



# Mini News

*Montgomery County's Mini University*

## From the Director

Dear Families,

It is difficult to believe that summer is over and winter is just around the corner! There is much talk about the H1N1 or Swine flu and much of this newsletter will focus on illness and how we work to prevent the spread of illness here at the center. We need your help! How can you help?

Work with your child on hand washing. At school, we wash hands when we arrive at school, when we come in from the playground, before we eat, after we use the toilet or do diaper work, after nose wiping, before and after we play with sand, water or playdough.

Work with your child on "catching" coughs and sneezes. Very young children can learn to catch coughs and sneezes in their elbow.

Don't bring your child to school if you know he/she is sick.

Stay current on information from the Center for Disease Control and the local Combined Health District.

Have a back up plan for child care. We may have to close the center for a few days if too many children or staff members become ill. We will follow the advice of the local Combined Health District.

Follow your pediatricians recommendation for the flu shot and follow through.

If your child becomes sick at home, communicate with us! We are tracking illness trends.

Thanks for your help in making Montgomery County's Mini University a healthier place for children.

Ms. Carolyn

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**Professionals Caring About  
Your Child's Education..**

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## Tylenol and Other Over the Counter Medications

We realize that it is important to the family for parents to go to work or school. We would ask you to be respectful of the other children and the staff by not giving your child Tylenol or other medication that masks symptoms of illness. If you give your child Tylenol and the fever goes away, it does not mean your child is well! Children who are ill need to be in the loving arms of the family where they can receive one on one care and not in group care.

## Meet Our Toddler Teachers!

### Green Room

#### Annista Waddy, A.A. – Teacher

My name is Annista Waddy and I am the Green Room Teacher. I graduated in the fall of 2007 with my Associates Degree in Early Childhood Education. My hobbies are reading inspirational stories, sewing, swimming, aerobic conditioning, writing in my daily journal and watching old movies.

Community Service: I volunteer to feed the homeless at St. Vincent DePaul Shelter once a month and visiting the sick and the shut-in at hospitals and nursing homes on a regular basis. I volunteer twice a month at my son's school.

My educational goal: Currently, I am completing classes in the 2+2 Articulation Program between Sinclair and the University of Dayton. My ultimate goal is to complete a Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education with a focus on working with Special Needs Children, particularly hearing impaired children.

I worked with preschool children for 2 ½ years in the Purple Room and I have worked 1 ½ years with Toddlers.

As a professional educator, I am committed to the care and safety of the children and I am dedicated to what is best for the children/families. All children/families are an important part of my life. I believe children should be in a positive environment at all times. Interacting with the children is a blessing.

#### Michelle Heill, CDA—Assistant Teacher



Hello, my name is Michelle Heill. I am the assistant teacher in the Green Room. I have worked for Mini University for 15 years. I currently have a CDA. I really enjoy working with the children and watching them learn and grow. In my spare time, I enjoy spending time with family and friends, reading, sewing, and shopping.

## Dates to Remember

Wednesday, October 7 and Thursday, October 8, 2009-School Pictures  
 Monday, October 12, 2009-Center Closed for Columbus Day  
 Friday, October 16, 2009-Fall Festival  
 Monday, October 26, 2009-Family Conferences begin  
 Friday, October 30, 2009-Parade of Characters  
 Thursday, November 4, 2009-Book Fair Begins  
 Wednesday, November 11, 2009-Center Closed for Veterans' Day  
 Thursday, November 26 and Friday, November 27, 2009-Center Closed for Thanksgiving



## Meet Our Toddler Teachers!

### Yellow Room

#### **Erin Williamson, B.S. – Teacher**

My name is Erin Williamson, I am twenty four years old and I have worked here at Montgomery County Mini U for a little over two years now. I have a Bachelor's Degree from Wright State University and eventually want to go back for my masters in special education. I am a mother of one beautiful little girl who just turned one this July and I have been happily married to my high school sweet heart for three years, although we have been together for a total of eight years. I feel privileged to work with children, it has always been a passion of mine. I want to help make a positive difference in their lives. I am looking forward to working with all of our families old and new, and to what the new school year will bring. Welcome to the new school year and I know that we have a great year ahead of us.

#### **Yvette Fowler, CDA— Assistant**

I have worked 12 years with children at Mini University, Inc. This includes nine years at Miami Valley Hospital in the Infant Wing, 6 weeks to 21 months, one year at the Dayton View Academy site with preschool children and one year in the Blue Room at the County. I have worked seven months in the Green Room. I enjoy the experience and language that make children a joy to work with. I love all ages, but working with toddlers is my joy.



## Family Responsibilities

Economic times are tough right now, but it is the family's responsibility to provide the child with diapers and changes of clothes including underwear. The center cannot take on the responsibility of providing diapers and new underwear for children. If your child does not have enough diapers for the day, you will not be allowed to leave the child. There are licensing regulations about how often children need to be changed and the family needs to provide the diapers to make this happen.

## Subsidized Care Attendance Reminder:

Mini University requires that all families utilizing subsidized care (Title XX) must attend at least 25 hours each week. Failure to comply will result in termination of care. Thank you in advance for your immediate attention to this matter. We look forward to working with you and your family. Please feel free to see Carolyn if you have any questions or concerns. She can be contacted by phone (461-9027) or email (cpulos@miniuniversity.net).

## What Parents Need to Know About the Flu

### Signs & Symptoms of Flu:

1. Sudden onset of symptoms
2. Fever over 100 degrees F. in adults, and as high as 103 degrees to 105 F in children
3. Chills and sweats
4. Headache
5. Dry cough; can become severe
6. Muscle/joint aches and pains
7. Fatigue and weakness
8. Loss of appetite
9. Diarrhea and vomiting in children



### Prevention is Key!

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after use.
- Wash your hands often for 15-30 seconds with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth. Germs spread this way.
- Try to avoid close contact with sick people.
- If your child is sick with flu-like illness, it is recommended that you keep them home for at least 24 hours after their fever is gone, except to get medical care or other necessities. Keep your child away from others as much as possible to keep from making other sick.
- Keep surfaces and toys clean by wiping them down with a household disinfectant per instructions on the label.



## Steps the Center is Taking to Prevent the Spread of Illness

At this time, program staff and children who are NOT sick can safely come to school. We are working closely with the Dayton and Montgomery County Combined Health District and will keep you updated with any important information regarding the current flu conditions.

Encouraging staff to get vaccinated for seasonal flu and 2009 H1N1 flu.

Encouraging parents to have children 6 months and older vaccinated for seasonal flu and H1N1 flu, when Available.

We are performing a daily health check of children and staff when they arrive at school.

If children have flu-like symptoms, they are kept in the Front Office until they can go home.

We are frequently cleaning surfaces and items.

We are asking parents and staff to keep themselves and children home if they have flu-like symptoms.

We are teaching children to cover their mouth and nose with a tissue when they cough or sneeze.

Practicing good hand hygiene.

### What if the Flu Conditions Become Severe?

- Extending the time sick children or child care providers stay home to at least 7 days, even if they feel better. Those who are still sick after 7 days should continue to stay home until at least 24 hours after symptoms have gone away.
- Allowing children and staff at higher risk for flu complications to stay home. Parents and staff should make this decision in consultation with their health care provider.
- Finding ways to increase social distances in our program by dividing classes into small groups, moving play stations farther apart, and holding classes outdoors, weather permitting.
- Considering temporarily closing the program if we are unable to continue to operate because many staff and children are at home or the CDC or our health department asks us to close to help decrease the spread of flu in our community.

For more information about flu, call 1-800-CDC-INFO or visit [www.flu.gov](http://www.flu.gov)



# October 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<b>1</b> Happy Birthday Hollis	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> Happy Birthday Isiah	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Happy Birthday Autumn C.	<b>7</b> School Pic- tures	<b>8</b> Happy Birthday Jayla School Pictures	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> Happy Birthday Samiya	<b>12</b> Center Closed	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Fall Festival	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Happy Birthday Savannah	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Happy Birthday Kallyn & Kaleia	<b>27</b> Happy Birthday Jade	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Parade of Characters	<b>31</b>



## Staff Birthday

2—Ms. Jerilyn (Admin. Coordinator)  
23— Ms. Tiana (Support Staff)

## Staff Anniversary

24—Ms. Aja (Staff Teacher) 2 years