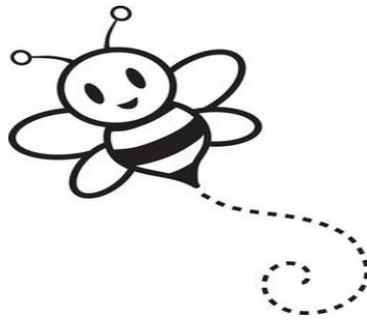


Brandi's



BUZZ

Good news and information for our friends and family

Are you following us on Facebook, Twitter and Celly Texting?

Are you following us on Facebook or Twitter? Are you signed up for our Text Messaging Alerts? You will find good articles, pictures, reminders and emergency information posted on Facebook and Twitter. You will receive a texting alert in the event of an emergency and we need to get in touch with parents all at the same time or this may be used for reminders as well. In the event of an emergency these items will be updated immediately. You may always call the center at anytime. We try to answer all calls as they come in, however the lines may be busy or ringing as we are talking other parents. Please keep trying or you may post on facebook or send us a facebook message as we can be checking these while we are answering the phone calls.

Please see below for instructions on how to sign up for Facebook and Texting Alerts.

Facebook:

Log in and go to Brandis Place Early Learning and Child Care Center
Click Like

You will now see posts in your newsfeed and can go to the page at anytime to read items immediately.

Texting Alerts:

This provides instant communication for events coming up, reminders and emergencies. This is a free service provided you by Celly; however standard text rates apply for your phone usage. Many school and local organizations use this same service. You may already receive text messages by Celly from other companies.

To receive text messages Brandi's Place simply follow these directions:

Text to: 23559

Type: @brandisplacesc

Then Send

You will then receive a text asking to create a user name. Create your user name and send it (make sure that this user name is easy so that we know who you are).

You will then be prompted to give a "short bio"

Please put in a short description of who you are such as "Emily's mom" or your name

A text message will be sent back stating that we are a private group and your request will be approved shortly.

Directors will be alerted that you were added and will approve your request

Due to security measures this forum is locked. Only Brandi's Place families will be allowed to receive communications.

Monthly Quote

"There is something more—the spirit, or the soul. I think that that quality encourages our courtesy and care and our minds. And mercy, and identity."

— Maya Angelou

Monthly Events



- May 5th National Teacher's Day
- May 5th Cinco de Mayo
- May 8th Mother's Day Celebration 3-4
- May 8th Drawing for Mother's Day
- May 8th Mother's Day "treat" with children 3-4pm
- May 10th Mother's Day
- May 19th Circus Day
- May 25th Memorial Day Center Closed

**May Birthdays
Happy Birthday!**

- May 2nd Edward O.
- May 2nd Brooklyn G.
- May 2nd Zane M.
- May 8th Mousa E.
- May 9th Emmalyn S.
- May 15th Derek R.
- May 16th Miss. Lyndsay
- May 18th Lillyana A.
- May 22nd Aubrey L.
- May 25th Chloe B.
- May 30th Owen P.
- May 30th Hunter C.
- May 31st Colton H.
- May 31st Drake A.

Important Information

A friendly reminder that Brandi's Place will be closed on Monday, May 25th for the Memorial Day holiday.

Join all of us here at Brandi's Place and wear your Red, White and Blue on Friday the 22nd in honor of Memorial Day.

With warmer weather approaching, please take this time to check your child's cubby and make sure that your child has extra clothing that is weather appropriate as well as clothing that is their size. Our little ones grow so fast and they may have grown out of them already. Every child should have at least one full set of extra clothing in their cubby in case of accidents. Accidents could be anything... potty accidents, spilling their drink, finding a puddle on the playground, etc.

At this time, we are asking that parents please take home any winter items: boots, snow pants, etc. Let's keep our fingers crossed the warmer weather is here to stay.

Remember to remind children not to climb on our bye-bye buggy. This buggy is for the infants and one year olds and has a weight restriction on it. To keep everyone safe, we are asking that children not climb on the buggy.

I am sure that some parents had heard from their children about our fire drill and all the loud noises that we recently had. On Monday, May 4th we had our annual fire inspection and all smoke detectors, alarm panels, pull switches, phone lines, etc were all tested. For the safety of everyone in the building, we have this full inspection done yearly even though it is not required to do yearly. When he was done we did conduct a fire drill for the entire building. The children and staff were amazing at how fast they exited the building all together and went right to their evacuation areas. Children waited patiently while the teachers did roll call and the directors searched the building to make sure it was all clear. They were then allowed to enter back into the building and go to their classrooms. We practice these throughout the year (unannounced to the teachers) but did want to let our parents know again at how proud we were that everyone made it to their areas in a safe manner and stayed with their classroom.

Bonding With Children On Mother's Day

The celebration of motherhood is an important day in the year for both Moms and kids. When you have younger children, or even older kids, spending the day interacting in a way that strengthens your bond is a wonderful way to show how much you care.

For younger children, Moms, or Dads and family members, may have to help out with the planning. However, this is a great time to do things which are memorable for you and the family and to get out of the same old daily routine.

Go Somewhere Special and Document Your Memories

Choose a place that is somewhere the family sees as special or perhaps somewhere you have never gone before.

This could be to a local lake, beach, park or zoo. Consider making it an outside event with a backup plan if the weather is not cooperating.

Bring your camera, or your phone, along with you. Take the time to encourage the kids, even the little ones, to take pictures of Mom or Mom with her family throughout the day. Then, when you get home, print out the pictures and work together to write a story about your day.

New online options allow you to create calendars or even print or e-books about your special day for everyone to remember.

Enjoy A Favorite Meal Together

While Mother's Day may traditionally be a day where the family does things for Mom, it is also a great day for Mom and the kids to spend time in making a favorite family meal.

This can include working together to pre-plan the meal, going shopping together and then actually spending time in the kitchen cooking, laughing and learning. If it's nice out, have a fun and festive barbeque, complete with outdoor games, music and relaxation. You may want just to make sandwiches and go on a picnic to a park and enjoy the weather or you may want to have a more elaborate meal where everyone dresses up for a more formal dinner.

The key in bonding with toddlers and older children is to spend time being yourself and being with them. Kids do appreciate this time and, as a Mom, it will make the day special, memorable, and a truly wonderful experience.



Summer Program

It's hard to believe but school is almost out and summer will be here soon. Our summer program will kick off the 3rd week in June. We are taking sign ups for summer programs right now. Latchkey summer forms are attached for our latchkey children. Please fill out and return to the front desk no later than June 1st. This will allow us to plan how many openings we have for the summer months. If your paper is not returned by June 1st your space may given to any outside family that chooses to register for the summer leaving no room for your child as our program is full at this time.

We have a great summer program with lots of fun themes and activities planned. We will still be having our Splash Days on Friday as well as other fun events.

Please see the front desk if you have any questions regarding the summer months or our summer program.



Tips To Avoid a Fire

Fires in the home can start unexpectedly, and often end in terrible tragedy. To prevent such a disaster occurring in your family home, there are a number of things you can do and precautions you can take.



Every home should be equipped with several working smoke detectors, as well as carbon monoxide detectors that are placed in various spots such as the living room, kitchen, the living room, hallways, and bedrooms.

Before you leave a room, you should make sure that you have turned off any and all open flames, such as candles.

You should also conduct a regular check of electrical outlets, appliances, and lamps to make sure there are no overloaded circuits or frayed or broken wires.

If you have a fireplace in your home, it should have an annual check from a certified expert as fires can be caused by broken bricks, bird, and other animal nests, or by a build-up of creosote.

What's On In May?

Get Caught Reading Month. A nationwide campaign to remind people of all ages how much fun reading can be. The Get Caught Reading organization encourages readers young and old to enjoy books and magazines and to share that pleasure with everyone—especially children.

National Bike Month. Sponsored by the League of American Bicyclists and celebrated in communities from coast to coast, National Bike Month is a chance to showcase the many benefits of bicycling—and encourage more folks to give it a try.

Mother's Day, May 10. Show your mom how much she means to you.

Memorial Day, May 25. Remember those men and women who gave their lives in the service of the country.

Mother's Day Trivia!

Anna Jarvis of Philadelphia decided that it would be a wonderful way to honor her deceased mother. Two years later, Jarvis and friends began a letter-writing campaign to create a Mother's Day observance.



In 1914, the US Congress passed legislation designating the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day.

In the vast majority of the world's languages, the word for 'mother' begins with the letter M.

Circus Day

May 19th is Circus Day! This is the day that the Ringling Brothers Circus opened in 1884. You can help us celebrate Circus Day by wearing your silly clothes, mismatched clothing, backwards clothing or any other silly thing that you would like to wear. You can even dress up as an animal in the circus. It will be a fun day full of laughs! 😊

Playground

We would like to thank everyone that participates in the Labels for Education and our Spring Fundraiser. Every year we like to add more to our playground and replace items that may have been broken throughout the past year. Our Labels for Education allowed us to add more sporting equipment (Soccer Balls, Basketballs, Volley Balls, Footballs, etc) as well as sidewalk chalk. Our spring fundraiser helped to add bikes to the playground and will also help to fund our transportation day, community picnic, and other activities that we have throughout the summer months. We have also purchased hula hoops, jump ropes, frisbees, sand buckets, shovels and many more items for the children to play with on the playground. We will keep adding to our fun “outdoor gym cart” as we find new things. We would also like to thank Mr. Eric (Mandy’s husband) for making our gym cart. He made us a cart that will hold the outdoor items that can be taken outside each day and brought back in at the end of the day. This will help to keep everything inside and the weather from ruining the balls, chalk and other items. The children have been enjoying all the new items out there. We are very excited to keep adding new things as we find them.

Enjoy the outside! Warmer weather is here!!!

Sunscreen

Sunscreen forms are attached to the newsletter. A new (unused) sunscreen bottle must be brought in for each child and must be labeled with your child’s full name on them. The forms and sunscreen must be turned in at the same time. Each child must have a sunscreen form filled out and kept on file in your child’s classroom in order for us to apply sunscreen. Sunscreen cannot be applied without a medication/sunscreen form on file. Teachers keep the sunscreen in the classrooms and apply it before they go outside; therefore siblings that are not in the same room cannot share a bottle.

Some parents opt to not have children wear sunscreen, if your family does not want your child to wear sunscreen, you will still need to fill out a sunscreen form stating that they do not need sunscreen. A letter will need to be attached to this form stating that your child does not need sunscreen due to parents request and must include your child’s name, date and parents signature. This must be the child’s parent or legal guardian that signs the letter.

Due to many skin allergies, Brandi’s Place does not provide sunscreen and sunscreen cannot be shared between children.



From the desk...

Hello! We are pleased to send you this monthly issue of *Brandi’s Buzz*. It is our way saying that you are important to us and we truly value your family. We want to keep you up to date with upcoming events as well as some parenting tips, communication and a little bit of humor. Enjoy!

A big thank you to all of our parents for their understanding and patience during our situation that happened on the 30th. Our main goal is to keep the children safe at all times. Our staff was wonderful in keeping the children on their regular activities and the children did great and didn’t know anything that was going on. Thank you again for your understanding in that stressful situation.

We are a Peanut Free Center

Please remember that Brandi’s Place is a peanut free center. Peanuts, nuts, tree nuts, etc cannot be brought into the center at anytime. Please be respectful of this policy. Children that bring in peanut items such as granola bars (with nuts in them), peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, etc will not be allowed to have the items in the classroom. You will be sent home with a note reminding you of our policies.

Refrigerated Lunches

Remember that children bringing in a daily lunch that needs to be refrigerated must come in a lunch bag with a cooler pack. Brandi’s Place does not have extra room in the kitchen refrigerators for daily lunches. If your child is in the infant or one year old rooms, you may use their refrigerators in the classroom. Your items must be labeled with your child’s full name and date. Any items left over must be taken home at the end of the day.