

June 2023

A Non-Profit Child Care and Education Program

Serving the Cal State L.A. Community



Hello ABACC Parents,

This photo was taken last week on our trip to Tanaka Farms in Irvine. We had the opportunity to ride in a wagon, tour the farm and pick organic strawberries directly from the vine.



For more info on Tanaka Farms: <https://www.tanakafarms.com/>



community resources

school news

parent education

Ideas for End of Summer Fun! Museum Happenings

Natural History Museum
900 Exposition Park, Los Angeles
Free Admission on the first Tuesday of every month
10 a.m.– 5 p.m. (213) 763-3466

California Science Center
700 State Drive, Los Angeles
Free Admission, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
There is a parking fee
(213) 744-7400

Santa Monica Aquarium & Pier
600 Ocean Front Walk, Santa Monica
(310) 393-6149
Call for Prices. This is a great trip!

Griffith Park Observatory
2800 East Observatory Road
Los Angeles, CA. 90027
General Information: 213-473-0800
Tues-Fri 12:00 pm– 10 pm
Sat-Sun 10:00 am– 10-pm
Check website:
<https://griffithobservatory.org/>



It Takes a Community

In order to foster a spirit of collaboration and community, the full-time staff has been designating a portion of our staff meetings to brain storm ways to improve upon our lower playground space. We discussed what kind of experiences we wanted to provide the children and then developed committees to be in charge of developing specific spaces.



This collaborative approach to planning and organizing our play spaces offers teachers the opportunity to voice their ideas and perspective. Teachers from all of the age groups take part in the process so that we can address the needs and interests of as many classrooms as possible.



Understanding the Power of Parent Involvement

Written by Donna Kirkwood, Ph.

When parents do not feel comfortable in the school setting, they are less likely to support and participate in school events or speak to their child’s teacher or principal about their concerns or goals for their child. Everyone misses out on valuable opportunities to strengthen the home-school connection and support children.

During my career as a preschool teacher and director, I was fully aware of the importance of engaging parents in the program. But for a long time I avoided addressing it, because I hadn’t figured out how to do it. I realized that inviting parents into the classroom more was key to meaningfully involving them in their child’s education, but that seemed like a difficult process. Working closely with parents was an integral part of teaching preschoolers, but it required a different skill set along with a significant commitment of time.

Twenty years into my career in early childhood education, and still struggling to understand how best to help parents advocate for and support their children’s learning, I encountered HIPPY USA. I fell in love with its approach and joined the staff. HIPPY, or Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters, empowers parents as their child’s first and most important teacher. Home visitors provide support, education, and mentoring to parents who may lack resources and education or experience isolation.

Through their experiences in HIPPY USA, parents gain skills in supporting their child’s learning, learn what to expect from their child’s school, and become comfortable working with teachers.

<https://www.naeyc.org/resources/blog/understanding-power-parent-involvement>

staff spotlight



Christine Wintercorn
Infant/Toddler Teacher

I started as a Teacher Assistant at ABACC in November 2021 and was hired as a full-time teacher in July, 2022. I am currently working on my bachelor’s degree in Child Development at Cal State LA. During my free time, I enjoy painting, baking, and going to concerts. I am passionate about supporting children’s future success by providing them with safe and appropriate experiences where they can explore and express themselves.

Thank you, Christine, for the kindness you bring to your classroom everyday!

calendar

- June 3 Parent Workday
- June 15 Preschool Field Trip/Audubon
- June 17 Parent CPR First Aid Training
- June 24 Parent CPR/First Aid Training
- July 4 Center Closed - 4th of July