# Bright Horizons at Irvine News



#### From the Director

Welcome November! We are thankful to have all of our families be a part of our Bright Horizons team. We know the holiday season can be busy for many. Please place your holiday break reservations in as soon as possible. We tend to get very busy to and cannot always ensure space.

We will be opened the day before Thanksgiving, regular operating hours. We will be operating on an altered schedule for Friday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>. We will be opened 8:00am to 5:00pm on this day.

Our winter break curriculum is posted on our website, so be sure to check out the fun activities we have planned.

November 12th-15th- Trash to Treasures

Please make sure your allergy care plans and medication forms are updated annually. Feel free to contact us to confirm when your paperwork may expire.

Please note that we staff to the needs of our families. We request early morning arrivals arrive within 15 minutes of their requested start time.

#### **Important Dates**

November 12th-Observed Veterans day- Peak Day opened November 12th-15th- trash to Treasures November 22nd- Closed Thanksgiving November 23rd- Opened 800am-500pm

#### **Reasons to Celebrate**

November is time to give thanks to one another. We are Bright Horizons Irvine are Thankful for all our family connections we have. We look forward to seeing you during this holiday season.

#### **Bright Horizons at Irvine**

2010 Main Street Ste 120, Irvine, CA, 92614 949-261-1200 | Irvine@brighthorizons.com Monday- Friday 700am-600pm



# **CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS**

#### Infant & Toddler

Our toddlers love to explore how different materials work. Children explore paint with pieces of paper towel rolls. Not only are we exploring cause and effect with the paint, we are learning about shapes by creating circles with cylinders.



#### **Preschool**

Our preschool school children worked hard on their corn project. Children learned about corn, parts of corn, corn uses, growth, cooking and also used pieces to make art! Children used fine motor skills in husking corn, and using its pieces to make food and art. Discovery bins were even created using corn!



#### School-Age

Edible Art! School aged students cut and created different shapes using various vegetables. Then, using toothpicks, they created edible monsters. Although they were monsters, in the end, all were eaten!



# **EDUCATION NEWS**

#### Learning a New Language: A Family Activity that Lasts a Lifetime

Our country is a beautiful melting pot of people from all over the world. As we know, there are many different languages spoken on earth. Being able to talk to each other is an essential path to build bridges. Also, having the ability to communicate with people who speak a different language encourages cross-cultural understandings, which opens the door to new friendships. Think about how welcome someone feels when your family smiles and says hello in their native language. Have you ever considered learning a foreign language along with your child?

Research shows that exposing young children to different languages taps into their innate ability to distinguish sounds, which enhances their growing cognitive skills. Because young children generally learn a new language more quickly than adults, your child might take the lead. There are many language learning opportunities online, from interactive exercises that teach language to watching YouTube videos. Some are even free, while others require purchasing a program. Two recommended websites:

#### **Duolingo**

www.duolingo.com offers interactive lessons in Spanish, French, Italian, German and Portuguese.

#### Mamma Lisa's World of Children and International Culture

www.mamalisa.com offers poems, songs, rhymes and traditions from around the world, in over 57 languages.

As you begin learning a language together, you might delve into the culture of the countries where the language is spoken, pick up children's books in that language or prepare a traditional recipe from that country.

Everything we do as a family builds a stronger, more caring, cohesive unit. Practicing a new language broadens our view of the world. It's fun and can be done anywhere: while taking walks, commuting, playing a game, listening to music, dancing, dining, reading bilingual books, and watching a movie.



# **BRIGHT HORIZONS NEWS**

### Thanksgiving Prep - Tips for Involving Kids



- I) Make the cranberry sauce with the kids the weekend before Thanksgiving. It will keep and it allows you to include the children in the cooking process.
- 2) Have the kids make place cards together. Give them index cards, markers, crayons and stickers. Older children can write the names, inventive spelling and all, while younger children can decorate with stickers.
- 3) Try to find the easiest Thanksgiving worthy appetizers you can that the children can help prep by counting crackers, opening jars, and arranging plates.
- 4) Ask them to be taste testers and enjoy your Thanksgiving meal!

#### **Podcasts for Parents on the Go**

Did you know that Bright Horizons has a podcast? Navigate your parenting journey with our podcast series created with working parents in mind.

Tune into our podcast, *The Work-Life Equation*, to hear about parenting, caregiving, and balancing work with everyday life. Whether you're a working or stay-at-home parent, you're likely always on-the-go. But throughout the daily hustle and bustle, you have questions, concerns, and simply need support.

Our parenting and education experts are here to help you navigate the parenting journey with an "on-the go" podcast you can listen to when convenient for you.

Browse our episode selection at brighthorizons.com/family-resources/podcasts















Check out all the places you can connect with us!