



# Long Beach City College Child Development Center—LAC NEWSLETTER

## Special Interest News from Vicki, Site Supervisor

The Spring Semester has been full of exciting happenings and new challenges. Children have been exploring the classrooms with curiosity and an eagerness to learn new things. Parent Participation lab days have challenged parents to become observers, facilitators of learning, and problem solvers along with the children. Being able to see what the children can do without being told what to do, has been enlightening to many adults. I have seen so many exciting experiences being offered to the children, which only enhances our program's success.

The week of April 23-27 is Week of the Young Child! CDC-LAC will be celebrating the week in a variety of fun ways. Special visitors will come and read to the children throughout the week, child/parent activities will be occurring each day in the classrooms, and we will wrap up the week, on Thursday, April 26th with a center-wide Circus Day!

The same week is also Turn Off the TV Week, so we will be providing each child with a bag of materials that they will present to their parents to encourage eve-

ryone to participate in family focused activities that do not involve the television as entertainment. It is a great time to build upon those special family memories that we all experienced as young children, and can now offer to our own children.



**SAY  
CHEESE!**

Long Beach City College-  
Child Development Center

**Spring Semester 2007**

**MARCH/APRIL**

### Special points of interest:

- ☺ School Photos by "Pictures with Class" will be taking place on Tuesday 4/3 & Wednesday 4/4
- ☺ Buccaneer Bash will be held at the El Dorado Country Club @ 6pm on Saturday, 4/21, Come join the FUN!

## It's that time... Summer School & Fall Registration

Summer school will not be held here at LAC, but it will take place at the PCC campus.

The Summer session begins Monday, June 4th. The hours will be Mondays - Thursdays 7:00am to

5:00pm & Friday s 7:00 am to 11:30am.

Registration will take place at PCC on Monday April 16th, Tuesday April 17th & Wednesday April 18th @

9:30am — 11:30am **OR**  
2:00pm — 4:30pm

Register early as spaces are limited!

For more information contact Hurtie, Senior Clerk @ PCC (562) 938-3079.



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# RAISING-A-READER COMES TO LAC

We have been fortunate enough to be provided the opportunity to offer the Raising-A-Reader book-bag Program here at LAC. The program is currently being offered in Mrs. Rogers', Mrs. Eslava's, and Mrs. Ludka's classrooms.

This nationwide literacy support program provides materials to the classrooms that are used to promote daily parent/child reading and the use of the public library system. Children take home a new book-bag each week, that has 4 to 5 different books in it, that they then return to be exchanged for a new bag. There are 26

different bags that are rotated to ensure that each child has the opportunity to be introduced to dozens of new books during the semester.

The program includes one classroom visit to the local library, and parents must make at least one additional library visit before the end of the semester. The program will culmi-



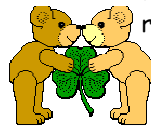
Reading with your child each day promotes a life-long love of Books!

nate with a graduation ceremony that celebrates the success of each family's participation. We hope to be able to offer the program to all the classrooms in the future.

## Room 1 - Mrs. Rogers (AM) & Mrs. Roberts (PM)

**AM** - Room One is filled with imagination, we are traveling to far away, make believe places. Our favorite spot is *The Little Mouse and The Red Ripe Strawberry*; we still can't figure out where the bear is. This week we discovered that the little mouse is actually sharing his strawberry with us. We also wondered if one of the three bears is the same bear. This week we are going to go on a bear hunt. "I hope we catch a big one, we're not afraid." We will con-

tinue on our make-believe journey hoping to visit the *Three Little Pigs* and many wonderful nursery rhymes.



**PM** - We have been enjoying big, messy fun! Finger painting, shaving cream murals & tissue collages. Changing art time and location has resulted in an increase in art participation. We cook together

nearly every day and enjoy sharing some of our diverse and delicious cultural favorites such as "koko" (pronounced "coo-coo"), a blend of fresh minced leak, parsley, cilantro and dill baked into a dish similar to a soufflé. We made our delicious sushi rolls with fresh veggies and rice - the Nori seaweed sheets were a taste treat in themselves. We will be expanding our art and science experiences this spring and plan visits to our neighbors in "the big yard".

## Room 2 - Mrs. Acosta, Ms. Mary Ann, and Ms. Alma P.

There are quite a few changes in Room Two this month. We have jumped into the art of cooking! Alma uses the griddle regularly to prepare pancakes for morning snack and the children have tried their hand at preparing Oatmeal Clusters and are becoming proficient at individual pizzas made with English muffins and all the toppings.

Our wonderful parents did an outstanding job creating family boards

which display photos of their child, family, pets, special vacations and trips. Each child chose the location where their board was to be hung. Teachers and classmates are delighted to look and learn about the special people and places in the lives of our students.

We have also been concentrating on establishing a science area in the classroom. A new aquarium has been set up and later this month we will establish a

butterfly habitat where the children can observe how caterpillars change into butterflies. We also plan to install a hummingbird feeder in the small yard to attract and observe these tiny flying wonders.

Thanks to all the parents for their enthusiastic support of all our activities.



# FUNDRAISING EVENT FOR THE LBCC – CDC's

The Long Beach City College Foundation Child Development Associates presents "An Evening of Piracy and Plundering" at the BUCCANEER BASH on Saturday April 21st, at 6PM.

There will be a no-host bar and buffet dinner served along with a live band and dancing as we raise money to support the child development centers. Opportunities to win one of over 40 gift baskets, and to place bids on more than 30 items at our silent auction will also take place that evening.

I would like to thank all of the families who have provided items for this event.

A great round of gratitude to Catherine Garcia who has been instrumental in leading the CDC-LAC participation. She has personally brought in over a dozen donations from businesses around the community.



The tickets go on sale April 2nd. The cost for the event is \$40.00 per person. Please see Trish or Karen for an order form.

Come join us and have a great time while supporting the LBCC CDC's.

**Join the FUN at the  
Buccaneer Bash  
Saturday April 21st**

## Room 3 - Mrs. Eslava (AM) & Mrs. Thrift (PM)

**AM** -It seems we've spent the first half of March eating! The children tasted kumquats (sour) and compared the size and color to that of the tangerine and orange. (Then ate the orange and tangerine.) They've cracked open a coconut and tasted the meat and the milk. (Not a favorite). They explored the shell—painted it and found that it floated. Which led to a discussion and experiment of things that float and things that don't. The children made tortillas and crepes, taking part in the mixing,

forming, cooking and tasting. A great experience! An interest in tools led to the exploration of screwdrivers, pliers and hammers. And the ever popular volcanoes has used our supply of vinegar and baking soda.

**PM** - We finally got to harvest our carrots. We planted them in the fall and now we have had the pleasure of eating our school- grown carrots. We have planted more flowers and seeds and we have been watering and watching all of our plants grow. We have been collect-

ing avocado pits and have put them in water. We also put a sweet potato in water. We are waiting to see what will happen! We have added night crawlers, meal worms, ladybugs, and ants to our science explorations. It's fascinating to hear the children make their own theories and predictions about them. We have made "tornadoes" in bottles and made goop, flubber and many kinds of playdough. The number of our math experiences keeps growing. Our charts and graphs have filled up our boards.

## Room 5 - Mrs. Ludka (AM) & Mrs. Atkinson (PM)

**AM** - It's been kitty mania in Room 5 in the mornings. We have had baby kitties, mommy kitties, daddy kitties, and even a monster kitty or two. The children have made tails out of chenille stems, had whiskers painted on their faces, and have made ears out of paper. If you see us on the playground wearing any of the items, feel free to offer us a kitty snack such as shrimp. We'll think that's purrrrfect. We've also become rather fascinated with the size of our shoes. Look for some shoe comparisons

coming up. We are excited about participating in the Long Beach Library's "Raising A Reader" Program. The first week of taking home book bags with books in them to read at home was well received. We'll be taking a field trip to the public library next month as part of the program. We can't wait!

**PM** - Forming friendships has been quite an adventure for us as we experience the joys and sometimes hurt feelings that come with learning how to be a friend. We have investigated wood-

working, and dismantling items. Letters have become important to us as we have explored ways to write our own names and observe how our friends write theirs. A "Green Week" brought about some grand fun as we wore the color green, and used green materials,. We learned about the Irish culture through conversation, books, foods, song and of course dance. We are looking forward to a couple of field trips in April, along with planting vegetables. Thank you all for all your support and assistance.

## Long Beach City College- Child Development Center

Liberal Arts Campus  
4630 Clark Avenue  
Long Beach, CA 90808

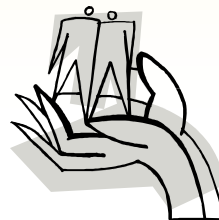
Phone: 562-938-4251 Parent  
Participation (Karen)  
Phone: 562-938-4253 Full-Day  
Preschool (Trish)  
Fax: 562-938-4855



### 50 YEARS—A TRIBUTE TO MARY EDMUNDS

Mary Edmunds began working at Long Beach City College in 1957. Although she retired in 1999, she has continued to work for the college part time since then. After 50 years of dedicated teaching in the Child and Adult Development Division at LBCC, she has decided that this is the last semester she will be teaching here.

We will sincerely miss Mary, who has given so many years of service and caring to the program, parents and children at LBCC. Here at the Child Development Center—LAC, we have been honored to have Mary share her many gifts and talents with us each semester. Many families have spent numerous years with Mary, who has offered such great wisdom and compassion. We will surely miss her. Happy Retirement Mary!

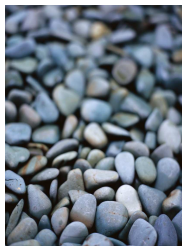


**Special Note:** Charline Lang, Children's Program Coordinator, recently received an award for "A Salute to Elder Kings and Queens" from the African American History and Cultural Club.

## Room 6 - Mrs. Williamson, Ms. Kelli, Ms. Alma M. & Mrs. Eslava (PM)

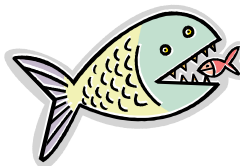
We have been exploring rocks. The children found some rocks in the sand box and elected to collect as many as they could. Afterwards they decided they wanted to wash the rocks and then paint them which we did. They pasted the painted rocks on cardboard and we displayed them in the room.

Our teacher brought in more rocks for us to sort and classify. We also made small mosaics with the pebbles. The teacher



brought in two large rocks that we washed and cleaned with a toothbrush and found a roly-poly bug hidden in the crevice of one of them. That was exciting to use the magnifying glass to further explore the little creature.

Our favorite story right now is *Watch Out For the Big Bad Fish* which we listen to daily at our quiet time.



Feel free to check our album in the room to see further explorations we have had. Next month we will be introducing conservation and recycling. Parents and loved ones who pick-up your children... Please be aware that the wet clothes are kept in a plastic bag on the counter in the classroom, where the children sign in.

We also have a black net laundry basket full of lost clothing items. Please check if any of these belong to your child.