

HRG-UCLCC NEWS

Dear Families,

WOW! What a busy semester it has already been. If you haven't yet liked us on Facebook please do so you can see updates with what the children are up to as well as other notifications about things happening at the UCLCC. In addition to these posts, you should also be receiving a weekly classroom newsletter covering highlights of the week and the activities correlating to academic goals and objectives being worked on in each respective classroom.

As I'm sure you've seen in weekly newsletters from your child's classroom teacher, the children have been taking in as much outside time as possible. Please make sure your child has plenty of clothes!! This fall we will continue our collaboration with Paul Haas, a colleague in the School of Physical Education and Athletic Training beginning October 11. This collaboration has allowed the playhouse and rainbow children to have an hour of large motor time. This hour is beyond what they regularly have on our playground area in a more structured format instructed by UWSP Physical Education students. It has allowed the teachers to further develop the children's large motor skills in a variety of ways. Thank you Paul for your support in early advocacy of overall health and wellness of our future!!!

Please keep in mind that next month will begin the sign up for care over exam week, winterim, and spring semester - start planning ahead and going over what your needs may be for these periods of time...

*Mark your calendars & plan ahead...
the UCLCC will be CLOSED for Spring Break
week, March 18-22, 2024*

Center Information

Office Phone: 715-346-4370

E-Mail: childcare@uwsp.edu

Web Page: www.uwsp.edu/childcare

Campus Security: 715-346-3456

Fall 2023 Teaching Staff and Hours

Becky Helf - Director (varies 7:30-5:30)

Kara Breitbach - Assistant Director (varies 7:30-5:30)

Starlight Room: 715-346-3441

Kari Stetler - Starlight Lead Teacher 8:15-4:45

Erin Hansen - Starlight Teacher 7:15-3:45

Bunny Room: 715-346-2199

Maggie Miller - Bunny Lead Teacher 7:15-3:45

Midajah Decker - Bunny Teacher 9-5:30

Playhouse Room: 715-346-2661

Becca Abhold - Playhouse Lead Teacher 8:15-4:45

Isabella Osborn - Playhouse Teacher 9-5:30

Rainbow Room: 715-346-4370 (main center line)

Elsie Griffin - Rainbow Lead Teacher 7:15-3:45

Mary Kelly - Rainbow Teacher 8:15-12:15

Contacting your Child's Classroom/Teacher

Many of the classrooms have a phone you can call direct to speak with your child's teacher. Keep in mind times they may be out of the room or naptime.

NOTE - Teachers are only to use their personal cell phones for family communication as a LAST resort during working hours. Please call the center directly & leave a message or email child.care@uwsp.edu if your child will not be in or will be late arriving.



Halloween Policy

As autumn begins, we have to remember that Halloween is coming up fast. UCLCC plans many fun activities around the theme of pumpkins and pretend. We request that children do NOT wear or bring costumes to the Center.

Thank you very much for your cooperation!

A Few Reminders...

GENERAL ITEMS

1. The Annual Food Program (CACFP) & ASQ-3 paperwork was placed in all family mailboxes. Additional hardcopies can be requested in Kara's Office. The UCLCC utilizes the ASQ-3 with all families. The ASQ-3 is a developmental screener that aids the teachers in getting a better picture on where families see their child's development is at and how things are potentially similar/different in a child's behavior at home vs. school. More information about the screener can be found here: <https://agesandstages.com/products-services/asq3/> Teachers will note this information at the mandatory fall conferences.
2. Breakfast is provided daily. If you would like your child to have a small snack beforehand, please sit with your child at a table until they have finished before leaving.
3. The nap baskets are rather small in size, and all your child's items must fit in their individual basket WITHOUT touching another child's. The center provides a sheet & blanket. Stuffed animals, sleeping bags, etc. tend to be too large for the baskets.
4. Items from home: toys, jewelry, books, etc. should remain at home. These items become an issue between the children & are often lost/broken.
5. The center is only licensed to provide care until 5:30pm & not before 7:30am. Be sure you are NOT signing your child in before 7:30am. Please make sure you are picking up your children AND THEN signing them out. Plan to arrive early enough to have time to go and get your children PRIOR to clocking out.

ATTENDANCE RECORDS

Families must sign their child in/out in our automated TimeClock software program upon arrival and departure daily. Each family is given a keyfob per child for the system. This compliance is a state law requiring the center to have an accurate count & whereabouts of children in attendance at all times. A penalty fee is enforced for not following this policy.

Bike Parking @ UCLCC

You may have already noticed, but we do have a bike rack conveniently located to the left of the Delzell entrance for those of you who bike 😊

ABSENSES DUE TO ILLNESS

The Center must be contacted (Office 346-4370) as soon as possible, on the day of your child's illness and each day thereafter, to inform the center of your child's absence from the Center and reason for non-attendance.



Important Dates

***Tuesday, October 3:** Picture Day

***Friday, October 20:** UCLCC closes @ 12:30pm

***Thursday, October 27:** No 4K

***Monday, November 13:** UCLCC CLOSED
Parent Teacher Conferences

(Fall Conferences are **MANDATORY** for children in all classrooms)

Teachers will email out a sign-up link. Staff will be available for families needing to bring along their children while meeting with teachers. Effort will be made to schedule sibling families in succession.

***Friday, November 17:** UCLCC closes @ 12:30pm

***Wednesday, November 22:** No 4K

***Thursday, November 23 & Friday, November 24:**
CLOSED -Thanksgiving Break

***Thursday, December 14:** UCLCC Winter Celebration
5:30pm-6:30pm

***Friday, December 15:** UCLCC closes @ 12:30pm

***Monday, December 18:** UCLCC Student Aide appreciation goodie bag distribution - more information to follow as date nears. This is an activity for student employees to thank them for their efforts & wish them well on finals!!

***Monday-Friday, December 18-22:** UWSP Fall Semester Exam Week

***Monday, December 25 - Monday, January 1:**
CLOSED Holiday Break, UCLCC reopens Jan. 2, 2024

For a full-year listing of closure dates,
please visit our website @

<https://www3.uwsp.edu/childcare/Pages/AboutUs/hours.aspx>

MATERIALS COLLECTION CART

As you enter off the elevator and to your right you will find a small white cart labeled "Materials Collection Cart." Written on there are specific items the classrooms teachers are requesting to complete various projects and learning activities in their classrooms. If you have any of these items that may otherwise find their way into the trash, we ask you to please bring them in and place on the cart. Items requested will change monthly. Your support is appreciated!!

This month's items are:

PUMPKINS

SAFETY & SECURITY

In an effort to keep the children of the UCLCC as safe as possible, we ask families to please be mindful of the following best practices:

- Do **NOT** share with your children the pin pad code to the doors or allow them to enter the code
- Do **NOT** allow your child to press any of the elevator buttons
- Do **NOT** allow your children to scan the sign in/out computer fobs
- When dropping off/picking up, always keep your child in your sight and sound (do not leave them unattended even for a brief time to put something away, grab something, etc.). Be sure that you are connecting with a UCLCC staff member when leaving your child here for the day and taking them home for the night.

The UCLCC on Facebook!!

You can follow what we are doing at the HRG-UCLCC by finding us on Facebook & liking our page.

Just search for HRG UCLCC



FAMILY BOARD AREA

In the same area as our Materials Collection Cart is the Family Board Area. This area contains things such as a hardcopy of the monthly newsletter, licensing information, community & center event happenings, & sign-up sheets for things such as potlucks, exam week hours of attendance, etc. The flower container next to this area are pens to utilize when these documents are posted. If there is an event you would like to share with other families, please bring the flyer to the office & we will get it hung in this location for all to see.

FAMILIES HELPFUL TIPS CORNER

Below are a couple of Conscious Discipline items we have been implementing at the center and would encourage you to try/use at home as well. These are just a few "Helpful Words"; things that are helpful to say to children.

Here are a few examples of some of the language to use:

1. Teaching a child to be more assertive sounds like this: "Did you like that? Tell your friend, 'I don't like it when you (insert hurtful action), Please (insert new skill)."
2. Encouragement sounds like this "You (describe in detail without judgement) so (how the action impacted others). That was helpful! Example: "You picked up the toy so Jill wouldn't step on it. That was helpful."
3. A positive way to deal with unwanted behavior is to tell the child what you want. "You can...". We try to notice instead of judge. Example "You wanted to go down the slide, so you pushed Jill out of the way. When you want Jill to move, say "Move Jill". Try it with me. Say "Move Jill".

It is beneficial to practice the desired behavior with an adult. When children are whining or yelling, we say "match your voice to mine". Lets shift our focus from "getting children to do something" to noticing why they are doing what they are doing.

Gov. Tony Evers Tours UWSP Childcare Facility

By **Thomas Schumacher** Sep 28, 2023 | 1:00 PM

STEVENS POINT, WI (WSAU) – Wisconsin Gov. Tony Evers toured UWSP's childcare facility on Thursday, hoping to better understand what centers need from the state.

Evers visited each classroom and spoke to teachers about their biggest concerns surrounding the industry and what they felt needed help to solve the problem. Some of the top issues they expressed included a lack of space and continuing to make wages more competitive with other industries in the area.

The theme that was stressed the most by the facility directors was the lack of space. They told Gov. Evers that, unlike other facilities around central Wisconsin, they are fully staffed and could bring in more students if they had more space to expand the classrooms.

Evers spoke about the tour and gave his views on the state's childcare industry, saying, "Thank goodness UWSP is doing this for the students and the community; it's a real bonus for them, and it's a good reminder of how important childcare is for the economy. That's why myself and the Secretary are spending a lot of time going across the state trying to build interest in this among some of the legislators' minds who consider helping to fund organizations and schools like these."

In a somewhat unexpected move, Senate leaders decided last week to formally introduce legislation to further subsidize Wisconsin's child care providers, as urged by Gov. Tony Evers. According to the Wisconsin Examiner, the bill includes a provision to continue the Child Care Counts program, which helped childcare providers with their finances during the COVID-19 outbreak, as well as another program to aid employers in covering childcare costs for their employees. The bill would provide a total of \$365 million for these programs.

Forward Analytics, the research division of the Wisconsin Counties Association, released a report last week saying that child care in Wisconsin can cost 18% to 36% of a family's income. "With record low unemployment, Wisconsin cannot afford to have people who want to work sitting on the sidelines because childcare is too expensive," the report concluded.

