



SCDC Connections

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APRIL 2010

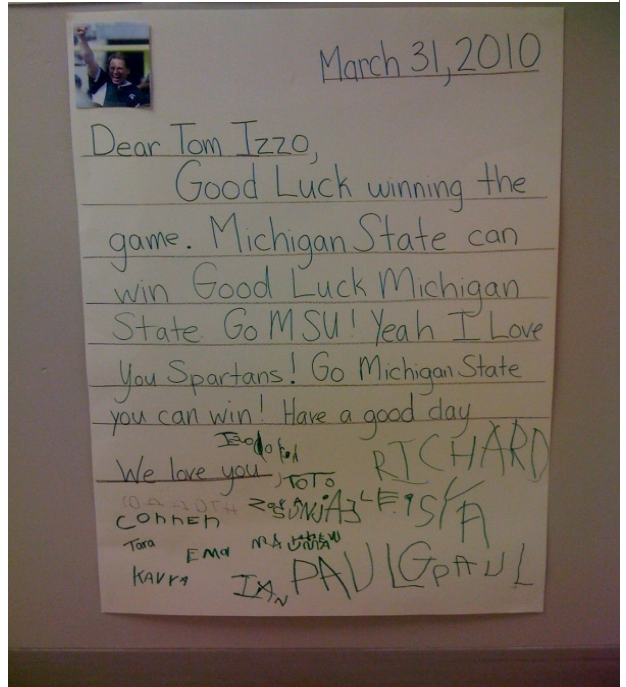
Important Dates:

- **April 12**, Life Touch Picture Day
- **Thursday, April 15**, Staff Appreciation Potluck

(Parents can participate in the Potluck to help celebrate our staff. Sign up sheets are located at the front desk)

- **Monday, April 19**, Board of Directors Meeting, 6-8 pm
- **Thursday, April 22**, International Night Festival, 6 pm, Spartan Village Community Center

The children are very excited about the MSU men's team making it to the Final Four. They wanted to send a message to Tom Izzo and the team to show their support. Read their letter to Coach Izzo.



Happy Month of the Young Child

Dear Families,

April is the Month of the Young Child. Across the country, early childhood programs, schools and government offices are celebrating young children and those who work with them and on their behalf. I am so pleased to have this time to celebrate our children and our wonderful staff.

During the month we will also recognize our families and those in our community who have helped make our mission of providing quality early childhood experiences possible. Our annual International Night Festival is our chance to appreciate our diversity, our families and the community for their great support of our program.

Please look inside for more information about our month-long celebration. If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions, please feel free to share those with me, Jen (our assistant director), or any member of our professional staff.

Wishing you and your family every success,

Rosene Johnson, Administrative Director



Inside this Issue:

- Preschool 3 and School-Age Letter
- School Picture Days!
- Month of The Young Child Event Calendar
- Parent-Teacher Conference Schedule

Attention Preschool 3 and School-Age Parents



With the recent change in Michigan law requiring public schools to begin after Labor Day, this has left a gap between the start of MSU fall semester and the start of public school. MSU fall semester generally begins one week prior to the start of public school. To assist families, in the past we have provided extended care utilizing staffing and space from our existing Summer Program to provide care for school age children until school began. Without a separate Summer Program this year, we do not have the space or the staff to host such a program. **In light of this, our policy is that the last day for Preschool 3 families to remain enrolled will be the Thursday before the beginning of MSU Fall Semester.** This year the last day for Preschool 3 enrollment is **August 26, 2010.**

We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience, but wanted to notify you as soon as possible and assist you in finding care options during this time. We appreciate your cooperation in advance and ask that families explore all options for care arrangements. Listed below are some local options available for care:

- **Office for Young Children, 517-887-4319:** They can offer listings/information of programs that are providing care during these days including drop-in facilities or programs in your local area.
- **YMCA of Lansing www.ymcaoflansing.org:** The YMCA offers developmental programs and care opportunities for children ages 0-13 during school breaks and vacations. Please visit the website for more information.
- **MSU Babysitters List, www.frc.msu.edu:** Michigan State University maintains a list of students that have expressed desire and knowledge in providing in-home babysitting and care services for families in the local area. Please contact the Family Resource Center at (517) 432-3745 or on the web at www.frc.msu.edu.

Many local school districts offer transitional programs the week before school begins to assist children with the adjustment to elementary school. Please contact your local school district for more information. If you have any questions, please feel free to visit the Front Desk.

SCDC's Month of the Young Child Celebration

Each year SCDC plans special events geared to celebrate and honor young children and their families. This month we have several events planned that we hope all of our families will enjoy. A detailed description of some these events is noted below:

April 6, Grab N' Go Parent Breakfast: We appreciate all that you do to support our program and would like to treat you to a healthy, energizing breakfast as you jump start your day. During morning drop off simply stop by the buffet table, grab a few of your favorite breakfast items, a cup of coffee or juice and enjoy the rest of your day...compliments of SCDC.

April 14, Treats for Teachers Day: It takes a special person to be a teacher. It takes patience, love and passion to nurture, guide and educate children every day. We are grateful to have such loyal, dedicated and caring staff as part of our program. Take a moment to offer your child's teachers a treat with a card or note sharing your appreciation for what they do. These words of appreciation will last forever and will serve as a reminder to the staff of how important they are in the lives of young children. Please, cards or written letters only.

April 15, Staff Appreciation Lunch Potluck: A good meal always satisfies! Participate in providing our hard-working staff with a great lunch to celebrate their efforts over the past year. Sign up sheets will be located at the Front Desk. Please refrain from meals made with nuts due to allergies.

April 22, International Night: Our annual diversity celebration festival! Join the SCDC family and the Spartan Village community for an outstanding celebration of our heritage and unique diversity. Parents can participate by hosting a booth and showcasing artifacts, clothing and/or food from their home country or culture. Sign up sheets are located in the rotunda. For more information about this event, please visit the Front Desk.

April 28, Bring Your Parent for Breakfast Day: Join your child for a great homemade breakfast provided by our cook Teresa. Spend time in your child's classroom, get to know other families and eat a terrific meal. Please see your child's teacher for more information and to RSVP.



Events subject to change. Some events are yet to be scheduled. Staff and Families will be notified of all changes.



April 2010: SCDC Month of the Young Child

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
				1	2
4 <i>Community Appreciation Week</i>	5	6 Grab N'Go Parent Breakfast 7:30-9:30 am	7	8	9
11 <i>Staff Appreciation Week</i>	12 Lifetouch Picture Day	13	14 Treats for Teachers Day <i>(notes of appreciation)</i>	15 Staff Appreciation Potluck (Parents provide food for staff lunch)	16
18 <i>Family and Board Appreciation Week</i>	19 Board Appreciation, BOD mtg, 6 pm	20	21	22 International Night, 6 pm Spartan Village Community Center	23
25	26	27	28 Bring your Parent for Breakfast Day, 9 am	29	30

Spartan Child Development Center

Spartan Child Development Center
1730 Crescent Rd

Phone: 517-353-5154

Fax: 517-432-3157

E-mail: children@msu.edu



LifeTouch Picture Day: Monday, April 12

Class Photo Schedule

9:40	Yellow	10:40	Orange
9:50	Peach	10:50	Green
10:00	Blue	11:00	Royal
10:10	Red	11:10	Purple
10:20	Seafoam		
10:30	Lavender		

- Please return the photo form to the center on or before picture day.
- Please note on the form and let classroom teachers know if you would like sibling pictures taken.
- Please let your child's teacher know of any special instructions (i.e. sweater off, change shirt, etc)
- Cap and Gown photos are available for Preschool 3 children (Royal and Purple rooms). Please return the form to the front desk.

NOTE: If your child is not enrolled on Mondays, you are welcome to bring them during the scheduled class photo time to have their picture taken with the rest of their class.

Spring Parent Teacher Conference Schedule

Parent Teacher Conferences are scheduled during the day. Please talk with your child's teacher about scheduling conference times.

Spring Parent/Teacher Conference Schedule

April 26	Infant/Toddler Conferences
May 3-7	Transition Conferences
May 10-28	Preschool Conferences

SCDC accepted as candidate for NAEYC accreditation

SCDC has been selected as a candidate for national accreditation. Although this has been a lengthy process, we are confident that with the help and support of our parents we will achieve accreditation!

Our site visit will take place by July 31. We should receive notification of accreditation by Fall 2010. This will mark a great achievement for our center, staff and parents.

We have a few projects left to complete. We will notify parents of additional volunteer opportunities in the near future.

Scholastic Book Fair a Great Success



Thank you to all of our families for supporting the book fair. We exceeded our goal! We sold a total of 267 books and raised \$900 for materials and books for the program. Thank you to our assistant director Jen and the SCDC intern Megan for coordinating such a successful book fair.

We appreciated the help of our volunteers. Thank you to all of our parent and staff volunteers for helping to staff the book fair: Lindsay Austin, Ana Maria Herrera, Jan Byrne, Emalee Fields, Carey Elder, Youyu Feng, Sandy Christlieb, Melissa Sainz and Stephannie Hesch.