Helping you make a difference in a child’s life everyday.
November 2017

News from the Assistant Director

Saying please and thank you; it’s one of the first lessons we learn as children. Many children initially use these words because they have been taught to do so. As we grow into adults, we start to realize the impact that a sincere "Thank You" can have. Researchers completed a study on gratitude in the workplace and found that a sincere "Thank You" showed a 50% increase in the amount of additional help being offered as a result of the appreciation. Think about the impact those two words could have on the students you work with every day.

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Upcoming Classes, Fairs, and Other events:
TRANSITION TO ADULT LIFE - November 10, 2017
SKILLS FOR EFFECTIVE PARENT ADVOCATES - November 29, 2017
INFORMATION FAIR - November 16, 2017
SPECIAL EDUCATION CLINIC - November 16, 2017
PARENT SUPPORT GROUP MEETING - November 21, 2017

Click here for IN-Source website
Over the course of this month, take the time to show your child how much you appreciate them and all of their hard work. Your child need to hear this from the adults in their life. Often. Your child works hard, even when some tasks seem impossible. They come to school, even when they had a bad day the day before. They make us smile, even when WE are having a bad day. Stopping to recognize and show your gratitude can go a long way with a child. So, make a conscious effort this month. Write them a quick note in the morning or pull them aside when they have helped you with something around the house. You never know the larger impact those two simple words could have.

Have a great November, and thank you for all you do to support your children in and out of school!

Alli Chance

Transition News
Work-Based Experiences

Maybe your child will enter the workforce. Maybe they will enroll in a vocational school, community college or four-year college. They might enter a day program or stay home. Regardless of their plan, students need to learn responsibility and work skills early on. Here is a statement from Dr. Temple Grandin Ph.D., autism specialist:

“One factor that helped in my success is that I had learned how to work BEFORE I graduated from high school. Ideally, work skill training needs to start in middle school with volunteer work that is on a schedule outside the home. I see too many kids who are over protected and they have never learned to do tasks for other people outside the home. Working under the direction of people outside the home should occur way before graduation from high school. If you belong to a church, a job at the church is ideal. Every Sunday the child has to shake hands and pass out programs. Helping with the food for social events would also be good. Other possibilities are walking dogs for the neighbors, mowing lawns or assisting an

Family Movement and Play Group

11 to noon on Saturday, November 18th at Friedens United Church of Christ (8300 S. Meridian St., Indianapolis, 46217)

Join us for an opportunity for children to participate in movement activities and a story time with a grown-up family member or friend. The hope is that grown-ups will also have a chance to connect and support one another. In November, we plan to have a conversation around decreasing the stress that can come with the holiday seasons. We would also like to get your thoughts about future speakers that could be helpful for spring gatherings.
Students at Center Grove High School are getting a jump-start in work-based experiences. Thirteen students are learning essential work skills at 10 different community work sites. Those community work sites are: MPC Pantry, The Hearth in Greenwood, MSC Library, Dog'On Salon, Specks, Goodwill, Walmart, Humane Society of JC, Dannemiller Hardware and CGHS Food Service. No matter what age or grade your child is, getting them involved in work opportunities early can only benefit them later.

Sue Larmore-Transition Coordinator

"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words but to live by them." ...John F. Kennedy

Questions or ideas - Please contact Sarah Haas at pastorsarah@friedensucc.org or haass@centergrove.k12.in.us or 317-709-5857

Thank you!

Parent Advisory Council

Join Alli Chance, Assistant Director of Special Education, for Parent Advisory Council meetings for your opportunity to discuss special education in Center Grove.

Meeting dates are:
December 7, 2017
February 15, 2018
April 26, 2018

All meetings are held at the Educational Services Center (4800 W. Stones Crossing Road) from 9:30 - 11:00 a.m.
Westside Community Group! Activities will also include dancing, a DJ, Santa, crafts and desserts. Please RSVP to register@dsindiana.org or call (317) 925-7617.

February 24, 2018 - First Call Training
Do you remember what it felt like when your child first received the diagnosis of Down syndrome? Do you want to be there for new parents to let them know that everything is going to be okay? That having a child with Down syndrome may just turn into one of the best things that ever happened to their family?

If that is you, please join Down Syndrome Indiana at its First Call Training on Saturday, February 24th, 2018 from 9:00AM to 12:00Noon. When you complete the training, you will be ready to be the first call that new parents make when they receive the diagnosis. To RSVP for this truly life enhancing training, please e-mail register@dsindiana.org.

Raising A Sensory Smart Child
...by Lindsey Biel and Nancy Peske

About this book

Above & Beyond

Each month, we receive heartfelt nominations for the Above and Beyond Award! It is very difficult to identify one person or a group of people who have earned the Above and Beyond award for the month. Thank you to all of you who have been nominated!

October Award Winner - Jamie Wingler, MSC A.D.

Jamie is CGMSC's beloved athletic director. He goes above and beyond for the MSC students all

David Clark - Bus #33
I have been happily married for 18 years. I have worked for Center Grove for 8 years, the last 6 as a Special Needs Driver. In my spare time I like to go fishing. I also collect Hot Wheels.

Raquel Rico - Bus #89
I have three wonderful children, 2 sons and 1 daughter. I have been a school bus driver for 13 years. The last 2 years, I have been a Special Needs driver. My favorite things to do in my spare time are camping, traveling and dancing.
the time. He's always looking for ways he can make our students' lives easier. Jamie has a heart of gold and always displays a true example of going above and beyond.

Teri Blau, Erin Klingshim, Craig Smith, Julie Lawson, Nancy McDowell

Congratulations to Jamie and all our October nominees:

- Stacy Bachman
- Lisa Brinkman
- Janet Mohid
- Jennifer Quesenberry
- Greg Valenta
- Katie Gaff
- Missy West

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