

# Early Learning Center Newsletter

## December 5, 2006

As the fall semester is quickly coming to a close, I would like to share some important announcements and news for our ELC families.

### **Staffing change**

We are saddened to announce that Amy Yeatts will be leaving the ELC on January 19 after seven years of faithful service to our students. Fortunately, Amy is staying at Messiah College and will be teaching two sections of the Core Course: Created and Called for Community, beginning spring semester. She is also looking forward to spending additional time with her grandchildren. We will miss her caring and patient interaction with the children. Amy's open position is advertised on the Messiah College web site and we plan to have a new employee in place prior to her last day.

### **Fundraiser**

Thank you for your participation in the Kidstuff coupon book fundraiser. We were very pleased with the results this year – we raised over \$1000! We will use part of this total to have the Popcorn Hat players visit the Center for an evening children's drama event next spring. Additionally, we will purchase 2 new wooden scooters for indoor play, additional die cuts for our Center die cut machine, and additional learning materials for all classrooms. More information on the Popcorn Hat Players event will be provided to you after the holiday!

### **Donations**

Thank you for donating to our various projects this month. The "Exam Week Survival Box" for our student teachers and assistants is overflowing, thanks to your generosity! Ann Mark will assemble the bags and distribute them to our students on Friday.

The wagon with supplies for the Village Orphanage in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, is also full and overflowing! Ms. Heather will be hand-delivering these items when she travels to Haiti in January with a team from the Carlisle BIC church. Thank you for contributing to our ELC missions and service project. We plan to post photos from Ms. Heather's trip in the entrance hallway during January.

And...the Lab school teachers could not have hosted Make-it Take-it day without your generous donations of supplies and time spent preparing materials for the stations. Thanks to the many Lab school families and teachers who made this day possible.

### **Lab School January schedule**

This Thursday, December 7 is the final Lab School class of the fall semester. Children in extended care will be in Ms. Jill's classroom for the full day until Lab School begins again in January. Students enrolled in Ms. Bev's Creative Expression course for J-term at

Messiah will be assisting with creative activities in the classroom during the two weeks in January.

**Please note, the first week for Lab School will be January 16 – 19, Tuesday – Friday.** (This change of schedule is due to the Martin Luther King holiday, which falls on Monday, January 15 when Messiah College and the ELC are closed.) Children scheduled to attend M/W will attend W/F of this week. Lab School classes will be held January 22-25 and then will break for two weeks. Children in extended care will again be in Ms. Jill's room for the full day during the Lab School break.

The spring semester will begin on February 12 with the arrival of a new group of student teachers.

**Professional Development for ELC staff**

We are excited to announce that the ELC was chosen by the *Pennsylvania Early Learning Keys to Quality* to participate in the "Mind in the Making" staff professional development training workshops beginning this month. The teachers will participate in 12 learning modules, focusing on researched based material about how young children learn best. The modules reinforce the concept that social, emotional and intellectual learning all work together in a child's growth and development process. For more information, refer to the website: [www.mindinthemaking.org](http://www.mindinthemaking.org) and the brochure placed in your mailbox.

Best wishes for a happy holiday season as we celebrate Christ's birth. We look forward to seeing you at the ELC family Christmas party this Sunday, December 10, at 3:30 p.m. in Boyer atrium. Boyer is the large academic building located adjacent to Hostetter Chapel. Students will be at the door to welcome and direct you to the atrium.