

TRUCKSVILLE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION CENTER

**DATES TO
REMEMBER**

Jan. 9— PEG Undeck Halls
& Meeting @ 9:35

Jan. 10— Registration
Forms Distributed

Jan. 11—Early Registration
Begins

Jan. 11 & 12— Blue
Days

Jan. 15—NO SCHOOL
Teacher Inservice

Jan. 15 —No Kdg. Exten-
sion

Jan. 22-26— Open House
Week for New Families

Jan. 19 & 23— Eye
Screening
*2 Helpers Needed ea day.
Sign up in office

**REGISTRATION
FOR THE
2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR**

JANUARY 10— Forms Distributed to our
Education Center, Alumni,
& Church Families

JANUARY 11— Registration Begins for the
the above families

JANUARY 22—26- Open House Week
Prospective Families are encouraged to utilize this
time to tour our facilities and pose questions to our
staff.

JANUARY 22— Registration Begins for
New Families

**2018-19
FULL DAY
KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM
(Star Fall Curriculum)
Must be 5 by Sept 30, 2018
&
KINDERGARTEN
EXTENSION
For Dallas School District
morning Kindergarten students.**



TRUCKSVILLE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION CENTER

WHAT'S HAPPENING

SNOW CLOTHING AND DELAYED SCHEDULE

We are looking forward to "all the experiences we will share together" during the new year. Hopefully, the children will have ample opportunity to play in the snow and build fabulous snowmen and discover the wonders of the winter season. Please send your child's labeled snow clothes to school in a labeled tote bag each session your child comes to school. Keep in mind teachers have many students to assist. Keep it simple please! (mittens instead of gloves, closures children can manipulate, etc.) We do not go out on days when the temperature or wind-chill is below 25 degrees.

Remember announcements concerning schedule changes due to inclement weather will be placed on TV Stations Channel 16, 22 & 28 and the school's answering machine & website. However, if Dallas School District cancels or delays, we will also. Phone moms will call only if there is an emergency. If there are phone numbers that should be called other than your home number or if your number has recently changed, please let us know in the office.

THANK YOU

Thank you to all who decorated TECEC for the holidays and those who participated in our Holiday Workshop and Store. Our PEG committee did an outstanding job. The elves had a fun time and the children were thrilled with their purchases.

Thank you parents and caregivers for your patience in our parking lot when you bring your children to school and at dismissal time. You and your child's safety is our priority.

Thank you to those who donated food at Thanksgiving to the Back Mt Food Pantry. We donated 105 lbs of food to those in need. Our students and families also donated over 300 hats, gloves & undies to St Vincent's for them to give to families in need.

REGISTRATION OPTIONS

Dear Parents,

It is sometimes difficult to determine whether a child is ready for Kindergarten regardless of their chronological age. Many factors can contribute to Kindergarten Readiness, including gender, birthdate, and premature birth. If you are struggling with this decision, please speak to your teacher about your concerns. We will hold conferences in late February which may also help in making your decision. If you are "on the fence" and would like to wait until later in the school year before making a firm decision, we will hold a place in a preschool class without a registration fee.

If we can be of further assistance, please feel free to contact the office.

Sincerely,
Brenda Strutko

KINDERGARTEN & KINDERGARTEN EXTENSION

***Full Day Kindergarten—**
9:15-2:45

Our Kindergarten class size is limited to 14 children promoting opportunities for more individualized instruction. We utilize Starfall and Everyday Math Curriculums, and implement Writers Workshop, utilizing the Lucy Calkins model. The Starfall Curriculum is research based and field tested. It incorporates reading and language art skills and strategies with social studies and science, and employs technology in the classroom. The curriculum meets and exceeds PA Standards for Kindergarten. You can learn more about Starfall by visiting www.starfall.com and click on Kindergarten Curriculum, then Curriculum at a Glance.

***Dallas AM Kindergarten Extension** - Children are bused to our Center where they eat lunch (brought from home) and participate in our program until 2:45. This program integrates math and language skills they are learning at Dallas into creative and challenging art, science, math, and cooking activities. They also participate in Writers Workshop.

Delays will be announced on TV as follows: **1 Hour Delay**

(AM 10:30—12:30 or 10:15—12:15)

Kindergarten 10:15-3:15

4's PM Extensions Dismiss @ 3:00

Reminder to Kindergarten and Kdg. Ext : if Dallas Delays we dismiss at 3:15



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EYE SCREENING

The Association for the Blind will be here on January 19 & 23 to conduct vision screening. It is estimated 85% of what we learn comes through our vision, so it is important to detect problems as soon as possible. You will receive a parental consent form. This form **must** be signed and returned by the above dates to your child's teacher.

We also need volunteers (2 per session) to assist the Association. If you would like to help, please contact the School Office.



Jan 19th (Friday)

Higgins 3 day class
Blazure 3's
Edwards Y4s
Carpenter 4's
Williams 4's

Jan 23rd (Tuesday)

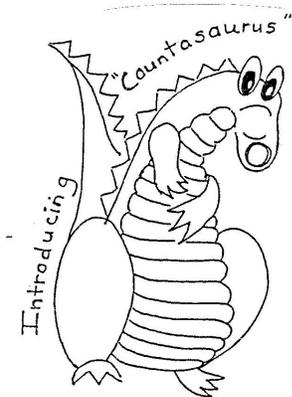
Higgins 2 day class
Nelson 4's
Rost 4's
Collins Kindergarten

* Playgroup classes will not be tested

COCO'S CORNER (Also known as Learning Lab)

Coco has a new friend in Learning Lab—Countasaurus!

Countasaurus helps us to ...well, just that COUNT! Whether we're reviewing previous numbers or introducing a new one, Countasaurus is a "friend" that all the children seem to delight in.



To play the counting game, they match numbered wooden disks to a counting board, counting by that important one-to-one relationship. They also arrange the disks in the proper numerical order if they are able.

Then comes the best part...Countasaurus has a voracious appetite... he is always HUNGRY! So the children conclude the game by "feeding" him the disks one at a time, counting as they proceed. They never tire of the fun, and acquire some important mathematical concepts as they do so.

Please consider signing up to be a Lab Helper in the New Year. Now that our 3 Year Olds are settled into their classes, we invite their parents to be Lab Helpers. This gives you a sneak peek at what your future 4 Year Old will be doing next year. Parents of Young 4 Year Olds especially may want to volunteer! A sign up sheet is posted outside the Learning Lab door (Room 8). Come and meet Countasaurus and have some fun!

EXTENDED HOURS—MATH & LANGUAGE

M/W w/ Mrs. Teixeira or T/TH w/ Mrs. Edwards

This program will begin in January. It will be open to students currently in our 4/5 Year Old Classes. Extended Hours—Math & Language will be held **Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday**. It is designed to be a 2 day program utilizing the combination of these days for optimum uniformity of this program. Specific dates are listed below. The cost is \$160.00 for all 6 weeks. Enrolling for all 6 weeks guarantees your child's spot in the class.

The emphasis of this program is MATH, LANGUAGE, and STEM. The class will begin with a scavenger hunt for clues to identify the book upon which the day's activities will be based. A session may include the following: Lunch (provided by parent) and free play until 1:00, a Scavenger Hunt (clues for the day), Circle with story, Brainstorming a Math Word Problem, and Introduction to various Centers (ie Writing Center: High Frequency Words) (ie Math Center: Graphing), End of Session: Re-read story using review activities

Monday/Wednesday

Jan. 22 & 24
Jan 29 & 31
Feb. 5 & 7
Feb. 12 & 14
Feb. 21
Feb. 26
Mar 5 & 7

Tuesday/Thursday

Jan 23 & 25
Jan 30 & Feb 1
Feb. 6 & 8
Feb. 13 & 15
Feb. 20 & 22
Feb 27
Mar 6

PLAYPALS

PlayPals will also begin in January. This program is now open to children in the Young Four as well as the Four/Five Year Old Classes. PlayPals will be offered Monday afternoons. Specific dates are listed below. Tuition for PlayPals is \$75 for all 6 sessions.

"PlayPals" is (just as it sounds) organized play for our Education Center Friends. Each class will begin with lunch time (provided by the parent) after which children will play board games, computer games, as well as outside or playroom games.

Mondays

Jan. 22, 29
Feb 5, 12, 26
Mar 5

Don't forget to bring your lunch!

**** Remember we are a peanut free school; no peanut butter or products with peanut butter or nuts.**

THANK YOU

Thank you to the following families for their donations to our snack pantry—Michal Walton, the Joseph Dessoie. Thank you to the Corridoni Family for donating Christmas cards.

BOX TOPS

Don't forget to bring in Box Tops. There is a donation box in the lobby for your convenience.



A Note from the TECEC Board of Directors
TECEC Scholarship Program

The 2016-17 school year was the inaugural year of the awarding of a scholarship to attend our incredible center. This scholarship is sponsored by the TECEC Board of Directors, and will be granted annually to a child whose family's financial circumstances would prohibit him or her from attending otherwise. This school year, the scholarship was brought to fruition by generous donations from the Trucksville United Methodist Church Mission Committee, and donations from several individuals from the TUMC Church.

For the upcoming 2018-19 school year, we would like to give our TECEC families the opportunity to contribute to our scholarship fund. The amount needed to attend a three-day 4/5 year old program is \$1818.00. Please consider making a donation of any amount when you pay your tuition. An additional amount from several families can add up very quickly! Please clearly indicate the amount of your donation as separate from your tuition on your check. If you would like a receipt for your donation, see our office staff. You will also have an opportunity to make a donation to our scholarship fund included with our Gertrude Hawk Easter Candy Sale order form. We hope to be able to offer 2 scholarships again next school year, and feel confident that with the generosity and team work of our TUMC and TECEC families, we can accomplish this goal! Thank you in advance for your generosity!

If you know of a family who may qualify financially for our scholarship, please refer them to us. They can get more information by calling our office at 570-696-3899 and speaking to Brenda Strutko, our Director. We wish all our TECEC families a very Happy and Healthy 2018!

Sincerely,

Pastor Dick Williams
Janis Seeley
Co-Chairmen, TECEC Board of Directors

Special Thank You.....

Pastor Ian Hastings for reading "The Grinch" to our classes
this holiday season.



"Cookie & Art Night" - it was a huge success and a lot of fun!!!

- Thank you to Hillside Farms for donating the milk.
- Thank you to Jodie Pellegrini, Erika Stehle, Tara Sinclair and Desiree Edwards for all their hard work in prepping and leading the efforts for a great night. Thank you to the College Misericordia Cheerleaders for helping with the activities that the kids enjoyed.
- Thank you to all who donated cookies to make the evening fun.



New Playgroup Class (2 year olds) Monday & Wednesday 9:30-11:45

Welcome to Mrs. Stephanie Kachinko, our new Playgroup Teacher who has over 10 years teaching experience and welcome back to our returning Teacher Aide, Jessica Cawley.

Welcome back to Brandon Brown and family who is in Mrs. Rost's class. We are so happy you have returned and are recovering so quickly. We missed your big smile!



Kindergarten Connection

Happy New Year to all of our Kindergarten families! It is great to see our students back and eager to learn! The goal of the Kindergarten Connection for T.E.C.E.C. is to provide information to current and prospective Kindergarten families. Our current Kindergarten class has been having an amazing year! Through the Starfall curriculum, students are making tremendous progress towards becoming independent readers and are also familiarizing themselves with American Sign Language. Our mascot, Backpack Bear, is a constant friend who motivates his classmates to grow and explore. Our math curriculum, Everyday Mathematics, is carefully designed to build and expand a student's mathematical proficiency and understanding. During Writer's Workshop, students will continue to strive to write stories with a beginning, middle and end. If you are considering our program for your child next year, please do not hesitate to talk with Mrs. Strutko, Mrs. Collins, Ms. Nelson or any of our current Kindergarten parents. Best wishes to all for a wonderful 2018!

During January, children will review what they have learned about citizens and their actions. We will learn about peaceful ways to solve problems through discussion and literature that introduces pioneers in America's civil rights movement, to include Martin Luther King, Jr., Ruby Bridges and Rosa Parks. We will learn the last three letters Q, K, Y and we will begin discovering vowels. We will learn to tell the difference between living and nonliving objects. With the help of Backpack Bear's Plant Book, we will discover how plants and animals cooperate, or help each other exist, through the oxygen cycle. We will plant and observe the growth of lima beans while discovering the parts of a plant and their functions. We will end the first semester at the end of the month.



Note to Kindergarten Parents: Kindergarten students will go outside for recess daily, weather permitting. Please dress your child appropriately for the colder weather. The children will need to wear all snow gear, including snow pants and boots in order to play in the snow. You can send snow gear in separate bags/backpacks. It is also very helpful when the children can put on their winter gear independently, including fastening buttons, snaps, zippers, and putting on boots/gloves.

JANUARY 2018



Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
	2	3 New Playgroup Class Begins Room 9	4	5
8	9 PEG Undeck Halls & Meeting @ 9:35. Babysitting, available if needed—sign	10	11	12 Scholastic Book Orders Due
		2018-19 Registration Forms Distributed		
15 NO SCHOOL Teacher Inservice No Kdg Ext	16	17	18	19 Eye Screening— return forms to teachers
22	23 Eye Screening— return forms to teachers	24	25	26
Open House Week for New Families				
29	30	31		



**WINTER
FARMERS
MARKET**

AT TRUCKSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE FELLOWSHIP HALL, 40 KNOB HILL ROAD, TRUCKSVILLE

**STARTING DECEMBER 9TH
THROUGH THE WINTER MONTHS**

**10 AM TO 1 PM
EVERY SATURDAY**

SUPPORT LOCAL FARMERS AND BUSINESSES

**SHOP FOR FRESH MEATS, EGGS, BREAD, CHEESE, PRODUCE, HONEY, COFFEE,
CANNED GOODS, CANDLES, SOAPS, ORGANIC PRODUCE, MAPLE PRODUCTS, BERRY
PRODUCTS, POTTERY, CANDLES & MORE**

EMAIL US AT WINTERMARKET.TUMC@GMAIL.COM TO JOIN OUR EMAIL LIST, UPDATES & EVENTS