

UTC Children's Center Newsletter December 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat			
					1	2			
3	4				5	6	7	8	9
10	11				12	13	14	15	16
17	18				19	20	21	22 UTCCC Closed	23 UTCCC Closed
24 UTCCC Closed	25 UTCCC Closed	26 UTCCC Closed	27 UTCCC Closed	28 UTCCC Closed	29 UTCCC Closed	30 UTCCC Closed			
31 UTCCC Closed	1 UTCCC Closed	2	3	4	5	6			



Lead Coordinator: Cindy Hornsby

UTCCC Battle Academy Site

Site Coordinator: Jameshia Borders, Regis Richard

Infants: Kelly Justet

Young Toddlers: Ann Mayer, TK Brooks

Older Toddlers: Amy Blackburn, Sheyla Reyes

Preschool: Jean Walston, Nardia Ingram

Pre-K: Emma Gray, Lanxia (Alice) Li

Staff Floaters: Kathryn Friedle, Emma Jones

Administrative Support Assistant: Doreen Watt

UTCCC Brown Academy Site

Site Coordinator: Regis Richard

Infants A: Katie Griffin, Tiffany Vick

Infants B: Taylor Parker

Toddler 1: Emily Rollins, Veronica Banks

Toddler 2: Jennifer Hunt, Jasmine Jackson

Preschool 1: Ashley Burnette, Sydney Nichols

Preschool 2: Taylor Winnie

Pre-K: Shawn Winters, Kayla McFadden

Staff Floaters: Macaria Hudson, Millie Tramble

Administrative Specialist: Jackie Tate

UTCCC Lookout Street Site

Site Coordinator: Jameshia Borders

Infants A: Sharkia Roberts

Infants B: Kristen Mounce, Wallika Sheckley

Infants C: Tavia Blanks

Toddler 1: Olivia Davis, Lori Adkins (soon to lead her own room!)

Toddler 2: Sarah Trumbore, Shianne Trado

Preschool: Elisha Varner, Destiny Shrader

Pre-K: Beverly Eller, Andi Callahan

Administrative Assistant: Cecily Macomber

Front Desk Volunteer: Parker Davis

UTC Children's Center Battle Academy

Infants

Dear families,

I hope everyone had a nice November! And a great Thanksgiving, spent with family and friends. Last month, we learned more about the healthy foods we can eat! We also got to go on more walks and saw how all the trees changed color. The class loved that!

Since the first day of winter starts on the 21st, our unit for this month will be all about winter! We'll be learning more about snow, ice, snowmen, and winter clothing. And do some fun sensory activities with ice.

Remember that we are off for winter break from December 22nd through January 2nd. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. I hope everyone has a delightful December and Happy Holidays! Thank you!

-Ms. Kelly



Young Toddlers

Dear Parents,

During the month of December, we will be concentrating on packages, stamps, and mail, wrapping paper and boxes. We will be mailing letters to your home so please check the mail with your toddler. Your toddlers will notice an increase in the arrival of packages in the mail or by delivery to the door and will spend a great deal of time wondering what all those boxes, packages and cards are for. We are going to have lots of fun shaking, rattling, and opening packages and boxes as well as making letters/cards for family.



The month of December is a very hectic month for families. Here are a few suggestions for dealing with your little one during this time.

Try to keep their schedule as close to normal as possible. Naps and bedtimes especially. Remember even if they don't sleep resting quietly in your arms or on a cushion will rejuvenate them almost as well as a true nap.



Stickers, chalk, and bubbles!!! Stickers are universally great for calming a cranky or bored child. You and they may be covered, but it's OKAY! Chalk will wipe, brush, or vacuum off anything so 1-2 pieces of chalk and some dark paper are a great thing to keep on hand when traveling....and Bubbles!! Well, no explanation needed for bubbles☺

Expect your baby to be shy at parties or family gatherings, even with people they know. Give them a little time before asking for hugs and kisses from people especially from people they don't know well. If they refuse, make sure they know that it's ok and "Maybe Later!"

Have FUN!!

Thanks,

Ms. Ann and Mr.TK



Older Toddlers

Dear Parents,

Thank you for your generous donations to the Room in the Inn!

For the month of December, we will be discussing families. The Older Toddlers will learn all about their favorite things and all about their families, so we may be sending things home to work on or asking you to bring things to school. We will need some family photos too.

We will end the month with a week of fairy tales.



Thank you for your support!

Ms. Amy and Ms. Sheyla

Preschool

Dear Parents,



For the month of December, Preschool will be learning about different holidays around the world. We will also be working on various holiday projects.

We hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving! PJs and Pancakes was a big hit...Preschoolers sure do love their pancakes!! A big thank you to all the parents and children for your generous donations that were collected for the Room in the Inn. Our caring and sharing project was a great success.

As the holidays approach, we would like to thank all the Preschool parents for your continued support. Wishing each of you a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

Ms. Jean and Ms. Nardia

Pre-K



Hi, everyone! We are hoping to have a fun month and great end to the year in Pre-K! We will be learning about December holidays around the world, continuing to decorate our classroom, and exploring some new science experiments.

Please remember that the UTCCC will be **CLOSED December 22nd- January 1st**.

Here are fun, local activities happening this month:

- [Creative Discovery Museum](#) Gingerbread Workshop: December 9th
- [Tennessee Aquarium](#) Holidays under the Peaks- All Month
- [Chattanooga Zoo](#) Asian Lantern Festival- All Month
- [Ice on the Landing](#): November 24th-January 28th at the First Horizon Pavilion

Ms. Emma and Ms. Alice



UTC Children's Center Brown Academy

Infants A and B



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We have had a great November! We have had the opportunity to take many walks all over campus; if you want to see where we go on our walks, I have posted a map of our usual routes outside of the classroom. We have also been very excited to welcome Ms. Taylor Parker to our team. Ms. Taylor is an early childhood specialist for the infant/toddler community along with Ms. Jennifer in T2. Ms. Taylor will take charge of our new Infant B classroom next door very soon!



This month we will focus mostly on Gingerbread Characters and Holidays around the world. Please let us know if you have any special traditions you celebrate in your family that we may not talk about.

Thank you for all that you do!
Ms. Katie, Ms. Taylor, and Ms. Tiffany

Toddler 1



Dear Parents,

Last month we learned about forest animals, gratitude, and family! Our friends had a lot of fun with the planned activities and enjoyed playing outside in the nice weather. For this month we will cover polar animals, winter weather, snow, and the color white. We plan to have a Winter Party towards the end of the month. I will send more information out on Procure closer to time! Just a reminder that as the weather starts to get colder, please make sure your children have a weather appropriate jacket and change of clothes in

their bags!

As always if you have any questions or concerns, please reach out!

Thanks Ms. Emily and Ms. Veronica

Toddler 2



Dear Toddler 2 Parents,

It is hard to believe that it is already the end of the year! December is a busy month! We will be learning about different cultures and celebrations this month. If you would like to come discuss some of your own cultural traditions this month, please let us know! We will also spend a week on The Gingerbread Man story. This is always so much fun because we get to make gingerbread cookies and gingerbread houses. There will be a sign-up list posted if you would like to help by bringing in supplies for this.

Here are a few reminders for this month:

- The UTC Children's Center will be CLOSED Friday, December 22nd through Monday, January 1st. We will reopen on Tuesday, January 2nd.
- We know December is a very busy month. If your child is going to be absent, please try to let us know by 8:00 each morning.
- The weather is constantly changing. We are required to spend 1 hour per day outside unless it is below 32°. Please try to bring a jacket with your child or keep one at school.
- If the Children's Center closes/delays for snow or other inclement weather, you will receive a UTC text alert, if you signed up for these. It will also be posted on Procure, on the UTC website, and on the local news. Remember, we close/delay with UTC, NOT Hamilton County.

Happy Holidays!

Thank you,

Ms. Jasmine and Ms. Jennifer





Preschool 1

Dear Preschool One Families,

We hope you all had a great Thanksgiving holiday! November was quite a whirl-wind, and it's hard to believe the year is almost over. In November, we had fun learning about nocturnal animals, being thankful, and Thanksgiving.

In December, we will learn about animals in winter, different holidays we can celebrate around this time of year, like Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanzaa, and New Year's. It's always a fun time of year, and we can't wait to celebrate with the kids! If you have any special traditions you do at home, let us know so we can talk about them in class!

Reminders:

Please bring weather appropriate clothes, in case of accidents or spills, now that cold temperatures are here. Also, please bring your children in warm clothes with jackets. We go outside at 10:30, and it can be quite chilly!

The Center will be closed Friday, December 22nd - Monday, January 1st for Winter Break and New Year's Day.

We look forward to a great month, and if you have any questions, please let us know!

- Ms. Ashley and Ms. Sydney

Preschool 2

Preschool 2 had so much fun in the month of November learning how to use our manners and all about Thanksgiving! In December, we will begin the month with our Holidays Around the World unit and end it with our gingerbread unit! We will have our Holiday Party on Friday, December 15th! A sign-up sheet for treats will be posted outside of our classroom door the week before the party! Happy Holidays!!

Ms. Taylor



Pre-K

Dear Pre-K families,

Thank you for sharing your child with us and for all your support throughout the year!

December is going to bring many fun lessons. We will be learning about gingerbread men, December holidays and traditions around the world, and adding in a lot of fun along the way. We will be having a class holiday party later in the month, details to come!

The UTC Children's Center will be CLOSED December 22nd-January 1st for the holidays.

We go outside to play twice a day unless the weather is below 32 degrees or storming. Please be sure that your child has appropriate outdoor clothing.

Please, keep us updated if your child is going to be out at any time during the holidays, this helps us keep track of lunches and helps us plan our day.

As always, please contact us with any questions or concerns.

Thank you, Ms. Shawn and Ms. Kayla



UTCCC Lookout Street Site

Infants A

Dear parents,

We had an exciting month of November! I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving. We can't wait to start our December winter activities. We will be exploring ice painting, feet snowman along with many winter books!

Also, we are now using Procure for all communications, so do not hesitate to message or contact me.

A reminder we will be closed December 22nd, 2023 and will reopen January 2nd, 2024

- Ms. Sharkia

Infants B

Dear parents,

November was an exciting month for the Infant B class. We explored all things Fall. The infants explored pumpkins, feathers, pumpkin pie ingredients as well as leaves and fall colored paint. We also enjoyed the nice weather on the playground.

Also, we are now using Procure for all communications, so do not

hesitate to message or contact me on there.

A reminder we will be closed December 22nd, 2023, and will reopen January 2nd, 2024.

Ms. Kristen



Toddler 1

We have so many wonderful things planned this month.

Each week we will try to do a large group activity. We will be doing a large group and small group activity every day. These specific weekly large group activities will be hands-on and will be displayed in our classroom.

I am so excited about the month of December. There are so many wonderful books, art activities, and hands-on projects that we have that we will be doing. I can't wait to share them all with these wonderful children.

Ms. Olivia

Toddler 2

Toddler 2 Families,

Over the last month, our Toddler 2 classroom has been continuing to learn how to be in our new space together—exploring new toys, learning our routines, and getting to know one another. Along with that important work, we have been exploring fall leaves, noticing the changing weather, and reading books and singing songs about the season. Ask your child about our Five Little Leaves song! We have had fun pretending to be the wind by practicing our deep breaths.

For the month of December, we will continue noticing and learning about the changing seasons. We will focus on what we can see and feel changing outside—colors, light, and temperature. We will also spend time learning about different holidays celebrated during the month, exploring books, songs, and themes from each.

Some reminders: we will be closed December 22nd through January 1st and will return to school January 2nd. Please also remember to make sure that you are sending your child with clothing appropriate for the weather, and that their extra clothes are labeled and seasonal. Ms. Sarah

Preschool

Hello families,



We have spent the last month learning about different kinds of families (with a little detour into the ocean based on student interest). We've used the Thanksgiving holiday as a springboard to discuss who belongs in our own families and how everyone's family is unique.

Next month, we will jump into winter holidays and how different people celebrate holiday traditions! If you have any unique traditions in your home, we would love to hear them and work them into our learning. Please send any information via ProCare or to elishavarnner09@gmail.com.

DON'T FORGET

The Children's Center will be closed Friday, December 22nd until Tuesday, January 2nd.

Thank you for letting us love and teach your children,

Ms. Elisha and Ms. Destiney

Pre-K

Hello Pre-K families! Welcome to UTC Children's Center Lookout St. We've all adjusted to the changes and are settling in nicely. ProCare is up and running making communication, daily activities and pictures possible again!!

The month of November seems to have flown by. We've pumpkin pounded, roasted the seeds, decorated cookies, many fall activities and now we're working on Thanksgiving and turkeys. The children are working on name recognition, writing and I've introduced a new lion puppet named Larry during morning meeting.

December will bring the magic of Christmas with many activities and a tree to decorate. I will begin to introduce letters and letter sounds/word families in January after the holiday break. This year the last day of school is December 21st. Our winter break will be December 22nd through January 1st. Our first day of school in 2024 is January 2nd.

It's getting chilly now! Please be sure that your child's clothing as well as their change of clothes are weather appropriate. If the temperature is above 32 degrees, we go outside.

Thank you for all you do and have a wonderful holiday season!

Ms Beverly and Ms Andi



Lunch Box Catering
Donna Laster 423-802-1938
Donnalaster@epbf.com

December 2023 Lunch Menu

26	27 Ham and Cheese Slider Green Beans Apples Milk	28 Beef a Roni Corn Bananas Milk	29 Creamy Chicken Noodle Bake Peas Oranges Milk	30 Beef Stroganoff Carrots Bananas Milk	01 BBQ Chicken on Slider Bun Sweet Potato Fries Apples Milk	02
03	04 Turkey and Cheese Slider Green Beans Apples Milk	05 Chicken Alfredo Corn Bananas Milk	06 Spinach Quesadilla Carrots Oranges Milk	07 Chicken ala King Biscuit Peas Bananas Milk	08 Cheeseburger Slider Baked Beans Apples Milk	09
10	11 Beef and Cheese Burrito Pinto Beans Apples Milk	12 Creamy Chicken Brown Rice Casserole Carrots Bananas Milk	13 Baked Ham Mac and Cheese Peas Oranges Milk	14 Beef and Cheese Pizza Roll-up Baked Beans Bananas Milk	15 Chicken Tenders Biscuit Tatar Tots Apples Milk	16
17	18 Chicken Quesadilla Green Beans Apples Milk	19 Baked Ziti with Beef Corn Bananas Milk	20 Teriyaki Chicken and Brown Rice Carrots Oranges Milk	21 Cheese Pizza w/ Mozzarella Baked Beans Bananas Milk	22 UTC Closed	23
24	25 Christmas	26 Closed	27 UTC Closed	28 UTC Closed	29 UTC Closed	30
31	01 New Years Day	02 Ham and Cheese Slider Green Beans Apples Milk	03 Creamy Chicken Noodle Bake Peas Oranges Milk	04 Beef Stroganoff Carrots Bananas Milk	05 BBQ Chicken on Slider Bun Sweet Potato Fries Apples Milk	06



Lunch Box Catering
 Donna Laster 423-802-1938
Donnalaster@epbf.com

December 2023 Vegetarian Lunch Menu

26	27 Hummus and Cheese Slider Green Beans Apples Milk	28 Black Bean a Roni Corn Bananas Milk	29 Creamy Chickpea Noodle Bake Peas Oranges Milk	30 Mushroom Stroganoff Carrots Bananas Milk	01 BBQ Veggies on Slider Bun Sweet Potato Fries Apples Milk	02
03	04 Hummus and Cheese Slider Green Beans Apples Milk	05 Mushroom Alfredo Corn Bananas Milk	06 Spinach Quesadilla Carrots Oranges Milk	07 Chickpea ala King Biscuit Peas Bananas Milk	08 Veggie burger Slider Baked Beans Apples Milk	09
10	11 Bean and Cheese Burrito Pinto Beans Apples Milk	12 Creamy Chickpea Brown Rice Casserole Carrots Bananas Milk	13 Roasted Veggies Mac and Cheese Peas Oranges Milk	14 Cheese Pizza Roll-up Baked Beans Bananas Milk	15 Veggie Tenders Biscuit Tatar Tots Apples Milk	16
17	18 Spinach Quesadilla Green Beans Apples Milk	19 Baked Ziti with Veggies Corn Bananas Milk	20 Teriyaki Chickpeas and Brown Rice Carrots Oranges Milk	21 Cheese Pizza w/ Mozzarella Baked Beans Bananas Milk	22 UTC Closed	23
24	25 Christmas	26 Closed	27 UTC Closed	28 UTC Closed	29 UTC Closed	30
31	01 New Years Day	02 Hummus and Cheese Slider Green Beans Apples Milk	03 Creamy Chickpea Noodle Bake Peas Oranges Milk	04 Mushroom Stroganoff Carrots Bananas Milk	05 BBQ Veggies on Slider Bun Sweet Potato Fries Apples Milk	06