REMINDEERS FOR APRIL

Schedule Changes:
May schedule changes are due to the office by April 30th.

Parent Council Meeting
Thursday, April 12th, 6:15-7:45pm.
Child care and dinner provided.
Call ahead to reserve space.

Parents Night Out:
PNO is scheduled for Friday, April 20th,
from 6:15 to 10:00 pm.
Call ahead to reserve space.

Pizza Night Fundraiser
April 30th, all day/evening
Papa’s Pizza, 11th & Chambers

Applications
Summer Applications are available May 3rd and Fall applications are available May 17th. Both will be passed out in your child’s program.

Memorial Day
CCDC will be closed Memorial Day, May 28th.

Mark you calendars!

DUCKLING WADDLE AND JOG-A- THON
May 19th

Please plan to bring your ideas and suggestions regarding this fundraiser to the next Parent Council meeting, Thursday, April 12th, here at Moss Street. Call ahead to reserve child care space and dinner.

More information about the event is on page 6 of this newsletter!
CCDC encourages you to participate in...

TV Turnoff Week
April 23-29

The average American watches over 4 hrs of television per day, with more television sets per average household than there are people in that same household!

The TV Turnoff Network wants to change this statistic, starting with the week of April 23-29. This may be the perfect opportunity for you to spend some much needed time with your kids. If the weather is nice, some outside activities can be great for distracting you and your family from the TV.

Here are some ideas that the organization suggests from their website, www.tvturnoff.org:

- Start a garden
- Play outdoor games such as hopscotch, tag, hide and seek, etc
- Learn about native trees and flowers
- Go “camping” in your backyard
- Watch the clouds or stars
- Go on a family walk, bike ride, or picnic

Week of the Young Child
“Building Better Futures for All Children.”

April 22-28, 2007 is the annual NAEYC’s Week of the Young Child: “The purpose of the Week of The Young Child is to focus public attention on the needs of young children and their families, and to recognize the early childhood programs and services that meet those needs.”

For more information about Week of the Young Child activities, visit their web site at www.naeyc.org/about/woyc/
Future Break Week Care Scheduling

As I write this, it is a quieter than usual day at Moss Street. That is because its midweek during spring break. The number of families needing care is down during these University breaks. We have worked to assure that all needing care during these time periods will be accommodated.

At times that has meant opening additional classrooms for a very small number of children. This means staffing those additional classrooms. This is problematic when it comes at a time when most of our student staff are away from campus. In addition these breaks are the times when we urge our professional staff to, if possible, take their well deserved vacations. This has meant scheduling substitute teachers for regular hours during the breaks.

For many CCDC families taking this week off is not an option because of work or academic duties that continue for them even when UO classes are not in session. Meanwhile, because of reduced enrollment and higher than typical classroom staffing costs, break week care presents is bit of a financial drain to CCDC.

In order to reduce cost while still making available the care many families need, we are making changes to how we schedule for break weeks. Beginning in June we will open one classroom in each of our age groups (Littles, Middles, Preschools and After School). Based on past experience this should allow us to meet almost all of the requests we receive.

We hope those who don’t “need” the care but who have scheduled the care to maintain a consistent experience for their children or take some childless time off either defer scheduling such care or be willing to take some afternoon hours or be willing to accept less sought after child care time slots.

If we are unable to meet all needs we will, to the best of our ability, assist parents in making alternative child care arrangements.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Summer and Fall Application Timelines</th>
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<td>Because we schedule Spring Finals, Zero/Break Week, Summer and Fall Term care one right after the other, the application process is more condensed this time of year. Please be aware of the dates that these applications are due because the timeframe is not as long as usual.</td>
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**Spring Finals and Zero week** schedules will be available April 20 in your programs and due May 1.

**Summer term** applications will be available beginning May 3 in your program and due on May 14.

Summer applications follow the U of O schedule. This means you can schedule care in two-week block minimums instead of the usual 11 weeks of a full term. School Age children can be scheduled in one week blocks.

Summer confirmations will begin by June 4th for all returning families.

**Fall term** applications will be available May 17 in your program and due June 4th.

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<th>Dressing for the Seasons</th>
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<td>As you are all aware, the weather at this time of year has been unpredictable. Because of this, it seems appropriate to address some things to consider when dressing your child for school.</td>
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- Dress in layers -- a light jacket or sweatshirt for the mornings can be removed easily as the day warms up. Rain gear for showery days is still appropriate.
- We ask that you do NOT send your child to school in flip-flops since they tend to make it difficult to go on walks, plus they often stay off kid’s feet for the majority of the day! If you do wish to send your child in sandals, please make sure that they have heel straps.
- CCDC will supply SPF 30+ sunscreen for all of the children, however, if your child requires a special kind, we ask that you please provide it.
A season filled with changes

Spring is probably my most favorite season. You see, I am an avid gardener and each year I take great joy in the blooming and greening trees, the early spring blossoms, and the returning migratory birds.

In my garden it is time to clear away last season’s withered stalks, move the leaf mulch into the compost and spread some grass seed on that bare spot in the lawn. It’s the last chance to finish up on pruning my fruit trees, grape vines and roses. When the soil warms a bit it will be time to plant the flowers and vegetables that I will, later in the season harvest to eat and to enjoy.

It is a season, of changes; warming temperatures, longer days, and less frequent and warmer rains. I know as the days get brighter and warmer my mood is often brighter too.

Here at CCDC we are also working on a few changes this season. Not major changes like the center three years ago with our first spring in this center nor last year’s closing of the Westmoreland Children’s Center, but smaller subtler changes. They include some shifts in the budget and some continued changes and growing that enhance our facilities and our programs. These changes are:

- Pruning back our Break Week care options a bit.

- I am also busily reviewing the budget approved this winter and getting ready for some of the necessary changes in rates for next year. Unfortunately this winter budget season’s modest increase in student fee support resulted in a slight reduction in the portion of our budget that is covered by those fees (from 41% down to about 39%). This means the funds we earn ourselves will need to go up. Implementing periodic rate increases is my least favorite seasonal activity but I take solace in knowing it will make it possible to assure the same high quality nurturing care all have come to expect from CCDC.

- In the building, the biggest change has taken place in the preschool space where teachers renovated and relocated the coat cubbies to create a little cloak room area in the hallway. This opens up additional activity space in the classrooms to enhance children’s growing interests and imaginations.

- Outdoors we will be refilling the planting beds and boxes with flowers and recruiting parent helpers to finish up the fence and build a small deck in the backyard playground area. We will even expand our little garden out there.

- Several teachers have recently attended trainings nearby, and one attended a conference in Arizona. New ideas seeded there will blossom in the weeks and months to come.

- Planning is in full swing for our summer programs including a grant application which could provide an enhanced multicultural outdoor educational experience for our school age kids. We will let you know if that effort bears fruit.

- Some changes are good and some initially do not seem so universally positive. I have learned through my work in the garden that sometimes things we didn’t plan for will appear and grow voluntarily; and even the bad stuff can be turned into good stuff. Volunteer. As my favorite bumper sticker reads COMPOST HAPPENS.

Have a Happy Spring
The most popular member of our fish tank, “Nemo,” is a Percula clown fish, which is the most common of the 27 varieties of clown fish. In the wild, clown fish are found in the warm waters of the Pacific Ocean as well as the Red Sea, Indian Ocean, and Australia’s Great Barrier Reef.

Nemo has a special relationship with the sea anemone that he lives with. An anemone has poisonous tentacles which it uses to kill fish in order to eat them. This poison discourages potential predators from chasing after clown fish who take refuge in the anemone. Scientists are not sure why clown fish do not get stung by the tentacles of the anemone. Some think that the sugar-based mucus that surrounds the clown fish protects it, while others believe that the clown fish has a unique swimming pattern that the anemone does not recognize as a source of food.

In exchange for this protection, the clown fish cleans the anemone by eating the remains of the fish that the anemone has killed and also the dead tentacles of the anemone itself.

Of course, since there are no predators of clown fish in our fish tank, the anemone is not needed to protect Nemo. Despite this, most captive clown fish still spend the majority of their lives nearby the anemone.
Annual Duckling Waddle and Jog-a-thon  
Is cruising into town on…

Saturday, May 19th, 10:30am-1pm  
Practice field of the SRC

The Duckling Waddle and Jog-a-thon is coming next month, May 19th. This event is organized by and benefits all three campus child care centers. The Duckling Waddle is not only a fundraiser, but also an event for your whole family to come and relax, have some fun and interact with other parents and kids.

The day of the event is Saturday, May 19th, from 10:30am to 1pm, at the practice field in the shadows of historic Hayward Field. Registration is at 10:30am and the Jog-a-thon is from 11am to 12:00pm. There will be a lunch break at noon, followed by kid friendly field activities from 12pm to 1pm.

Water and snacks, such as fruit and crackers, will be provided during the Waddle. Lunch is “BYO”, with each family providing and bringing their own food.

Participants can walk, jog, run laps or be pushed or pulled in strollers or wagons. Trikes, bikes, roller-blades or skateboards will not be allowed on the field.

Donations for this event can be collected in two different ways. First, if the donor would like to make a donation for a flat-rate amount, please collect the donation at that time and place it in the envelope we will provide. The donations can also be mailed in to the center by the donor once the Waddle occurs. The second option is to get donors to pledge a certain per-lap amount. After the event you will need to contact everyone that made a pledge to let them know the amount of laps your child completed. All donations must be turned in to the office of your child care center by June 1st. This date is very important to tell anyone mailing in donations.

Instruction and information packets will be passed out in your classrooms via your parent box. Included will be an event map, a flyer restating the date and times of the day’s events, a pledge sheet, a few donor letters and envelopes to hand out to those wanting to mail in their donations by June 1st, and an envelope to keep your collected donations until they are handed in to the main office, after the event.

We understand that everyone has a busy schedule, so thank you in advance for all of your hard work and time in making this event a success. We encourage all of our families, no matter what your pledge amount, to please come and enjoy this fun event with all of the University of Oregon’s child care centers in celebration of our community.

All parents are invited to join in continuing discussion and planning around these topics and more at the next Parent Council meeting. It will be on Thursday April 12 from 6:15 to 7:45 at the Moss Street Children’s Center. Child care and supper are provided to make it easier for all to attend. Please call the office to reserve space.
Increased Costs Cause Increased Child Care Rates

The rates to parent users of the Moss Street Children’s Center will regrettably increase for the 2007-2008 budget year. New rates will be in effect summer term. These rates increases are in response to the growing cost of meeting all payroll expenses. Reduction in work study grants to students, the increase in the minimum wage, raises for professional staff and continued increase in the costs of employee benefits and other payroll expenses combined, constitute a nearly $130,000 (14.3 %) increase in costs. Supplies expenses and the costs of operating and maintaining our building also increased over $25,000. Though nearly a $34,000 (7.4%) increase in student fee support helps, rates must go up to meet the costs of continuing our current programs.

Cost increases will vary within the age groups as efforts continue to bring CCDC rates into alignment with the larger child care market place. In order to do this most effectively we are utilizing the Oregon Department of Human Services 2006 Market Rate Survey as a guide. The new rates will attempt to move our student discount rate close to the 50th percentile costs as established by this survey. This is consistent with CCDC’s long term goal of providing high quality child care services to student families at mid-market costs. Student discounts and flexible scheduling options to assure student access to child care to facilitate their access to the University are the primary reasons we receive significant financial support from the student government. The new rates for non-student families are around the 75th percentile.

There will also be increases in some of our other charges. The most significant one will be beginning to charge for the breakfast that all children receive when they are at CCDC in the morning. Those who qualify for meal reimbursement from the United States Department of Agriculture Child Nutrition Program will receive this meal free or at a reduced price. Others will be charged 90 cents for this meal. The supply fee charged each term will also go up by $5.00 to better match actual supply costs.

The cost increase to families will vary depending on the age of one’s child(ren). In the Littles and Middles classrooms, where costs are the highest, there will be no increases. The largest rates increases will be for preschoolers. For several years, these rates have been lower than at other similar centers. Part time costs will increase by 16 cents per hour for student families and 20 cents for non-students. Full time care will go up by $10.00 per week for student and $12.00 per week for non student families. School Age rates, which went up significantly last year are 5 to 10 cents per hour. A complete listing of the new rates and the Market Rate Survey data will soon be available at the CCDC website for your review.

We recognize that these costs will be a burden to many families. CCDC staff will help to the best of their ability, advising about eligibility requirements for Associated Students (ASUO) Child Care Subsidy, Employment Related Child Care (ERDC), and Dependent Care Assistance Programs (DCAP) and other options that can help families meet the high costs of quality child care.
Kids 'n' Kin Family Friendly Activities

Eugene Public Library: Glitterary Word Festival
Free
Saturday, April 28  11-5pm
Circus spectacular with dancers, jugglers, a storyteller, and more.
Learn to juggle, write a poem based on sounds, make an artful book,
dance like the rain, and paint with water colors.

Storyteller Olga Loya
Sunday, April 29  2:00
Dynamic, high-energy, bilingual stories about Latin America and
Olga’s childhood in East L.A.

Family Music Time
For all ages.
All Saturdays 10:15am  Downtown

U of O Museum of Natural and Cultural History
Light and Color Exhibit  $8 / family
Wed-Sun, 11am-5pm.  Through April 29.
Identification Day  $5 / family
Saturday, April 21  1-4 pm
Bring your own artifacts and specimens to the museum and learn
more about them from the experts! Learn about archaeological sites,
geology, and the protection of cultural resources.

Peterson Barn
Bunny Breakfast at the Barn
$5, pre-reg requested  682-5521
Thursday, April 5, 9:30am-11:30am
Pancake breakfast with  egg decorating, crafts, and games.

NSCS at UO
Easter Egg Hunt on the Humpy Lumpy Lawn, Agate and 15th
Joel @ (503)347-0556
Friday, April 6  5:30pm, Free

Cascade Raptor Center
Earth Day
485-1320
Free
Sun, April 22
Enjoy refreshments, activities, and music while meeting dozens of the
birds who live at the Raptor Center

Parent Education
“Understanding Early Sexual Development: and links to healthy body
image”  Sunday, April 22nd, 4:00-5:30pm.  First Congregational
Church, Fellowship Hall.  1050 East 23rd, Eugene.
Presentor: Dr. Mike Wilmington.  Free. Call ahead for child care.

TV Turnoff Week
http://www.tvturnoff.org/week.htm
April 23-28

Saturday Market
Opens its 2007 season April 7th!
10am-5pm, Eugene Downtown

Parents: Want more? The Oregon Family monthly is a great resource for people looking for family-oriented activities.  As always, this free newspaper is available in our office.

Note: Some listings require a fee and some offer many additional activities and camps. Please contact the specific locations for further details.
## Calendar and Lunch Menu
### April 2007

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 2-6</td>
<td>*Turkey &amp; cheddar focaccia bread</td>
<td>“Almost Lasagna”</td>
<td>Bean and cheese burritos</td>
<td>*Tuna-seashell casserole</td>
<td>Hummus, cheese sticks, crackers</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Carrots and celery</td>
<td>Green beans (0-3)</td>
<td>Corn &amp; olives</td>
<td>Mixed vegetables</td>
<td>Cukes &amp; tomatoes</td>
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<td><strong>No 4J School - CCDC Open</strong></td>
<td>Green salad (3-12)</td>
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<td>April 9-13</td>
<td>Melted cheddar bagels</td>
<td>Beans &amp; brown rice w/ grated cheese</td>
<td>Macaroni &amp; cheese casserole</td>
<td>*Apple-tuna salad sandwiches</td>
<td>*Poultry hotdogs w/ buns</td>
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<td><strong>Parent Council 6:15-7:45</strong></td>
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<td>April 16-20</td>
<td>*Fishsticks</td>
<td>Cheese sandwiches</td>
<td>Three-cheese pizzas Veggie toppings</td>
<td>“Cooks Choice” (protein, grain, vegetable)</td>
<td>*Chicken &amp; cheese pasta salad Mixed vegetables</td>
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<td>Cheese toasts</td>
<td>Sliced tomatoes &amp; pickles</td>
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<td>Broccoli (w/ranch)</td>
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<td><strong>Schedule Change forms due for May</strong></td>
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