



## 2015



## CENTER NEWS

### Susie's Corner...

It is hard to believe it is almost November. The staff has been busy wrapping up October by planning fun activities to celebrate Halloween. The staff has also been busy completing assessments and developing creative educational programming. Please enjoy reading about what is happening in all of the classrooms throughout CCA. In addition, the LEAPS staff recently attended in-service training on state requirements for writing IEPs and keeping staff current with standards in special education.

We welcome Mary Frazee, Intervention Specialist to the Jungle Room. Mary comes to us with experience working in a public school with students with multiple disabilities. We also welcome Michelle Rowley, Behavior Assistant in Sam's room. Michelle is working on her Master's Degree in Applied Behavior Analysis. In addition to Mary and Michelle we also welcome Susan Myers. She has an Elementary Education Certification with specialization in K-3 and a Master's Degree in Special Education. We are pleased to announce that we have added a part time educational consultant, Sally Cardosi, for the STEPS program. These new staff additions are moving CCA in a positive direction with regard to educational outcomes. I will continue to strive to keep families updated on future program changes as they evolve. Please contact me with any questions, concerns or feedback. -Susie

### First CCA Book Fair!

The week of October 12<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup>, CCA held it's first Book Fair. It was a huge success. After a week of hard work and great volunteers, we brought in \$800.00 in sales and received \$400.00 in free books! Thank you to everyone who shopped and helped make this a success. Save your pennies as we plan on having another book fair before the end of the school year!

### Safe Crisis Management

After reviewing several behavior training programs CCA staff has chosen to follow the Safe Crisis Management (SCM) curriculum.



SCM provides a "comprehensive continuum of prevention, de-escalation and safe emergency intervention strategies for responding to aggressive behavior in social service agencies and schools." SCM provides staff with a capacity to prevent and safely respond to dangerous situations". The program is aligned with state regulations designed to assist staff when responding to crisis situations. Over the past few years there has been an increase in demand for parent training. In an effort to meet this growing need of our families, Amy Emish, our Lead Trainer and Safe Crisis Management Instructor, recently attended a parent training curriculum. She is now certified to offer this training program to our families. The curriculum involves an overview of the dynamics of behavior, family-based strategies for prevention, de-escalation, and emergency safety physical intervention. CCA is excited to be able to bring this training to families. We will provide more details regarding the parent training in the upcoming months.



## Leapster Classroom Update (Early Childhood Room)



The Leapster Classroom loves having weekly themes to create fun and exciting crafts and activities. One of our recent

activities for Transportation was creating footprint vehicles and creating Popsicle school buses. "Wow! we loved the paint on our toes! We also made a drink and called it "Rocket fuel" with Ms. Karen (SLP) to go with our transportation theme. We are looking forward to our fall and Halloween activities!"

## AIMSweb Assessments

The CCA staff has been hard at work developing school wide AIMSweb Formal Assessment Binders. These binders are for grades Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. These Assessments are used to assess what level a child is on in the areas of reading fluency, reading comprehension, math computation, math concepts and applications, writing, spelling, letter segmentation, number sequencing, nonsense word fluency and letter sounds. The staff has the ability to assess any child in these areas to see where their strengths and weaknesses are in each content area. These results will help teachers and parents understand the content areas students need continued work or areas where the student is on grade level. These assessments are usually given when the student's IEP is approaching or they can be done at any time to assess where a child is in each of the above content area.

A belated thank you to Tami Lawlor for hosting a fundraiser at Firehouse Grill September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Thank you for sharing our mission and spreading awareness.

## Important Dates at CCA

**November 13<sup>th</sup> – Thanksgiving Parent Event**  
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at CCA

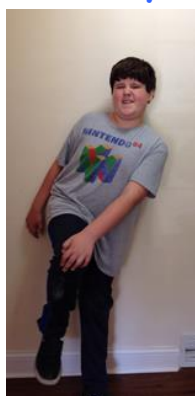
**November 19<sup>th</sup> – PTO Meeting**  
9:15 a.m. at CCA

**November 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> – Thanksgiving Break**  
CCA Closed & No Programs

**December 11<sup>th</sup> – Parent Conferences**  
at CCA

**December 16<sup>th</sup> – PTO Meeting & Staff Luncheon**  
9:15 a.m. at CCA

## Brain Gym Exercises!



Brain Gym is a collection of exercises that can be utilized to help activate both sides of the brain for optimal learning. The Superhero Class has learned 3 Brain Gym exercises so far this year. Students know how to do the cross crawl, the foot flex, and the owl. These Brain Gym exercises are done at different times of the day. Our class uses them before academics, after recess, and any other time we need to regroup and refocus to help us get ready to learn. As parents, you can utilize these exercises at home to help your child refocus or get ready to start a new activity. For more information please see Mrs. Mitchell or you can visit the Brain Gym website at [www.braingym.org](http://www.braingym.org)

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