
March 2026

CCC Newsletter

Tips and Reminders for the month:

We are in the middle of collecting **registration intentions for next year's sessions**. Please return your forms ASAP- space fills quickly! This is also the time of year that we begin to collect **summer camp schedules** for our existing school age students. We cannot guarantee participation without the forms that were emailed sharing your summer care needs. Enrollment for new families will begin this month. We would hate for an existing CCC school age family to get "bumped" from the rosters because the appropriate information was not shared on time.

Volunteer Income Tax Program (VITA)

VITA in Lancaster County provides free tax preparation to individuals and families **making \$60,000 or less**. It is a program that also serves special populations including individuals with disabilities, senior citizens, and those needing language support in filing their tax returns.

To find a VITA site near you, dial 211, visit the PA 211 website, or use the IRS's VITA locator tool online. It's essential to make an appointment in advance, as many VITA sites operate on a seasonal basis, and appointments can fill up quickly during tax season.



Important Dates:

March 2

Pre-K Spring picture day

March 13 – CCC Birthday

March 6, 19, & 20

SACC early dismissal & full day closing dates

April 3 & 6

CCC CLOSED for Easter

A CCC Birthday Party!

Every March CCC staff pause and celebrate the anniversary of the Cocalico Care Center. **(This year we are turning 37)** We try to create a special weekly birthday theme with games, classroom activities, decorations, & a Friday lunch.

Please note that families **do not** need to supply lunch on the 13th unless you want to have a back-up option for your child who might have allergies or be a picky eater.

The menu will be:

A "Lady & the Tramp" inspired Spaghetti & Meatball dish with applesauce, a salad, bread stick & milk to drink.

The Chestnut Room:



Classroom Highlights:

Greeting from the Chestnut room! We're all very excited that Spring is around the corner and hopefully that means disappearing snow and warm sunny days. While we are stuck inside, we'll still find ways to have lots of fun with themes like Dr. Seuss, St. Patrick's Day and (my favorite) BASEBALL! Watch out for leprechauns on March 17th and make sure to sing "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" on the 26th to celebrate Opening Day! (Go Braves)!

Our Giving Tree Wish List Items:

- ❖ Paper plates
- ❖ Glue Sticks
- ❖ Dry Erase Markers

Coming up- **Crazy days of April**

4/1/26- Crazy Hair Day

4/8/26- Color Day (see assigned classroom colors via email)

4/15/26- Wacky Wednesday (Students dress like teachers)

4/22/26- Silly Sock Day

4/29/26 – Pajama Day

Special Events

March 14

Men's Brotherhood Steak

Sandwich Sale- 11-1

\$8.00 a sandwich

April 3 & 6

CCC Closed for Easter Break
and teacher training

April 18

CEF Yard Sale

7:00-11:00am

Hosted in Denver Elementary
School Parking lot

Positive Solutions for Families:

Has life with your young child become filled with conflict and confusion? Does it seem as if even the simplest activity can turn quickly into disaster when your child's behavior is out of control? Are you beginning to feel as if things are getting worse instead of better? You're not alone. Many, if not most, parents find themselves struggling with the challenging behavior of their young child at some point in time. The good news is that there are evidence-based, effective strategies that you can use to create positive solutions for your family.

Tip of the Month:

#6 Catch Your Child Being Good.

Did you ever stop to think about how much time you spend telling your child what he should not do? Instead, try giving specific, positive attention to the behavior that you want to see. This will teach your child what you want him to do and increase the likelihood that this behavior will occur again and again.

For example: *You are enjoying a remarkably calm family meal. Instead of waiting for your 4 year-old to begin fidgeting, trying to leave, or stuff green beans down his shirt, you look at him and exclaim, "Manuel, it makes Daddy so happy to see you eating your dinner like a big boy!"*

Hint....

Positive reinforcement is the ultimate tool in your discipline kit. Let's face it- children love attention and if they can't get it by being good, they might just have to resort to being bad. So how do you break this cycle? You need to look for as many opportunities to let them know how happy you are about the act of doing something right. Letting them know with words, hugs, and high-fives that you notice and appreciate them will go a long way toward satisfying their appetite for attention. (what to expect.com)

Healthy Habits... *provided by: Jenine Bisaccio RN*

March is Poison Prevention/Awareness Month!

Children are especially sensitive to poisonous substances such as cleaning chemicals like antimicrobials. Cleaning substances that don't cause harm to adults can still be harmful to students. Natural curiosity increases the chances of a child encountering hazardous chemicals. These scenarios include:

- *Licking surfaces or placing hands/objects in their mouth*
 - *Breathing in toxic vapors or fumes*
 - *Absorbing chemical residues through the skin*
 - *Rubbing eyes after touching treated surfaces*
- Common cleaners & disinfectants*
Disinfecting wipes
Alcohol-based hand sanitizers
Bug sprays & insect repellents

Practice Safe Storage Habits

The following items should be stored up, away, and out of sight of children, and in their original containers. Alternatively, keep these substances in cabinets secured with child-resistant locks. Keep in mind that there is no such thing as a 100-percent child-proof lock or container.

All medicines & pharmaceuticals, including over-the-counter medicines, prescription medicines, vitamins, & supplements

Tobacco and e-cigarette products, especially liquid nicotine

Alcohol

Laundry and cleaning supplies

Pesticides and insect repellents

Button batteries, such as those found in musical greeting cards, key fobs, etc.

Any type of oil or lubricant, including fragrance oils, tiki torch oils, engine oil, etc.

Personal care products, especially contact lens disinfectants and hand sanitizers

Any other chemical containing products



Put the Poison Help number, **1-800-222-1222**, in your mobile phone and display it in your home and at work in case of emergency, or if you have questions. You can also text **POISON to 301-597-7137** to save the number in your mobile phone. Calls are free, confidential, and answered by experts, 24/7/365.

Don't forget to think about your pets!

Since animals don't have the ability to communicate with us, learn the poisoning symptoms that you need to look out for. Breathing irregularities and sickness, diarrhea, agitation, and heart issues are all possible signs that could require intervention. (If for some reason you cannot reach a veterinary professional, or you can call the ASPCA 24/7 Poison Control Hotline at 888-426-4435 or the Pet Poison Helpline at 855-764-7661. There are fees for the services, but it's well worth it.)



~Jenine Bisaccio, RN