to offer childcare during interviews.

Preschool - Busy Bees T/TH students only

Tues Dec 6, 2011

Classes will run as usual on interview day.

Preschool - Busy Bees MWF students only

Wed Dec 7, 2011

Classes will run as usual on interview day.

Preschool - Dolphins

Fri Dec 9, 2011

There will be no school on interview day. Interviews are for parents only. We are unable to offer childcare during interviews

Look out for a sign-up sheet in the lobby.

Please contact your child's teacher if you have any questions.

Bedford Park 416-544-1039

Community Board...

School Community Directory

It really is amazing how many talented, successful parents we have in our school community! Parents of NTEYLC students represent such a vast number of occupations, skills & industries that we thought why not put together a directory that we can all draw from the next time you're looking for a dentist, designer, lawyer, spa, dog walker, babysitter, doctor, new car...I could go on and on!

Over the next few weeks we'll be collecting your business information, voluntary of course, to add to a school community directory that will be available to all parents in the school. The directory will be for in-house use only and not shared outside our school community; and again, participation is voluntary.

Our hope is that the directory will send business your way and make our community stronger!

Registration forms will be sent home soon! Please let us know if you have any thoughts or suggestions.

jodiatwork@gmail.com

Need To Contact us?

Parent's Only Line

Please call to speak to your child's teacher to voice compliments or concerns, report absences etc.

Castlefield 416-484-9597

Bedford Park 416-544-1039

Administration

Please call for all inquiries regarding fees, class placement, registration etc.

416 544-0133

To reach Connie Runions:

early.years@bellnet.ca

To reach Jodi Davies:

jodiatwork@gmail.com

To reach Catriona Smith:

early4444@bellnet.ca

To reach Jenn Runge-Carr:

jandradework@gmail.com