

NEWSLETTER

September 2011

Dear Parents...

A big welcome to all returning and new children, teachers and parents! I hope that everyone had a wonderful and relaxing summer and are ready to begin a new school year. The teachers and I feel very honoured to be part of your child's early experiences. It is going to be a wonderful year!

I'd like to thank all who attended our meet the teacher days and our parent orientation evening. I hope it was helpful to you and elevated some of the first day jitters.

Teacher Update

I am excited to be working once again with such a talented and dedicated group of people! The teachers have all had a deserved rest and look forward to another great year!

I am very happy to report that Catherine Ciardulli, our Curriculum Coordinator for our Linking Letters Program, is returning from maternity leave. We are so glad to have her back, she will be teaching at our Bedford Park campus this year.

We had quite a few weddings over the summer! Jenn Andrade, (Supervisor, Castlefield, Debbie Kalinich, (5 day Kinder Q™ teacher, Bedford), Judy Cutrone (toddler teacher, Bedford) and last but not least Chantel Carreira (toddler teacher, Castlefield). We wish them all the happiness in the world!

North Toronto welcomes two new teachers to our team! Carrie Loring will be helping with pick up

in our JK/SK lunch program at our Bedford Park campus. Carrie's background is in classical music, singing at live concerts, on television and has done quite a few recordings! We are excited to have such a musical talent in our midst and hope she can teach us a song or two! We also welcome Valerie Conway who is teaching at our Castlefield campus. Val has her Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education and will have a filled schedule teaching toddlers, preschool and Kinder Q. We welcome them both to our North Toronto team.

Communication

For those of you who are new to the school there are two newsletters given out on a monthly basis, one from the school and the other from your child's class. In the school letter there are different sections with a little note from myself, dates to remember or add to your calendar, upcoming parent workshops or events and reminders of school closures etc. There is also a section at the end of the newsletter called 'Community Board'. This is an area where you will find postings regarding events you might find interesting or places to go with the children. The board is also for you to post anything you think other parents might find interesting, such as an item for sale, a new product you'd like to plug etc. Jodi Davies will of course add Adlerian notes to inspire you in your daily parenting. Look out also for Catherine Ciardulli who will be giving you a monthly

insight into the Linking Letters program and what you child will be learning in class.

I welcome any comments or ideas regarding the newsletter or any other matters. Please feel free to call me on the parent's only line at Bedford Park (416) 544 1039 or email early4444@bellnet.ca

**Warmest Regards,
Catriona Smith
Program Director**

Happy September!

Just wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself, my name is Jenn Runge-Carr and I am the Castlefield Supervisor. I have been the supervisor at the Castlefield location going on 6 years. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me. My information is listed below.

I look forward to meeting all the new children and getting to know the new families and re-connecting with returning families and children.

I hope that this new school year will be a great experience and create great learning opportunities for all families, staff and students.

**Jenn Runge-Carr
Castlefield Supervisor
416-484-9597**

jandradowork@gmail.com

A little inspiration from
Jodi:

NTEYLC was founded on a belief in Alfred Adler's philosophy of social interest and each

individual's intrinsic need for a feeling of belonging in society. In *Maintaining Sanity in the Classroom: Classroom Management Techniques (2nd Edition) © Taylor & Francis, 1998* Rudolph Dreikurs, MD writes that Adler's concept of social interest, "alone stimulates a person to contribute to the welfare of all and to increase his function and his abilities, not for his own sake, but as a member of the group. The child's interest in belonging exists from the outset and may take a positive or a negative turn, depending on the nature of social feeling that comes about through activity and communication between the adult and the child." Dreikurs goes on to explain that a child's learning potential is greatly enhanced when this sense of social interest is promoted through mutual respect, a sense of equality and of equal responsibility and equal role in decision making.

In order to ensure our goal of promoting social interest and teaching with mutual respect and equality is met, all of the programs at NTEYLC utilize a model based on Dreikurs' belief known as the **4 Crucial C's** as defined by Betty Lou Bettner, Ph.D. and Amy Lew, Ph.D. in *Responsibility in the Classroom: A Teacher's Guide to Understanding and Motivating Students (© Connexions Press, 1995, 1998)*. The 4 Crucial C's are necessities that each child must intrinsically believe about him/herself in order to successfully meet life's challenges from the point of view of social interest. They are:

- 1- A belief that you are **connected** to others as part of a group or community such as family or school.
- 2- A belief that you are **capable** and can take care of yourself.

3- A belief that that you are valued by others, that you can make a difference, that you **count**.

4- A belief that you have **courage** and can handle whatever comes. Over the course of the school year I will be writing articles for this newsletter explaining these concepts as well as other fundamental Adlerian concepts, how we incorporate them into our programs and how you can utilize them at home. I invite any feedback or questions you might have regarding these articles. Your child's teachers can also provide a wealth of information or point you towards many resources that are readily available.

We thank all of the parents and caregivers for helping the teachers over these first weeks of school, particularly for your commitment to our common goal of focusing on the children, and the Happy Snappy Goodbye at drop off and pick up times. We are all happy to have this school year under way and are excited about all that we will teach and learn from your children this year!

**Until next time...
Jodi Davies**

Did you know...

Play is the work of a child? Children need to play; it is integral to their learning. Because children learn through play, all of our learning objectives are expressed through fun activities, individual and group creative time and intentional dramatic/floor toy opportunities. Each class (toddler and preschool) use "play" as a tool to internalize learning objectives.

You'll also notice that each class, even of the same age group, has

a different program plan posted. This is because activities and learning objectives programmed for each class is a reflection of that class, their areas of interests and skill level.

At NTEYLC, we recognize the importance of ensuring that are classrooms are a safe place to come "as you are" and have fun learning all at the same time!

**Catherine Ciardulli
Curriculum Coordinator**

Reminders

You should have received your 2011- 12 School Calendar, class list and a Parent Handbook. Please read the information in the handbook and return the acknowledgement slip by Friday September 23, 2011. If you have any questions do not hesitate to call me.

Please to ensure that all information in regards to your child (registration forms, immunizations, changes in phone numbers etc) are handed in as soon as possible.

Announcements

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!

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.

Castlefield Campus 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!

Kinder Q™ Parent/Teacher Reviews

Both Locations

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 will be announced shortly.

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.

Lunch Program

This is a "bring your own", nut-free, bagged lunch program. The program runs from the end of your child's class until 12:45 pm (Bedford) or 1:00 (Castlefield). Your child must be 2.5 years to attend. The cost is \$10.00/lunch.

Drop In

Supervised afternoon Drop In is available for children 2.5 years and over, registered at the school, Monday to Friday 1:00 to 3:00pm at Castlefield, or 12:45pm to 2:45pm at Bedford. The cost for this program is \$10.00/hour. The second child is \$4.50 per hour

There is no Drop in on P.D. Days and Holidays.

Please note for Lunch and Drop In programs:

Space can be limited. In order to secure a spot, please call to reserve your spot.

Castlefield 416-484-9597

Bedford 416-544-1039

Lost and Found

In the foyer, by the door is the school's lost and found. If you are missing an item this would be your first port of call! The week before the end of each term we display the items of clothing, which have not been picked up along with a reminder note. Any items not picked up will be given to a charity.

Better still; label your child's clothing so the teachers may give the item back to your child to take home.

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:

jandradowork@gmail.com