# Potential "New Family" News

# Welcome

Welcome to Annie's Children's Center! Here are a few things that are special about our center that we want to share with you.

#### **PARENT PACKS**

Every classroom at each location has a Parent Pack that both the Directors and Lead Teachers have put together. This packet of information contains important info regarding that specific classroom. This includes typical activities, things you may need to bring, a daily schedule, an introduction from the lead teacher, and a quick overview of the classroom. Parent Packs are received both upon enrollment and prior to a classroom transition.

#### **PARKS**

We are very lucky at both the downtown and eastside locations to have nearby parks in which our preschool classes may walk to and play. In the summer months the preschoolers and prekindergarten children spend a lot of time at these parks.

### **MONTHLY NEWSLETTERS**

Each month parents receive a newsletter containing important information about the center and any special activities for that specific month. The newsletter can be emailed or you may receive a paper copy.

#### **PICTURE DAY**

Twice per year Annie's has a professional photographer come to each center and take the children's pictures. This takes place in the fall and spring. This is a great opportunity to have your child's picture taken!

#### **MISTER LAURENCE**

Mister Laurence is a local music teacher and comes to each center twice per month. He performs songs and stories by playing guitar and accordion, while singing karaoke style along to his prerecorded backup group, THE PLAY MONEY BAND!

#### **HOT LUNCH PROGRAM**

We offer a hot lunch program at Annie's Children's Center. It is offered various days depending on the location. All lunches are \$3.00 per day. Some families take advantage of one day, while others utilize the service all days. It can provide one less thing to worry about in the mornings. Fruits and vegetables are offered with every meal. Please inquire at your location to learn details about each center's menu.

#### PRESCHOOL/PRE-KINDERGARTEN SUMMER CAMP

Summer Camp is designed for students ages 4-7 but most activities are developmentally appropriate and enjoyable for children up to age 9. Summer is an opportunity for children to take a break from the academic school year and do what children do best: play. Spontaneous learning opportunities and child-initiated activities will replace our usual planned learning and teacher-initiated play. During summer camp, teachers will focus on developing children's social skills including turn-taking skills, conflict resolution, negotiating, manners, and self-help skills.

#### **QUARTERLY CLEANING DAYS**

In addition to our daily cleaning by our janitorial service, every three months the staff at all three locations come in on a Saturday and deep clean the building. It is a great way to keep up on the building's cleanliness and eliminate germs.

# MONTHLY SCHOLASTIC BOOK ORDERS

Each month throughout the school year we send home Scholastic book orders. Scholastic offers wonderful deals on a large variety of books for all ages. It also provides a chance for the center to earn bonus points, which in turn buys the center new books!

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#### **FAMILY POTLUCKS**

Through out the year each location has family potluck gatherings at each center. These gatherings provide a wonderful chance for parents to get to know one another and spend time with teachers, as well as walk through and familiarize themselves with the other classrooms. Each of the classrooms plan an activity for the children to do while they are here that evening.

## WELCOME TO ANNIE'S & WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU!

After your initial tour of Annie's Children's Center, we encourage you to spend time with your child observing and/or interacting in the classroom. Newly enrolled families will find the transition smoother when time is taken to acclimate the child for a few sessions of one to two hours each, both with and without the parents and/or legal guardians. Annie's doors are always open, yet closely supervised, for parents and/or legal guardians to visit with their children throughout the day.