



# Shiloh Child Development Center

*A Program of the Family Life Center Foundation*

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Winter 2017 | Newsletter

## *Caring Hands*

Welcome to *CARING HANDS*, our newsletter. The purpose of the winter newsletter is to share important school events, activities, and resources to support the Shiloh Child Development Center (CDC) and your child. This edition includes an events calendar, staff spotlight, Center updates, and curriculum strands. We want to communicate the wonderful opportunities of learning at the Shiloh Child Development Center.

## Welcome to 2017!!!

We are off to a new beginning in a brand new year. The Shiloh Child Development Center uses the old proverb that states “jumping the broom” is the beginning of a new chapter in our growth and development.

How can you help us keep our Resolution?

- Bring your child every day and on time.
- Participate in parent meetings.
- Attend Parent/Teacher conferences
- Volunteer in the center at least once a month
- Spread the “Good News” about the Center and its effect on the growth and development of your child
- Recruit new children for the center



*Shiloh Baptist Church Deaconess Ministry contributed Christmas toys to the CDC*

## *Calendar Events*

- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday (CDC Closed)  
**January 16, 2017**
- Black History Month Focus  
**February 2017**
- Staff Development teacher training
- Parent Teacher Conference
- Child Development Recruitment
- President’s Day (CDC Closed)  
**February 20, 2017**

### **KIPP Public Charter School**

January 16, 2017 (*Closed*)  
January 20, 2017 (*Closed*)

### **Seaton Elementary School**

January 16, 2017 (*Closed*)  
January 19, 2017 (*1/2 Day 12:15pm*)  
January 20, 2017 (*Closed*)



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## Teachers Engage in On-Going Professional Development

Teachers in the Center are engaged in continuous training to improve the delivery of service to young children. The course work is designed to give the practitioner the opportunity to discuss, review, and implement new practices into daily classroom instruction. As we continue to improve services for children we are interested in enhancing the curriculum to give children the opportunity to have more hands on learning experiences as well as providing opportunities for children to explore new adventures while learning. Shortly, you will see displays of the new learning process implemented through “Art Creations” designed by the children. Already in operation is the infusion of music into the curriculum which provides children the opportunity for self-expression. We are on the move towards continued and improved services for all children and their parents as we provide an opportunity to involve the family in the new learning community.



## Staff Spotlight



Cynthia Pelzer has been a member of the faculty for fifteen years. She has worked with all age groups in the Center. She brings a sense of dedication to her assignment and always willing to enhance her understanding of the young learner and the children with whom she works with daily. She is currently enrolled in the University of the District of Columbia Community College where she is working towards

an associate degree in early childhood education. In addition, Ms. Pelzer serves as the food service coordinator where she is responsible for serving nutritional meals to all children in the Center once it is received from the caterer. She has been trained to follow the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) guidelines outlined by the US Department of Agriculture. Ms. Pelzer previously volunteered in the D.C. Public Schools.

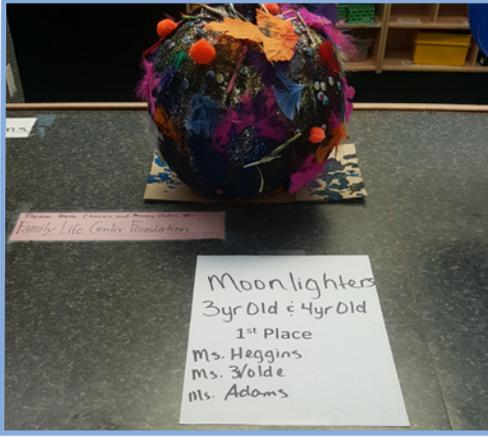


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# Picture Portfolio



*Arts & Craft*



*Pumpkin Decorating Contest*



*Cox Farm Pumpkin Patch*



*Arts & Craft*



*Cox Farm Pumpkin Patch*



*Arts & Craft*

## Parent Comments

What have parents noticed?

- “My child has an established routine that results from the classroom organization. It also keeps my child on track of her daily behaviors.”
- Parents have expressed a desire to have more conference time with teachers about student progress.



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## New Attendance Policy

Child care providers have been working with the Office of the State Superintendent for Education (OSSE) on our attendance policies. These policies specifically affect parents who receive vouchers. The new policy is as follows:

Child care centers are no longer required by OSSE to terminate children for excessive unexcused absences. It will be left to the discretion of the Center whether it terminates the child or not. However, OSSE **WILL NOT** pay the Center for more than five (5) unexcused absences each month. If OSSE does not pay the Center, the Center cannot afford for your child to be present without payment as that affects our ability to pay teachers, offer meals and purchase supplies. Consequently, we will terminate your child if he or she is absent for more than five (5) days. Excused absences are for illness (must provide a doctor's note) or medical appointments (must provide a doctor's note). OSSE allots parents 15 vacation days each year. If your child is absent beyond the five (5) days, you have the option of using your vacation days to cover the absence. You will need to complete a "vacation form" that you can get from your child's teacher and/or Ms. Miller. Once you have used all your 15 vacation days and your child is absent over the 5-day limit, he or she will be terminated.

The bottom line is that OSSE and the Centers want your child in school daily to assure him or her the opportunity to fully develop and learn needed skills prior to going off to Kindergarten. Parent, please make it your 2017 goal to get your child to school every day and on time.

## Inclement Weather Policy

This is just a reminder regarding the Shiloh inclement weather policy that is included in your parent handbook and your child care agreement:

*Shiloh Child Development Center teachers walk school age students to and from their respective schools (KIPP and Seaton ES). For the safety of the students and the teachers, the teachers will not walk the students to and from school if the weather conditions include severe ice/freezing rain or more than one inch of snow and/or temperatures are below freezing (32°). It will be the parent/guardian's responsibility to arrange for after care when Shiloh CDC does not pick up the children from their respective schools. If parents pay for aftercare on those days, the Shiloh CDC co-pay will be waived upon showing a receipt for that child care payment.*

If the temperature rises above freezing during the day, the staff will pick up children from their respective schools that evening for the aftercare program.

## Family Life Center Foundation Staff

- Isabelle Mack, Executive Director
- Eddie Witten, Office Manager/Bookkeeper
- Antonisha Brown, Social Media/Office Assistant

## Child Development Center Staff

- Marjorie A. Kinard, Director
- Camelia Miller, Administrative Assistant/Group Leader
- Angielic Heggins, Teacher
- Johnkear Watts, Teacher
- Yeshumnesh Wolde, Teacher
- Cynthia Pelzer, Teacher Aide
- Renee Patterson, Teacher Aide
- George M. Moore, Educational Consultant