

CCA HIGHLIGHTS

Susie's Corner...

November has been a busy month with all of the field trips and Family Fun Night. Over 40 staff and families participated in this event. We have another Family event on February 10th and this event is going to be a carnival. For these events to continue we need parent participation, so please mark your calendar.

Here is some the feedback Amanda received from parents upon receipt of their photo booth photos:

Mr. Bingham- "Thank you so much for these pictures! Tell John he did a great job! David is harder to get a photo of than Bigfoot! Lauren and I are very grateful for the work that all of you do to educate David and help him become independent. Thank you and I wish you a Happy Thanksgiving next week!"

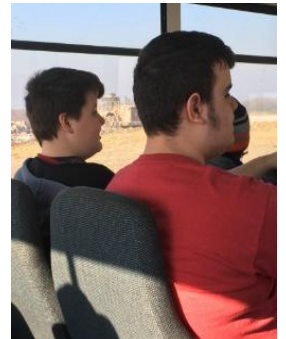
Mrs. Randall- "Thank you for sending the pic to me! I'm crackin' up at this!! We had a ball. You did a fabulous job putting it all together. We really do appreciate what you guys do for our kiddos!!"

After Thanksgiving there will be a "Giving Tree" in the lobby. There will be paper ornaments with suggested requests from the staff for their classrooms and items/materials needed for CCA. We appreciate all of the paper supplies and games many families have donated.

We recently purchased the Essential for Living (EFL) Curriculum. EFL is a functional living skills curriculum and assessment for children and adults with moderate-to-severe disabilities. It is based on research from special education, Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) and analysis of verbal behavior. We are excited to begin training staff and promoting our functional living program. This month, Ms. Mary Ann, Librarian, visited the Super Hero and Owl Rooms. She read Thanksgiving books and brought in puppets to embellish holiday songs. I am wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and safe Holidays!

Rumpke Field Trip

Students from the Buckeye and Cardinal Room took a tour of the Rumpke Landfill on Wednesday, November 16th. A tour guide gave insightful information about the history of Rumpke (it started as a hog farm), how much garbage enters the landfill each day



(over 20 Million Pounds!), and what happens with the garbage (the gases are converted into energy). The tour guide shared some of the unique things that have arrived at the landfill, including an elephant



whom had passed away when a circus was passing through town. Tyler, the elephant, has a special place where he was buried at the site. Students learned that Rumpke tries to prevent

pollution by putting up fences, cleaning the runoff water and using a giant "Febreeze" fan to help control the odor. Students were also lucky enough to visit when a new cell was being dug for the garbage. This happens once every 3-5 years. CCA is excited to partner with Rumpke to start up a Recycling Program again.

Family Fun Night Staff



Fall Family Fun Night

We are constantly thankful for the people that make up CCA- and celebrating them at the Fall Family Fun



Night felt just right. Students brought their families and participated in various games, crafts and eating snacks! Students visited seven spaces with activities including: Pumpkin Tic-Tac-Toe, a photo booth, making a Thankful Turkey Book, Turkey Bowling, Thanksgiving Story Bracelet, Feed the Turkey, and Roll a Turkey! It was a great chance for families to interact with the CCA staff and for families to have a good time with their children in a safe, supportive, and understanding space. We hope more of our families can join us for our next family night on Friday, February 10th. Students at Hamilton High School are partnering with CCA to



put on a Carnival Themed Evening! Thank you to Amanda Dotson for organizing this event and for all of her creativity!

Pumpkin Patch Pudding Cups

Included in this month's newsletter is the recipe for the Pumpkin Patch Pudding Cups the students made at the Family Fun Night. This activity is fun and tasty to do with your child. He/She will love you afterwards!

Materials:

Chocolate Pudding
Chocolate Cookies
Pumpkin Candy
Clear Cups
Spoons



Directions:

- 1.) Pre-Crush cookies, set aside.
- 2.) Scoop pudding into the bottom of cup.
- 3.) Scoop crushed cookies on top of pudding.
- 4.) Place 2- 3 pumpkins on top.

Halloween at CCA

Seth was the best "house" on the block...he passed out handfuls of candy to the Leapster kiddos! The kiddos worked on saying "Trick-or-Treat" and "Thank you". It was a sweet surprise for all!



Sometimes it's hard to tell who is having more fun, the staff or the students!

Music Therapy Update



Beginning in November, "Music Kate" will be assuming a supervising role over the music therapy program at CCA. While she has loved 7 years of being at the center and will miss seeing students weekly, she's enthusiastic for the opportunity to spend time developing new

programming, growing current services, such as the center's, and helping more people. Joining CCA though Kate's private practice is music therapist, Allyson Sosa. Allyson has had experience working in different settings, most recently with an organization providing services to those on the autism spectrum, as well as a variety of mental health needs. Allyson is extremely excited to get to know everyone and carry on a great music therapy program!

Spirit Wear Update

The CCA Family Gear Order has gone to the printers! Katie G sent the order over the early last week. She believes that the orders will be back in prior to the holiday break.

Cardinal Room Update



The boys in the Cardinal Room have been doing Random Acts of Kindness (RAK) throughout CCA. They were encouraged to think of something that has an impact bigger than giving candy to a friend. For instance, today, they picked two classes they spend a lot of time with and

are delivering some treats to make them smile. We encourage you all to feel the spirit of RAK and doing something kind for another person! Ideas the class brainstormed were: writing a note to someone having a rough day, cleaning someone's classroom for them, and reading a book to the Leapsters! What a wonderful way to learn about "giving."

In addition to the RAK, the students in the Cardinal Room created a "Thankful Tree". It is on the wall outside their room. All the students wrote what they were thankful for. Some of the responses were: I am thankful for family members, pets, apple pie and comics.

Golf Outing Fundraiser

The Inaugural Annual Golf Outing benefitting CCA was held at the Oasis Country Club on October 17th. There were approximately 70 golfers. It was a fun-filled day with



golf options, lunch, and dinner provided. Erica and Susie had the opportunity to talk to many of the golfers during registration and dinner. They were very interested in knowing more about CCA and our services and mission.



The event was sponsored by the CCA Board. A special thank you to Jason Leyda and John Reed, Board Members, for organizing CCA's first golf outing.

Cincinnati Nature Center Field Trip



A few weeks ago, the Buckeye Room and the Super Hero Room embarked on an adventure to the Cincinnati Nature Center! While there, we hiked through the woods,

learning about different trees native to the area. We learned about erosion and how creeks were made. The students then were able to explore a creek, finding fossils, clay, and looking for animals that may dwell in a creek bed. Some of the students even got to put clay on their face! It was a great experience for the students to get to see nature and all the majesty that it is!

Mark Your Calendars:

- Winter Break – Dec. 21, 2016 – Jan. 2, 2017
- School Resumes – Tuesday, January 3rd
- No School – Monday, January 16th (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)
- PTO Meeting – Friday, January 20th
- Family Fun Night (Carnival Theme) – Friday, February 10th

Inclement Weather Update:



We will no longer be contacting families via text message regarding school closures or delays. Parents will receive an email either from Susie or Katie. The local TV stations will cover CCA weather updates.

School Contact Information

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