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Quality childcare is not expensive. It is priceless. . .

## THE LEARNING CENTER

Our mission is *to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.*

### 2023 Calendar of Events

- MLK Day \*TLC closed January 16
- Class Photos February 16
- Valentine Parties February 14
- Spring Break \*TLC closed March 13-17
- Summer enrollment March 21-24
- School photos April 4
- Good Friday \*TLC closed April 7
- Teacher Appreciation Week April 24-28
- Last day of spring session May 26
- Memorial Day \*TLC closed May 30-June 3
- First day of summer session June 5

### GRACIAS, MERCI, GRAZI, THANK YOU!

The Learning Center staff appreciates all of the holiday treats, gift cards, and presents from Christmas. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts. You are truly thoughtful families. We love you all!

### Safety Precautions Continue

Drop off and pick up procedures will continue at the assigned doors. We appreciate the cooperation you all are giving to keep everyone healthy. **Drop off is 9-9:15 a.m. every day and pick up is 15 minutes before closing.** Thanks!

### INCLEMENT WEATHER

Please watch the main news channels, 4, 5, or 9, to see the list of school closings when there is **ice or snow**. Our school will be listed under **Nichols Hills United Methodist Church**. We will text and email you all to the best of our ability. When in doubt you may always text your teacher or Denise 405.819.0776



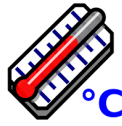
### Weekly Specials 2023

Mondays	Tuesdays	Wednesdays	Thursdays	Fridays
Amazing Athletes 10:00	Tippi Toes Dance* 10:30 Children's Chapel 2:45	Children's Chapel 9:45 Music 10:00 (Everyone does music)	Amazing Athletes 9:30 Children's Chapel 2:45	Amazing Athletes
*cost extra \$45 monthly	Chapel is for 3 yrs & up	Chapel for 3 yrs & up	Chapel for 3 yrs & up	French 3 yrs & up



### Absences from School

We understand that people will miss school from time to time, but it helps us to know if you don't plan to attend. Call and let us know if your child is ill so we may let other families know too. Families benefit from the extra days when we know they will be available. We will call to see if your child is well. Everyone wants to know if someone has something contagious, especially during this time. Please help us with this process. Thanks!



**IMMUNIZATIONS** must be kept current. Please bring an updated shot record to school.

Thank you!



### Drop-In Charges Due

The next time you need to "drop in" (a day you don't normally attend) we will need the tuition to be paid at that time. All accounts must be paid **in full by the end of the month**. We appreciate your cooperation with this policy. Thank you!



### DANGER in the Parking Lot!

Cars have been racing through our parking lot at speeds exceeding 20 miles per hour and this is a problem. Please remember that young children are at risk with speeding cars in the parking lot. We appreciate everyone remembering that there is precious cargo every where. SLOW it down.



### Family Surveys Feedback



We received 61% of families participation regarding our family surveys. They are anonymous which hopefully provides honest feedback. There were helpful

suggestions and ideas to help us to better meet your family's needs. Following your suggestions we are incorporating some changes to our daily information sheets, weekly photos, developmental milestones and so on. Each week the class lesson plans are mailed out electronically. Each category or learning area has an Early Learning Guideline that is a developmental milestone for that age group. We are happy to provide more detail to you all. Thank you for participating in this survey. We will definitely improve communication in the future.



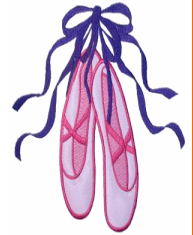
The Learning Center will be closed for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, **January 16, 2023.**



## Tippi Toes



Tippi Toes offers positive, fun dance classes for girls and boys ages 1.6 – 6 years-old! Our mission: to develop a love of dancing in children by creating a positive experience that promotes healthy living habits, helps build self-confidence, and a love for others. Classes at TLC are on Tuesdays from 10-10:30 a.m. Tuition is \$45 per month. To enroll, please go to [www.tippitoesdance.com/oklahoma-city](http://www.tippitoesdance.com/oklahoma-city) and follow the instructions. We do have classes all summer, too. Need more information? Call 405.361.3620



## Amazing Athletes



Amazing Athletes is an introduction into the basic fundamentals and mechanics of nine different sports and focuses on self-confidence, practicing teamwork, and improving seven key areas of motor development. Young children need guidance in building their balance, agility and strength training within a non-competitive, learning-based environment. Each class focuses on two different sports and incorporates activities proven to increase children's overall cardiovascular fitness, muscle tone, hand-eye coordination, reaction time and more! Teaching children life skills through sports is FUN! Classes are held on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays, too. The program is for Monkeys, Zebras, Jaguars and Cheetahs. This program is a year-round activity. Wear your Amazing Athletes' shirts on the day you attend!

## Music Classes

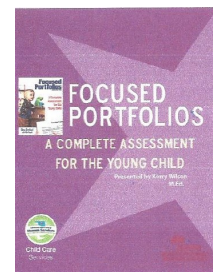


Your monthly tuition also includes Music class on Wednesdays. Each week we have Miss Jordan bring her expertise to the Cubs (infants) through Cheetahs' classrooms. All of the children enjoy their music time and look forward to it. We will have a spring demonstration to share what the children have learned. Also a real fun experience for everyone.

## Focused Portfolios

Our staff uses a process of documentation called "Focused Portfolios" to record children's growth and development. Through photographs, anecdotes and children's work samples, teachers put together a visual account of each child's accomplishments. This process recognizes and celebrates that all children develop at different rates and with various strengths. Collections are completed in fall and spring and are kept in a folder for the year, after which the portfolio becomes a keepsake for the child and family. This collection is a representation of your child as an individual with distinct interests, background, skills and desires. We will offer family conferences twice a year to share these special collections and to celebrate the accomplishments of your child. Families are invited to participate in this portfolio collection process in whichever special way you choose. Here are some suggestions:

- ⇒ Create a photo collage of your immediate or extended family
- ⇒ Write about a special family event or trip and include a photo
- ⇒ Share how your child's name was selected
- ⇒ Describe a family hobby or typical weekend past time



## Monthly Fire Drill



Our last fire drill was held December 28. The drill went well as our children were not present. Make sure you practice what to do at home, too. What does your plan look like?

Where does your family meet? Things to think about before the time is necessary. . .

## Toiletries for John Marshall

One of the ministries of Nichols Hills United Methodist Church is collecting items for students at John Marshall. Here are some items needed:



- ◆ Men's and women's deodorant
- ◆ Toothpaste
- ◆ Toothbrushes (prefer four pack)
- ◆ Body lotions 8 oz.
- ◆ Laundry detergent 8 or 10 oz. *Tide* or *Gain*
- ◆ Sample size perfume or cologne

You may leave these contributions at front desk.



## Services at Nichols Hills United Methodist Church

We invite all families to our church services on Sundays. There is an 8:30 a.m. and a 10:50 a.m. service. Sunday school is typically 9:45 to 10:30. Child care is available. Our music, choir and sermons are very much the antidote for a hectic life. Please join us. For more information call the church 842-1486.

Stay clean, stay safe, keep your hands off your face.



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## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS



Kinsley Collins	January 3
Mariah Keksi*	January 3
Segeer Smith	January 7
Genevieve Beaver	January 14
Tamia Shelton*	January 16
Diederik Nuveen	January 21
Barrett Hixon	January 22
Debbie Nagy*	January 22
Ace Barby	January 23
Henry French	January 23
Parker Pettigrew	January 24
William Stewart	January 28
Harper Green	January 28
Astrid Parrish	January 31
Summer Jin*	January 31

\* indicates staff member

Families are welcome to bring a treat for their child's birthday. Must be from a commercial kitchen or store. Talk with the teachers and find out when is the best time to cel-



## QRIS-Quality Rating & Improvement System

The Oklahoma Department of Human Services Child Care Services Division has revamped the licensing process. There are new standards and guidelines to raise the quality of programs. The Learning Center is now a three star program. You may earn up to five stars when you submit documents and forms indicating how you are meeting these new standards. It is our goal to become a five star program as we truly operate as a full-time program with part-time hours. Child care in Oklahoma will improve overall with the new regulations and guidelines. Our commitment is to reach the highest standards for our staff and children. To read more information regarding these standards you may look online:

<https://oklahoma.gov/okdhs/library/policy/current/oac-340.html>





# January Afternoon Snacks 2023



<p><b>FYI: PM snacks are provided by TLC; AM snacks by families Except for Cubs</b></p>				
<p><b>2</b> Closed for New Year's Day</p>	<p><b>3</b> Granola Bar &amp; Juice</p>	<p><b>4</b> Ham slice &amp; Ritz Crackers</p>	<p><b>5</b> Chex Mix &amp; Pickles</p>	<p><b>6</b> Gogurts &amp; Juice</p>
<p><b>9</b> Nilla Wafers &amp; Bananas</p>	<p><b>10</b> Applesauce &amp; Cheese Stix</p>	<p><b>11</b> American Cheese &amp; Honey Pretzels</p>	<p><b>12</b> Veggie Straws &amp; Juice</p>	<p><b>13</b> Chex Mix &amp; Juice</p>
<p><b>16</b> </p>	<p><b>17</b> Saltines &amp; Pickle Slices</p>	<p><b>18</b> Pepperoni &amp; American Cheese</p>	<p><b>19</b> Animal Crackers &amp; Nutella</p>	<p><b>20</b> Diced peaches &amp; Gogurt</p>
<p><b>23</b> Nutella &amp; Graham Crackers</p>	<p><b>24</b> Applesauce &amp; Cheese Stix</p>	<p><b>25</b> Pudding Cups &amp; Saltines</p>	<p><b>26</b> Granola &amp; Juice</p>	<p><b>27</b> Wheat Thins &amp; Pickles</p>
<p><b>30</b> Diced Peaches &amp; Honey Pretzels</p>	<p><b>31</b> Ham slices &amp; Saltines</p>			

## Parent Advisory Committee (PAC)

Our Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) will meet upon request. Any family members who wish to participate are welcome to join us. The PAC serves as feedback for the management team, assists with special celebrations and so on. We would welcome your input as to how to involve families in our program or any other suggestions for improvements.



## Scholastic Books

Each month we send home a plethora of catalogs for you to order books from Scholastic. You may have them delivered to your home or to the school. We distribute them upon arrival. Every dollar you spend affords us free books! The love of reading is instilled very early. Help your child to love books by purchasing new ones and reading them to your child.



## Meet Our Newest Teacher



Our newest teacher is Debbie Nagy. She is a mother and grandmother with years of experience in childcare. Currently she floats between the Cubs and Pandas classrooms. When staff are absent, she fills in their spot. She began December 14, 2022. Join us in welcoming her to TLC.

*We must care about the world of our children and grandchildren, a world we may never see. . .*

*-Bertrand Russell*





## Tuition Schedule effective August 1, 2022

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
\$151	\$193	\$151	\$193	\$137

(Two day minimum, all ages)

Examples: Monday, Wednesday, Friday = \$439  
 Tuesday, Thursday = \$386  
 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday = \$825  
 Any combination of days based on availability.

Other Fees:  
 Enrollment Fee (per session) \$75 - 1<sup>st</sup> child; \$60 each additional child  
 Drop-In Rate \$35 per day Monday / Wednesday / Friday  
 \$45 per day Tuesday /Thursday (upon availability)  
 Late Pick Up \$1 per minute, per child. Five minutes grace given.

### New Ways to Pay On-line

We now offer on-line payments for checks and credit cards. You may set it up for monthly recurring payments or not. There is **no fee for the checks**, but there is a **3% fee for Visa, Mastercard or American Express**. Naturally the old-fashioned way of writing checks and giving them to us still works! Please read below.

To make electronic payments follow these steps:

Go to Nichols Hills UMC Website – [nicholshillsumc.org](http://nicholshillsumc.org)

1. Click “The Learning Center.”
2. Click “Payment.” Establish a Profile. – This will allow you to make future payments without re-entering your information.
5. Enter Payment Amount and Child’s Name.
6. Enter Payment Method.
7. There is a **3% processing fee** for *Debit or Credit Card payments*.  
 For Debit or Credit Card payments, click “Help offset processing fee.” This is not optional.
8. Make your pay due date each month before the fifth day of the month. You will never be late.

“When you get, give. When you learn, teach.”

- Maya Angelou

