

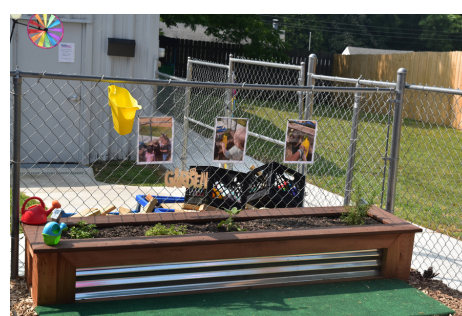
CHILDHOOD CONNECTIONS SUMMER 2023



Brighter Beginnings Child Care Center-Natasha Hester



Kidz N Progress 2 -Latoya Poole



Boys and Girls Learning Center -Sheila Noble

Three child care centers gained new Outdoor Learning Environments a grant from Impact Alamance and work done by the Alamance Partnership for Children. The child care directors dedicated time and energy by participating in training through the NC State University School of Design, National Learning Initiative. Thank you to Sam Holt for the incredible build and to our own Monika Marszelek for her vision and designs. The Partnership appreciates the support of Impact Alamance and Smart Start for helping these children be healthier, smarter and stronger.

From the Desk of the Executive Director, Cass Wolfe

Celebrate Summer!

Welcome to summer! The bright sun, the thunderstorms, and the many hours of daylight invite us outside (when we can tolerate the humidity). While being mindful of sun exposure and the risks of overheating, there are many opportunities to enjoy this season with your children and family. Some of our favorites at the Partnership include:

- Planting, tending and harvesting a garden
- Playing in water at the OLE
- Splashing in a pool
- Spending an afternoon in a cool library
- Taking evening and early morning walks
- Reading outside to your children
- Enjoying summer salads and cold food
- Engage in music and movies outside
- Making trips to the beach or mountains
- Cheering for the Sock Puppets at a home game
- Watching fireworks and more

We hope you and your family are finding fun and safe ways to enjoy the wonders of summer. As you can read on page 10 of this newsletter, please remember that cars get incredibly hot very quickly and parked cars are dangerous if your children or pets are inside. Always check your backseat when you are doing errands! Too many parents have forgotten that they were the ones responsible for dropping off their children and have faced disastrous consequences.

Also, in this newsletter you will find all the exciting programming the Alamance Partnership for Children has for young children and families. This includes story hour twice a month on Tuesday mornings. We are beginning fall registrations for our activities now and would love to have you join us. We want to help you raise strong, healthy, kind, and smart children who, with you, have opportunities to thrive.

All the best,

Cass



Outdoor Learning Environment

The OLE is open 7 days a week and free for the whole community to use.

Nature Explorers Playgroups

Beginning August 8th, 2023, the Outdoor Learning Environment will host a Nature Explorers' Playgroup, led by Monika Marszalek Early Childhood Specialist /Outdoor Learning. This group will meet twice each month from 10 am -to 11:30 to, explore, discover, and learn about natural wonders. Most importantly we will play outside, make friends, and have fun.

Registration will open August 1st.

Art contest.

Our first art contest was organized by the APC Outdoor Learning Environment education program designed to foster children's interest in nature and playing outside was a big success. We received more than 120 entries .

Congratulations to all of the winners!

WINNERS

Ages 3-5

1. Meghan Reyes
2. Gavin Colbert
3. Allie Grace Falkner
4. Xander Shank
5. Raelynn Vernia

Ages Birth - 2

1. Monroe Springfield
2. Georgia Solomon
3. Micah Willis
4. Reann Perkins
5. Jonathan Martin



Playing together with water naturally involves children sharing ideas and resources, taking turns, cooperating, listening to and observing others, and learning new ideas from each other.



The marvelous thing about water is its versatility. It can really stretch children's imaginations and allow them to be creative in their play. Water can be presented in many ways to spark interest. Whether poured, channeled, sprinkled, sprayed, mixed with bubbles, or colored dye, it's always fun.



Water play can be a wonderfully calming, therapeutic activity. Many children enjoy the soothing touch of water and its sensory stimulation. Focusing on one gentle and repetitive activity such as scooping, sieving, or running their hands through the water can help a child relax and unwind.

Make Outdoor Learning Your Plan This Summer

WATER PLAY

Our Outdoor Learning Environment provides many opportunities to experience the beauty and wonder of water play with your children. A bubbling rock and water flume are fun and refreshing on hot summer days. Water play is an essential part of childhood experiences and offers many benefits.

Quality Child Care



Lena News

Alamance Partnership for Children congratulates Patricia King, Preschool teacher at Bright Starz Learning Center for completing the first series LENA Grow 1 and receiving her certification as a LENA Grow 1 Certified Teacher. Patricia joins a select group of educators who have completed this certification.



Early Childhood Educators know that the first five years of a child's life are the most important. Research has shown that the more conversational turns (serve and return) children experience increases brain development. Do you want to build relationships with the children in your classroom, increase interactions and help enhance social-emotional skills? Your answer to ALL of these questions is LENA Grow. For more information, please contact Angela Lowery-Taylor, Child Care Services Manager.

SAVE THE date

The Early Educators Banquet will be held on September 9, 2023.

Alamance Partnership for Children likes to recognize our wonderful Early Childhood providers with a night of glamour, honor, and motivation. We all have learned to function through trying times. This night is all about YOU and celebrating you and your accomplishments. Please check your emails for more information about this event in the upcoming weeks

Professional Development is being offered in-person at Alamance Partnership for Children. We have three skilled trainers on our team, Angela Lowery-Taylor, Monika Marszalek and the newest member Lisa Rettie. Professional Development opportunities will be added to the Child Care Services Association Professional Development Calendar for the fiscal year 2023-2024 in July.

Professional Development Calendar

Please be sure to continue to look on the calendar for all professional development offered. We want to know what you would like to learn more about this next year. Please submit all suggestions to our Quality Child Care Team via email.

**Angela Lowery Taylor, Child Care Services Manager alowery-taylor@alamancechildren.org
Monika Marszalek, Early Childhood Specialist-Outdoor Learning mmarszalek@alamancechildren.org
Lisa Rettie, Child Care Resource & Referral Specialist lrettie@alamancechildren.org**

NC Pre-K

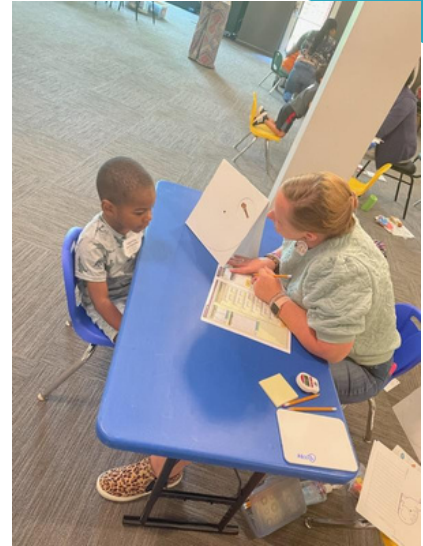


The NC Pre-K program ended the 2022-2023 school enrolled at 99.2%, with only 4 vacancies available within the entire program!

For the 2023-2024 school year, we have already received 474 NC Pre-K applications! And they continue to roll in daily! If you are interested, please apply here: [NC PRE-K](#)

In preparation for the 2023-2024 school year, over 400 DIAL4 screenings have been conducted at various DIAL4 screening events throughout Alamance County. Those events wrapped up on Wednesday, May 31, 2023.

We will begin to work on placing eligible children in NC Pre-K classrooms in July 2023, notifying parents and families of our placement decisions at that time as well. Check your email for updates.



Tips for New PreK Families

Dress your child in weather-appropriate, comfortable clothing with closed-toed shoes. "Best" clothing is discouraged as children may get dirty outdoors or "painted" in the art center. Children learn through play in NC Pre-K!

Provide a backpack or bag to carry papers and personal belongings to and from school. Your child will need a light blanket and crib-sized sheet for rest time. If possible, provide a change of seasonally appropriate clothes in case your child needs to change clothes during the day.

Your homework is reading twenty to thirty minutes each night with your child. It is one of the best ways to help your child build vocabulary and strengthen language skills. Reading nightly is a great habit that will serve your child well in later years and is a good opportunity to have one on one time with your child. If you have older children, encourage them to read with the younger children. Visit your local library for a library card and ask the children's librarian for age-appropriate books that match your child's interests.



Dressed to impress for his screening!

Parents As Teachers



All children's needs are unique and all deserve the best possible start in life. Your child was born ready to learn.

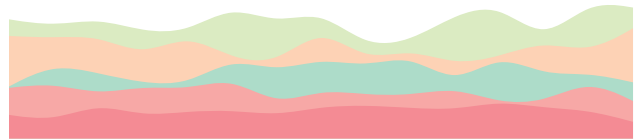
ENROLLMENT IS OPEN

Benefits of our FREE Parents as Teachers program:

- We are a no cost family program serving Alamance county families throughout pregnancy until the age of 5.
- We support parents increasing their knowledge of their child's development.
- We connect parents with other families, resources in our community and free activities for their children.
- We help parents through their children's learning process to be ready for Pre-k or Kindergarten.

Fun ways to interact with your child this Summer:

- Move to the music outdoors
- Plant flowers together
- Going for a walk around or in a park
- Make a picnic outdoors
- Built a fort
- Read a book under a tree outdoors
- Feed the birds
- Play with the ball outside or inside.
- Draw with chalk
- Together, name all the colors you see.
- Wash toys and cars with water containers and get wet.
- Pretend to cook with mud and plastic kitchen utensils or toys.



UPCOMING GROUP MEETINGS:

July (DTB)- Fun Zumba class with your Child!



Sandra Vanover PAT Manager svanover@alamancechildren.org
Lakisha Rodgers PAT Educator lrodgers@alamancechildren.org
Induberit Rosa PAT Educator irosa@alamancechildren.org

Incredible Years



The Incredible Years classes are designed for parents and caregivers of children ages 3-12. We provide weekly classes, led by trained Incredible Years Facilitators.

Topics covered include monitoring your child(ren), positive discipline, and boosting your child's confidence.

Registration is open!

What are the benefits of the Incredible Years program?

Reductions in parental depression and increases in parental self-confidence. Increases in positive family communication and problem-solving. Reductions in conduct problems in children's interactions with parents and increases in children's positive affect and compliance to parental commands.

Fall IY classes will begin the week of September 11th-15th for our Fall classes. We will be offering the preschool (3-5) and school-age (6-12) classes. Participants can contact the Partnership now to register.



All participants who complete 11 of 14 classes will receive a \$50 incentive.



Literacy

sign up for free book for your child birth to five.



200 MILLION REASONS TO CELEBRATE!

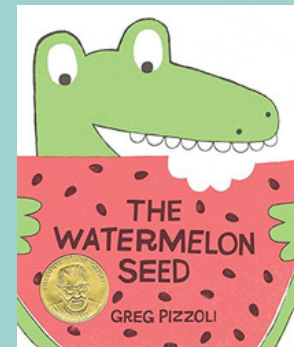
Enroll your Child in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

7 random children/families enrolled who find the Dolly bookmark in their September Imagination Library will receive:

- Video chat with Dolly
- Personalized, signed letter from Dolly
- Autographed photo from Dolly
- 4 Dollywood Theme Park tickets

& \$2,000 USD/CAD/AUD or £2,000 GBP donated to their Local Program Partner in their name!

Learn More at ImaginationLibrary.com/200-million-books



Michelle's pick for SUMMER

Enjoy a slice of watermelon while you and your child read this fun story together. What will happen when the crocodile swallows a seed? Will he sprout vines? This is a great book for asking questions and letting your child explore their imagination.

The Watermelon Seed
by Greg Pizzoli

Register your child for free books!

Registration is easy:

*Visit: www.AlamanceChildren.org

*Call: 336.513.0063

*Email: mhowe@AlamanceChildren.org

*Scan: QR Code for registration form



Join us for story time at The Partnership
Starting time: 10:15 am



July 11
Captain Lee Hicks
July 18
Margo Ford Crosby

August 1
Morgan Keenan

Children Smart Start



Kaleidoscope Play and Learn



Kaleidoscope Play & Learn (KPL) is a free weekly facilitated parent and child playgroup offered to caregivers with children birth to five years old. Playgroups offer caregivers a space to connect with one another and build community.

Due to the incredible demand for our KPL group at the OLE, we have added another day for the summer so that more families in Alamance County can experience a parent-child playgroup.

Where: Ebenezer Church of Christ
734 Apple St. Burlington, NC 27215

When: Tuesday Mornings
Time: 9:00-10:30

Where: Outdoor Learning Environment
at the corner of Hodges and River Road
in Glencoe Mill Village, Burlington

When: Wednesday Mornings
Time: 10:30am-12:00pm

Where: Outdoor Learning Environment
at the corner of Hodges and River Road
in Glencoe Mill Village, Burlington

When: Thursday Afternoons
Time: 1:30-3:00pm

During each session, parents and children will read books and complete activities, that focus on the topic for the month.

Pre-registration is required through EventBrite.

Body tracing during the family theme supporting "recongning themselves within the family"



Community Awareness

Summertime is here and it is important to realize how quickly a car can heat up to dangerous levels.

How quickly a car heats up

Minutes passed	Outside air temperature					
	70 °F	75 °F	80 °F	85 °F	90 °F	95 °F
10 min.	89 °F	94 °F	99 °F	104 °F	109 °F	114 °F
20 min.	99 °F	104 °F	109 °F	114 °F	119 °F	124 °F
30 min.	104 °F	109 °F	114 °F	119 °F	124 °F	129 °F
40 min.	108 °F	113 °F	118 °F	123 °F	128 °F	133 °F
50 min.	111 °F	116 °F	121 °F	126 °F	131 °F	136 °F
60 min.	113 °F	118 °F	123 °F	128 °F	133 °F	138 °F

Internal car temperature

Source: Jan Null, CCM (Certified Consulting Meteorologist); Department of Geosciences; San Francisco State University

Due to their smaller size, a child's body heats up three to five times faster than an adult's.

Summer Safety

Positive Parenting Connection

Safety Hazards and Prevention Information for Parents and Caregivers

WATER = BE ALERT!

DEHYDRATION INFORMATION

- Do not ignore crying. Crankiness is often an early sign of dehydration or heat discomfort.
- Respond attentively to your child's request for a drink of water.
- Be mindful of prolonged sun exposure and heat.

CAR = HOT ZONE

18 SECONDS

Drowning can happen in 18-30 seconds.

87% of all drownings occur in a backyard.

10 accidental drownings a day is the average in the USA.

Children ages 1 to 4 have the highest drowning rates.

Drowning most often occurs quickly and quietly, children do NOT scream, yell or splash for help. Source: CDC.gov

First Check - Then Click

- Buckles and car seat straps pose a hidden burn hazard!
- Check the temperature before placing child in seat
- A cold wash cloth or ice pack can help cool buckles down.
- Dress child in clothes that offer a barrier to the buckles (cover shoulders, chest and thighs)

Did you Know?

The inside of a car on a summer day can reach 109° F/ 42° C in under 10 minutes.

STOP!

Do NOT leave children in the car.

Don't forget your sleeping child!!

Place your purse/phone or other important items on the back seat with your child.

Keep keys out of reach and the car securely locked.

TOWN OF ELON RECREATION & PARKS PRESENTS...

2023 SUMMER MOVIES ON THE LAWN

Beth Schmidt Park
2150 Elon Park Drive, Elon

SHOWTIME 8:30PM

JUNE 23rd PUSS IN BOOTS: The Last Wish

JULY 7th THE BAD GUYS

JULY 21st BACK TO THE FUTURE

AUGUST 4th SPACE JAM: A New Legacy

AUGUST 18th UNCHARTED

For movie updates follow us @ THE ELON REC & PARKS SCENE

CINEMA

FREE MOVIE, POPCORN & DRINK
BRING A CHAIR OR BLANKET

www.TownofElonParks.com

ALAMANCE COUNTY DSS IS

ACCEPTING NEW APPLICATIONS

SUBSIDIZED CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE (SCCA) (DAYCARE)

If you are want to apply, please visit:
<https://www.alamance-nc.com/dss/programs-and-services/child-care>
for more information or scan the QR code



SCAN ME

¡AYUDÁNDOLE A HACER SU FUTURO BRILLANTE!
EL DSS DEL CONDADO DE ALAMANCE ESTÁ

ACEPTANDO ACTUALMENTE SOLICITUDES PARA VALES DE

ASISTENCIA DE CUIDADO INFANTIL SUBSIDIADO
(SCCA POR SUS SIGLAS EN INGLÉS) (GUARDERÍA)

Si le interesa solicitar, visite por favor:
<https://www.alamance-nc.com/dss/programs-and-services/child-care>
para más información o escanee el código QR de abajo.



SCAN ME

Our Staff

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