Greetings!!!

Summer is in full swing here at the UCC! The temperatures are sky high, the smell of sunscreen is very prominent, and we are trying to beat the heat! We hope your families are enjoying your summer thus far!

As we busily prepare for August enrollment we want to make parents aware of the upcoming transition process. The “last day of school” for all students who are leaving to head to pre-k/Kindergarten is Thursday, August 6th. We will have a Professional Learning Day for teachers on Friday, August 7th and our “new school year” will begin Monday, August 10th. (See page 3 for more information on PL Days)

With that said, there will not be a lengthy transition for students to move to their new classrooms. We have well over 100 students transitioning into new classrooms. We used this same process last year and the students did wonderfully!! Transitions are MUCH easier on the children than the parents; we know from experience.

Since we will not have a long transition, we have decided to host an **Open House** for all of our current and new UCC families on Friday, August 7th. This will be a drop-in style event at UCC between the hours of **3:00pm-4:00pm**. This will provide both parents and children the opportunity to meet their new teachers and see their classrooms. All parents will receive their child’s new classroom assignments by July 31st (VIA EMAIL). You will also receive teacher bios and a classroom newsletter that will include information on what to bring on the first day, transition tips, and important reminders.

All of us at UCC are looking forward to the new school year! If you have ANY questions about the transition process, or anything else, please feel free to speak with Ashley Gunter.

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**Parent Council**

The UCC Parent Council will meet on July 27th and then continue after the new school year has started. As previously mentioned, the overall goals for the Parent Council are: to support the mission and values of UCC, to support the administration and staff of UCC, to provide meaningful communication between and among UCC parents, staff, and administration, and to build community amongst UCC families. Our goal is to have a parent representative from each classroom and currently we have 13 representatives. If a representative spot becomes vacant after the start of the school year we will contact that classroom’s parents in search of a replacement.
Frequently Asked Questions

What does UCC do when it is very hot outside?

Administration carefully monitors outdoor temperatures along with the heat index by using the Bright From the Start weather chart. According to the chart, when the temperature/heat index is 90 or above children are not allowed outdoors.

How often are fire and tornado drills performed?

UCC performs monthly fire drills and quarterly tornado drills. In the case of a fire all children are directed out their classroom’s back door and taken to our designated safe zone outside the building. In the event of a tornado every child and staff member are taken into the main hallway, where children will sit down with mats over their heads. **For a more detailed description of our emergency procedures please find the “emergency procedures” page on our Parent Board located inside of the second door of the lobby.

When do children begin potty training?

Typically most children begin consistent potty-use between the ages of 2-3 years old; some sooner, some later. At UCC our Older & Younger Toddler classrooms are where the potty training process usually begins. UCC generally waits until the child is 2 years old to begin the process and we encourage practice with consistent potty-use at home.

What are UCC meal times?

All UCC classrooms from ages 1 and up have set meal time schedules: Breakfast 8:00-8:30, Lunch 11:00-11:30, and Snack 2:00-2:30. If you would like your child to have their meals at UCC please be sure to have them here between those times.

My child is going home sick with a fever today. When can he/she return?

All children who go home sick need to be symptom free (without the aid of medication) for a least 24 hours. UCC will send home an “I’m not feeling well” form to inform the parents of the child’s earliest return date.

Do I need to drop my child off by a certain time?

No. UCC is open between the hours of 7:00am-6:00pm. Families can come and go as they please and use our services when it is most convenient for them. However, as mentioned above, meal times are set and so are activities in the classroom. If you would like your child to participate in specific activities they must be in attendance at the designated times which are posted on the classroom schedule.
Professional Learning Days

Professional Learning (PL) Days are provided for our full-time teaching and administrative staff to participate in online trainings, face-to-face trainings, conferences, or classroom upkeep in order to provide quality care in our classrooms. UCC closes to families on PL Days 10 times per year. However, administration and staff still work at the center or train off-site.

Our next PL Day will be on August 7th and will primarily be a day of preparation for the upcoming school year. As mentioned on the first page we will also host an Open House for UCC families. In September our staff will head to the Gwinnett Center for the Georgia Association on Young Children (GAYC) Conference for the third year in a row. We attended this conference last year and look forward to attending again in order to gain knowledge in a variety of topics in early childcare. Below are the scheduled days off for the remainder of 2015 as well as 2016:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 7 (PL Day)</td>
<td>January 1 (Holiday)</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 7 (Holiday)</td>
<td>January 15 (1/2 day-PL Day)</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 25 (PL Day)</td>
<td>January 18 (Holiday)</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 23 (PL Day)</td>
<td>February 15 (PL Day)</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 26—27 (Holiday)</td>
<td>March 10 (1/2 day-PL Day)</td>
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<td>December 25 (Holiday)</td>
<td>April 4 (PL Day)</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 30-31 (Holiday)</td>
<td>May 3 (1/2 day-PL Day)</td>
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Music Teacher

UCC has been fortunate to have outstanding music teachers as part of the weekly curriculum. We would like to recognize and announce that Mrs. Julie Dixon, a former 3-year old teacher at UCC, will continue as the music teacher for all of our classrooms. Mrs. Julie has a Bachelor’s Degree in Music and will provide weekly pre-planned music lessons to all UCC students. Mrs. Julie will visit all 13 classrooms over the span of 2 different days each week. Please join us in welcoming Mrs. Julie back to UCC!!

Past Employees of the Month

Since our last newsletter we have recognized several teachers as our “Employee of the Month!” All of these teachers posses the qualities that are needed to be a successful early childcare teacher. We wanted to share their pictures with you to continue the recognition beyond the center and classroom. Thank you, teachers, for all that you do!
A Letter from the President

UCC Families,

I hope everyone has had a wonderful summer with some time to relax and enjoy a bit of quality family time! These things, I have found, are such an important aspect to recharging our minds as we prepare for the exciting (and much faster paced) fall season. This is definitely true around UCC as teachers and administrators prepare for their upcoming classes and school year. The end of summer is always an exciting time!

I want to thank all of our families that have responded to our first annual parent survey. The survey is a great way to for us to gather feedback on how we are doing at UCC, ways to improve, as well as confirmation on things parents feel are going well. We cannot thank UGA enough for working with Ashley Gunter and me on the survey design and for putting it into a web based format that allows everyone to take and submit the survey online. The online format, we feel, will help to reach all families throughout the center, which will ultimately give us as many responses as possible.

Please [click here](#) to complete the survey if you have not already done so. All survey results are completely anonymous unless you add your name to the survey and wish for Ashley Gunter to contact you regarding your responses. **PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRINT THE CONFIRMATION PAGE** at the end of the survey and place it in the box behind Robyn’s desk to be included in the drawing on July 30th! Two $250 gift cards will be given out to survey participants! Again, your responses to the survey are greatly appreciated and will definitely be used to help us improve.

I want to take the time to thank all of our families and staff that came out to our family fun night. We had a tremendous turn out and we hope to make this an annual event. Family events are a great way to be able to chat with families or staff that you may see passing in the halls but never get a great opportunity to get to know during drop-off or pick-up. We hope these types of events can help spark a friendship between children, families or both.

Thank you, families, for entrusting your children with UCC! We take our responsibilities so seriously and want you all to know how appreciative we are of you. If you have any questions or comments for me please feel free to contact me at weszwirn@uga.edu or call UCC directly. We look forward to a great upcoming school year!

Warm Regards –
Wes Zwirn