

MAR 2023



### GCDC Philosophy:

It is the philosophy of the Goddard Child Development Center to create a stimulating environment in which children can learn through exploration and discovery with teachers acting as facilitators.

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## Preschoolers are Natural Mathematicians

By NAEYC

Preschoolers aren't yet ready to memorize multiplication tables, but that doesn't mean they cannot learn and explore math concepts they will use when they move on to primary school. Try these ideas at home to help your preschooler explore math.

Offer containers filled with small treasures. Think of lids, buttons, shells, beads, pieces of ribbon, pinecones, acorns, and similar items as the tools of math learning. Preschoolers will naturally sort them by size, color, and shape; they will count and compare collections; and they will talk about what they are doing and why—especially if a grown-up joins in. I saw you examine each button before placing some of them in the blue bowl. What were you looking at?

Talk about math. Include math talk when cooking, playing at the park, and at bedtime. Our family has five people eating dinner. How many ears of corn should we shuck? How many times do you want me to push you in the swing? We can read three books together before turning out the light. You can choose three books from the shelf.

Measure things. Preschoolers enjoy using measuring tools, like rulers and tape measures, and creative items, like shoes and plastic chains. Ask questions that invite your child to measure something. How wide is your bed? How tall is our dog? How many shoes long is the carpet?

Build together. Make buildings from wooden blocks, Legos, a collection of recycled items, or shoe boxes with the tops taped shut. Try masking tape to hold the structures together. Talk about shapes, sizes, widths, and heights as you build. Then get out the tools and take some measurements. How did you make the building so high? How wide is the bottom of the structure?

# February Reflections



**Exploring Puzzles with Friends  
Comets PS 2**



**Outdoor Play with Friends  
Comets PS 2**



**Science W/ Comets PS 2**



**Music & Movement  
Comets: PS2**

# February Reflections



Mail Delivery – Friendship Notes  
Little Dippers: PS2



Repotting Miles – Responsibility  
Little Dippers: PS2



Mail Delivery- Parent Love Notes  
Milky Ways: PS3



Everything's Magnetic  
Milky Ways: PS3





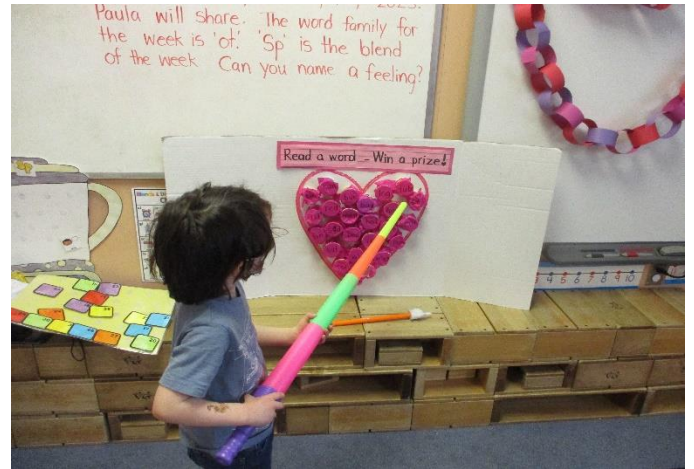
**Exploring Static Engineering  
Constellations: Pre-K**



**Simple Addition  
Constellations: PreK**

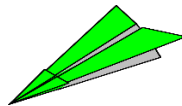


**Cooking Projects  
Constellations: Pre-K**



**Emergent Reading  
Constellations: Pre-K**

## Paper Airplane Contest



GCDC will have a Paper Airplane Experiment/Contest beginning March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023. This Activity requires Parent Participation.

- We will Measure distance and length of time airborne.
- 1<sup>st</sup> children will conduct the experiment with teachers & Peers in Class.
- We will chart/record the data.
- Children will then take their paper airplanes home to work with parents to determine if they can improve on their design to improve on their distance and time or start Over. (Planes must be made of paper only)
- Parents should bring planes back on March 10<sup>th</sup> for the contest.

# PAC

P A R E N T  
A D V I S O R Y  
C O M M I T T E E

Join us for our March  
PAC meeting.

March 23<sup>rd</sup>.  
Noon-1:00 p.m.

**HOW**  
**YOU CAN GET**  
**INVOLVED**

GCDC's PAC Advisory Committee (PAC) is equivalent to what many may refer to as a school's PTA. GCDC's PAC is an excellent way to become involved in activities that support our school. Every GCDC Member (Enrolled or Wait listed) can attend and support GCDC's PAC. The more support provided, the better for our school. PAC meetings are held monthly and are led by the Parent's Association's Vice President.



## 2022-2023 GCDC ASSOCIATION'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Marilyn Tolliver, **President**  
Martha Wawro, **Vice President**  
Claribel Ferrolino, **Treasurer**  
Erin Roberts, **Secretary**  
Molly Jackson, **Registrar**  
James Harrington, **Education  
Advisor**  
Jeff Steir, **Facilities Advisor**  
Brad Cenko & Stephanie Arcido,  
**Members at Large**  
Robin Mahoney, **GEWA Acting  
Operations Manager**

**Meetings are scheduled  
monthly.**

GCDC Family's that have questions or concerns about our program may attend board meetings at any time for the first 10 minutes that meetings are in session.

## Enrollment Intention Forms

**Due:** April 1, 2023

GCDC currently has **73** children enrolled. We would like to hit an enrollment goal of **78** by Mid-March. We currently have 1 vacancy left in our Preschool 2's program, 1 vacancy in our Preschool 3's program, and 1 vacancy in our Preschool 4's program. Please tell your friends and colleagues to help us hit our enrollment goals.

**Enrollment Intention forms will be distributed on March 1st.**

Please complete them by the due date to reserve your child's space for the 2023-2024 school year. Once we receive all forms, we can begin planning for classroom placements for next year. This data will also help us to determine what spaces we will have available for our summer program





Teacher and  
Staff  
Appreciation  
Week is

scheduled for May 8-12, 2023.

If you would like to join this committee to help shape the plans for this celebration, please sign up at:

<https://forms.gle/QCBUxcMfoZJfL93h6>



### Cookie Experiment/Project

Next month our students will participate in an international cookie tasting. We are looking for parents to donate different types of cookies that reflect the diverse cultures represented in our school.

- Cookies must be commercially prepared.
- Cookies must be in original wrapping and sealed. (Ingredients provided)
- Cookies must be provided to the Admin Team no later than **March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023**.
- When dropping cookies off, please write which class they are for, who brought the cookies, and what country they represent.
- **No Oreo's Please**

You did it!  
*Congratulations*



Congratulations to **Ms. Lakshini and Ms. Kendra** for earning the **Environments Award** for the month of March. They were recognized for finding ways to document the student's learning in all content areas, maintaining a neat and orderly classroom (even with 3-4-year-olds!) and demonstrating attention to detail.

As an accredited program, it is important that our classroom environments be carefully planned and managed to ensure children have access to thirteen interest areas. This award is designed to help all staff focus on our classroom environments.

One classroom per month is selected for some aspect of their environment that meets or exceeds the established standards. For their efforts, they both receive a small gift card. They also get to share the Employee of The Month Parking space (they each get two weeks).

#### Interest Areas in Each GCDC Classroom

Art  
Blocks  
Computers (Except Preschool 2)  
Dramatic Play  
Library  
Listening Center  
Math & Science  
Music & Movement  
Manipulatives  
Rug (Large Group)  
Sensory  
Science & Discovery  
Writing

# CHARACTER COUNTS!

This month, we will learn what it means to be a **good citizen**. Parents can extend these lessons at home by using the word **citizenship** in real and relevant ways.



## What's Happening

Date	Event
Mar 10	Paper Airplane Experiment/Contest
Mar 17	St. Patrick's Day Smoothies
Mar 20-22	Cookie Sampling Project
Mar 15	Jump Bunch returns
Apr 3-7	Week of The Young Child
Apr. 3-7	Spring Curriculum Break
Apr 17-21	The Learning Gardens
Apr. 19	Spring Fun Run
Apr 27	GCDC 50th Anniversary Celebration



### Volunteer Opportunities:

- Technology/Coding lesson for Pre-K
- Create an online Library Catalog System, for Teachers
- Newsletter Editor
- Gardner's for each classroom to revitalize student gardens
- Toy Shed
- Organization/Inventory
- Donate Cookies native to your culture
- Cleaning Paint Cups
- Cleaning Toys
- Re-shelving Books
- Sweeping or Blowing Mulch
- St. Patrick's Day Smoothie
- Bar Assistance

Thank You So Much



Thanks to your support of our Annual GCDC book fair, sold **\$1,081.55** and earned **\$306.10** in book profits. That means we can put new books into your child's hands here at GCDC.

Goddard Child Development Center's  
PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

INVITES YOU TO

# GCDC 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

THURSDAY APRIL 27, 2023

4:00-6:00pm

Goddard Space Flight Center's Visitor Center

9432 Greenbelt Rd, Greenbelt, MD 20771

Located off ICESat Road

Goddard Badges Not Required

\$10 per ticket\*

Light Refreshment

Adults and kids are welcome

\*Children under 12 are FREE!

The Goddard Child Development Center (GCDC) is turning 50 Years Old this year and we want to celebrate in a big way!

Please join us for the celebration on April 27th at the Goddard Visitor Center from 4:00-6:00 pm. This event coincides with Goddard's Bring Your Child To Work Day activities. Enjoy fun activities, fundraisers, appreciation acknowledgments and more!

[Click Here](#) to Purchase Tickets or Donate to GCDC

We are also collecting photos from current and past GCDC members to show during the event. Please consider uploading your photos [HERE](#)

TO PURCHASE TICKETS PLEASE  
CLICK HERE

# ADMIT ONE

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO GCDCASSOCIATION