



We're dedicated to helping you be happy, healthy and successful in your journey of being a parent!

Monthly Quote

“My own prescription for health is less paperwork and more running barefoot through the grass.”

— Leslie Grimmer

Events

Sept 1 st	Labor Day Center Closed
Sept 2 nd	1 st day of school for elementary

September Birthdays Happy Birthday!

Sept 1 st	Adelyn O.
Sept 2 nd	Lena B.
Sept 5 th	Easton O.
Sept 7 th	Payton G.
Sept 8 th	Abbigail C.
Sept 10 th	Carter W.
Sept 13 th	Boston N.
Sept 16 th	Max B.
Sept 18 th	Miss. Brittany H.
Sept 19 th	Andrew G.
Sept 23 rd	Alivia D.
Sept 24 th	Edward B.

Games to Spur Your Child's Imagination

Children start out full of creativity and imagination, and parents can help nurture it as they develop and grow. Play these games with your children to keep their minds active and alert:

- **Costume play.** Encourage games of dress-up. Keep old clothes, hats, and scarves around so your kids can put on a play or pretend to be grown-ups. This lets them try out different roles and express their ideas freely.
- **Art gallery.** Dedicate a section of your home (not just the refrigerator door) to your kids' art. Display their pictures and sculptures, rotating them from time to time. You can even hold a “gallery opening” for your relatives or your kids' friends, serving cheese and juice, to reinforce children's pride in their talents.
- **Story building.** Collect some random objects around your house and ask your child to make up a story around them. Or gather a group of children, give them one item each, and have each one add a sentence to the story about the object he or she is holding. Switch items often to keep the game going.
- **Forts.** It's a time-honored game, but one that stimulates the senses: Have your kids build a fort using blankets, sheets, and pillows. They'll learn to solve problems like keeping a roof up and designing doors for easy entrance and exit.



Monthly Celebrations and Causes

Important Information:

We will be working on our annual field trip to the pumpkin patch/apple orchard. Please watch for more information coming soon...

Reminder: Lunches are to be brought in a lunch bag with an ice pack for children over 2 years old. We will have the same policy as last year, children in the infant and one year old rooms will be able to use their classroom refrigerator

Please make sure that your family is taking home our "important notes." Teachers leave notes when your child is in need of something. It may be sunscreen, diapers, wipes, extra clothing, etc. Please make sure that you are reading these and replacing what is needed. This will avoid a call at work to have you bring something up for them. We do not keep extras here at the center.

The table up front is for infant car seats. Please do not put a car seat on the table with a child in the carrier. Only empty car seats should be placed on the table. Car seats can be stored on top or under the table. Please do not allow your children to climb on the table or hide under the table.

Baby Safety Month. Designed to educate parents and caregivers on the importance of the safe use and selection of juvenile products. This year's theme, "Green is the New Pink and Blue," highlights eco-friendly practices to raising a healthy family and living green.

Hunger Action Month. The Feeding America network of food banks urges individuals to take action toward the vital mission of ending hunger in America.

National Cholesterol Education Month. September is a good time to get your blood cholesterol checked, and take steps to lower it if it's high.

National Sewing Month. A time to indulge your passion for sewing or the perfect opportunity to introduce yourself to the craft of sewing and embroidery.

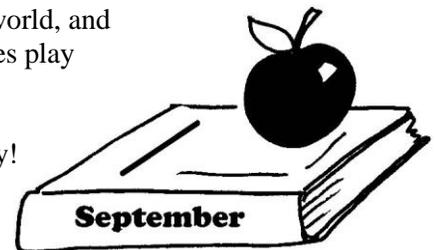
Pollution Prevention Week, Sept. 14-20. Highlights the efforts of the Environmental Protection Agency, its partners, and the public in making pollution prevention a cornerstone of sustainability.

National Dog Week, Sept. 21-27. Founded in 1928 by Captain Will Judy, a noted dog judge and former publisher of *Dog World Magazine*, to educate all dog owners in their responsibilities to their pets, their communities, and those organizations dedicated to caring for unwanted or lost dogs.

Labor Day, Sept. 1. Celebrate the American labor movement, and the social and economic achievements of workers everywhere.

National Wildlife Day, Sept. 4. Bring awareness to the number of endangered animals nationally and around the world, and support the role U.S. zoos and animal sanctuaries play in helping preserve this planet's.

Talk Like a Pirate Day, Sept. 19. Avast, matey! This is the day to celebrate your inner Captains: Kidd, Hook, or Jack Sparrow.



Menu Changes

It's that time of year again. We will be updating our menu soon. We are currently working on a few changes. We will notify parents as soon as the changes are complete and the date that they will begin. Copies of the menu are posted in each classroom for your convenience. We have always had 4 menus that rotate. We begin with week one and rotate through the four menus and then return back to menu one and begin again. Please see the front desk if your family would like a new menu when they come out. We will have extras for you if needed.

Please note that your family can bring additional food in to use as substitutes if your child doesn't like what is served. We will be happy to warm this up for them. Lunches/snacks can be left in your child's cubby to use when needed. For children that are two years and older: if you are planning on packing your child a lunch that needs to be refrigerated, you will need to provide a lunch box with cooler pack inside. Lunches that need to be warmed will need to use a microwave. Please make sure that lunches that are packed can accommodate this.

Tuition and Scheduled Days

As a reminder, tuition is always due on Thursdays by the end of the day. Tuition not paid by the end of the day on Thursday will have a \$30 late fee added to their account. Keep in mind that tuition may be paid by cash, check, money order or credit card. Keep in mind, for families paying with a credit card, there will be a 4% charge added to their total being charged. For example, if your family was charging \$100 for tuition your total being charged would be \$104 with the 4% added to the total. Credit cards may be called in if your family is not here on Thursdays.

Scheduled days are also due by the end of the day on Thursdays. If a schedule is not given we will assume that your child's schedule stays the same for the following week. Days may not be switched but days may be added if there is availability in the room. It is extremely important to give your child's schedule so that we may make sure that we have the proper staffing in each room.

There is a \$1 per minute fee for anyone dropped off after 10am. Anyone dropping off after 10am will need prior arrangements with a director. Children must be picked up and out of the building by 6:30pm in order to avoid a late pick up charge of \$1 per minute.

Teaching Kids to be Organized

Although some children appear to be born with a natural inclination for routine and order, others are free spirits and need some assistance in order to discover ways to make their life run more smoothly. Teaching children organizational skills can make family life run a lot more efficiently and cut down friction when children have to keep their rooms clean and do homework and there are some good tips that can help with this learning process.

One smart idea is to track all of the family activities on a calendar that is accessible to everyone. Every night get together and discuss the activities that are scheduled for the following day and encourage kids to check the calendar before adding any other activity.

Daily checklists are also a good idea to help keep track of homework, instrument practice or household chores. This also teaches children how to prioritize. Teach children to prepare their clothes for the following day the night before and have everything laid out for the morning, including making lunches and packing their backpack.

Another way to teach children organization is to encourage them to have some kind of collection that can be classified, sorted and organized.



Bus Safety

Please watch for our buses. We have 4 buses that come throughout the day. We have two buses in the morning and two buses in the afternoon. These buses come within minutes of each other. Make sure that you keep your little ones with you at all times and within an arms length.

Latchkey Children

Children must be in the building and enter the bus with all the children getting on the bus. They CANNOT get out of a car and enter the bus. Children MUST enter the building when they exit the bus. Parents may pick them up from inside the building. This is a Swartz Creek Schools policy. This is for safety of all children. We all have to follow these rules in order keep our bussing services. We appreciate your help and understanding in this matter.

Labels for Education

Thank you to everyone that has brought in labels for our Labels for Education box. We have been able to use the points to get many new things. Last Spring we got our new coolers that we used for outdoors this summer and the picnic as well as a children's aerobics for kids fun CD. We just recently turned in more points and were able to get lots of new sidewalk chalk, sports equipment for the playground, items for the classrooms as well as another aerobics fun CD. The children love these CD's. Thank you again and keep turning in those labels!!!

Thank You

We would like to thank everyone that could make it out for our family picnic and fun day in August. It was a perfect day. The children had a lot of fun with the petting zoo, bubbles, games and of course eating lunch outside. We hope that you enjoyed it as much as we did!

Bus Schedule & Safety

We have two buses that come daily at Brandi's Place. Bus 97 will arrive around 7:55am for our kindergarten children and bus 27 will arrive around 8:15 for our 1st – 5th grade children. The buses also arrive in the afternoon between 3:50 and 4:05pm. Please be respectful of the buses during these times. These buses come directly into the parking lot to pick up or drop off children. Cars should be watching out for buses and children. Just a reminder, ALL children riding the buses must exit the building to get on the bus or enter the building when getting off the bus. Children cannot enter the bus from the parking lot or exit the bus directly into a car. Cars should all be stopped in the parking lot while a bus is in the parking lot. We would also like to let parents know that this time of the day can be extremely busy. We appreciate your patience as we get the children on and off the buses during this time. We want to make sure that we get the children safely on the bus in the morning. We also want to make sure that we get each child off safely and get them checked into the room in the afternoon. We apologize if the hallway seems a little chaotic during these brief moments of transition.

We're dedicated to helping you be happy, healthy and successful in your journey of being a parent!

Morning Schedules

Due to the latchkey children getting on the bus, we will go back to our school year schedule for morning drop offs. If your child is in latchkey, they will be dropped off in Ms. Nina's Room for breakfast and prepare for the bus arrival. Three year olds, Ms. Nina's Preschool and Young 5's will be dropped off in Miss. Michaela's room for breakfast. At 8am, beginning preschool (3 yr olds) will be picked up by their teacher and taken to their room. Kindergarten will get on their bus at 7:55 (Bus 97 – Purple bus). Older children will be picked up around 8:05am (Bus 27 – Red). At that time, Ms. Nina will go pick up her children from the young 5's classroom. By 8:15 all classrooms will be in their own room in the back hallway. Thank you for your help during this school season transition.



From the front desk...

Hi Parents,

We hope you enjoy this issue of The Happy Parent™. It is our goal here at Brandi's Place Early Learning & Child Care Center to help you be happy, healthy and successful in your journey of being a parent.

It is our pleasure to bring you this monthly publication filled with a little bit of humor as well as communication and parenting tips. Enjoy!



Does your child like to dance???

Pelio School of Dance is an awesome dance school that works with children ages 3 and up. They have been teaching dance for over 75 years!!! They are currently enrolling for children ages 3 to 6 and have classes for older children as well.

Their kinder dance is an hour class that does ballet and tap. For older children there is a jazz class that is optional if your child wanted to add this.

This school teaches them the fundamentals of dance and the proper terms. Miss. Kendra is a wonderful teacher and has years of experience working with the younger children.

They have their annual dance recital at Lake Fenton High School in May. This is unlike any other recital... this is a wonderful "production" that is put on by all the children. It is simply amazing!!!

If you should have any questions, please feel free to call Pelio School of Dance and speak with Lisa at 810-655-4960. They are located on Torrey Road just down the road from Brandi's Place. You may also visit their website at www.pelioschoolofdance.com or see Brandi if you would like more information as well.

Make sure that you mention Brandi's Place!