

Children of Hope Child Development Center

February 2026

Hope Happenings:

Jessica Mueller
Preschool Director

News from Mrs. Mueller's Office

A Month of Love ♥♥

Happy Birthday!



STAFF BIRTHDAYS

Things I love at COH include children laughing and playing outside, a friend coming to the aid of someone who is hurt or sad, and a running hug when I visit a classroom or playground. There are also the many people who volunteer to help make this place even better. When we get to welcome new families, it always brings a smile to my face. There is so much love all around us, and sometimes we all need reminders that love and goodness are still present in our world.

At the beginning of the month, you will receive an ASQ (Ages and Stages Questionnaire) to assist with conference time during the first week of March. We ask that you and your child complete this questionnaire and return it to us by **February 23rd**. These questionnaires provide valuable insight into what you see at home and what we observe at school, helping us focus on the skills that will best meet the needs of our students during the second half of the year.

Registration for continuing families will take place the week of **February 23rd**. If you plan to return next year, please be sure to complete the required paperwork through Brightwheel and submit your deposit. We truly hope all of our families will be returning! Be sure to secure your spot before registration opens to the public on **March 2nd**.

Grandparents' Day will be held at drop-off on **February 19th**. We invite grandparents or special friends to join us for snacks, crafts, and music. We understand that not all families have local grandparents, so a neighbor or parent is also welcome to attend.

Valentine's Class Parties will be held on **February 12th**. Please look for additional information from your classroom teachers.

Donations for the **Kyrene Family Resource Center** will be accepted and greatly appreciated through the first week of the month. These donations will be added to the *Souper Bowl of Caring*, which will be delivered on **February 9th**. Non-perishable food items are especially appreciated.

Warmly,
Mrs. Mueller

President's Day

No school

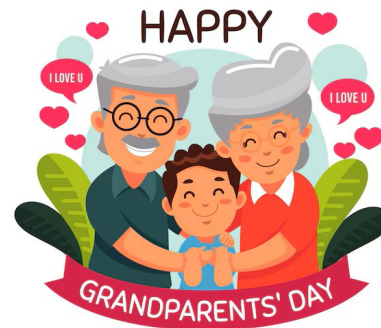
Feb. 16th



Preschool Board Meeting
Feb 17th @ 6:00 pm in the
Fellowship Hall



Valentine's Class Parties
February 12th



Grandparent's Day
Feb. 19th



Fun Friday
February 27th
8:30-12:00

Book Orders due: Feb 26th
<https://orders.scholastic.com/GPNB8>

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Church Events:

***Sunday School February 1st, 8th and
22nd***

Playing and Praying with Deacon Connie

February 22nd

**Chapel starts at 8:30 and
everyone is welcome to attend.**



**February 9th-Gliders
February 10th- Owlets
February 11th- Penguins**

**Don't forget to wear your
purple school shirt on your
chapel day!**



Pick Up at 1:00pm: \$15

Pick Up at 2:00pm: \$20
Will invoice via Brightwheel daily.

NO LUNCH BUNCH February 19th due to Staff Meeting



Backpack Connection Series

About this Series

The Backpack Connection Series was created by TACSEI to provide a way for teachers and parents/caregivers to work together to help young children develop social emotional skills and reduce challenging behavior. Teachers may choose to send a handout home in each child's backpack when a new strategy or skill is introduced to the class. Each Backpack Connection handout provides information that helps parents stay informed about what their child is learning at school and specific ideas on how to use the strategy or skill at home.

The Pyramid Model

The Pyramid Model is a framework that provides programs with guidance on how to promote social emotional competence in all children and design effective interventions that support young children who might have persistent challenging behavior. It also provides practices to ensure that children with social emotional delays receive intentional teaching. Programs that implement the Pyramid Model are eager to work together with families to meet every child's individualized learning and support needs. To learn more about the Pyramid Model, please visit ChallengingBehavior.org.

More Information

More information and resources on this and other topics are available on our website, ChallengingBehavior.org.



ChallengingBehavior.org

How to Help Your Child Transition Smoothly Between Places and Activities

Alyson Jiron, Brooke Brogle & Jill Giacomini

Transitioning, or moving, to new places, people and activities is something we do many times during the day. However, change can be overwhelming and seem unpredictable for your child, especially when she is not ready to move on to the next place or activity. Children make many transitions each day—from parents to teachers, from home to car, or from play time to the dinner table, for example. When and how often transitions occur are usually decided by an adult and children often act out with challenging behavior when they feel unable to control their routine. When you help your child prepare for transitions you are helping her to learn a valuable skill. The good news is that you can teach her this important skill while you are enjoying time together.



Try This at Home

- Use a timer, an instrument or a funny noise to give your child advance warning of routine transition events. If possible, ask him to help "alert" everyone to the upcoming event. For example, let your toddler bang a pot with a wooden spoon to let the family know it is time for dinner.
- Let your child pick out a special object or toy to transition with to the next activity or place. "Would kitty like to come with us to the grocery store? I wonder if she could help us find the items on our list?"
- Use a visual schedule to show your child the plan for the day. "First, you have school and then we are going to take Aunt Rachel's gift to the post office and mail it to her."
- Make the transition a game or activity where the child has the opportunity to move around. "I wonder if today we can use this big shovel to scoop the cars into the bucket while we clean up?" If possible, let him think of the game. "I wonder how we could get to the car today?" You might be surprised at his creativity and how much fun you have roaring like a dinosaur or hopping like a rabbit.
- Sing songs as you transition. Children love to hear songs as they move about their day. Make up silly songs together about what you are doing or where you are going. You are sure to get a laugh and likely a smooth transition.
- Give your child a job. Children are more cooperative when they can be part of the process. Perhaps he can help stir something for dinner, unlock the car doors with the remote or pick out a diaper before a diaper change.



Practice at School

Children transition from one activity to the next throughout their day at preschool. Teachers plan for transitions in advance by creating special routines. These routines help to prepare children for transitions, engage them in the change that is taking place and help them to move smoothly to the next activity. Teachers might use a special instrument or song to let children know it is clean up time. Teachers might read books to the children while they are standing in line waiting for a turn to wash their hands before snack or create an obstacle course or morning routine to help children and parents transition at drop-off. When children are able to participate in or lead the transition, they are excited and eager to move to a new activity.



The Bottom Line

The more a child can predict and participate in the schedule and activities of her day, the less likely it is that challenging behavior will occur and the more likely it is that she will eagerly engage in transitions to new people and places. Taking the time and making the effort to teach her what to expect, when it will happen, and what happens before the transition occurs can be a rewarding experience. Most importantly, it is also an opportunity for quality time that can help lead to smoother transitions.



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This publication was produced by the Technical Assistance Center on Social Emotional Intervention (TACSEI) for Young Children funded by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), U.S. Department of Education (H3268070002) and updated by the National Center for Pyramid Model Innovations also funded by OSEP (H3268070003). The views expressed do not necessarily represent the positions or policies of the Department of Education. July 2013/January, 2018.



Conscious Discipline

Tips and Tricks

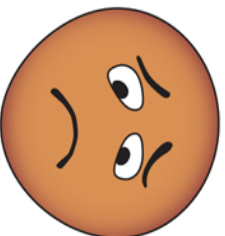
How do you feel?



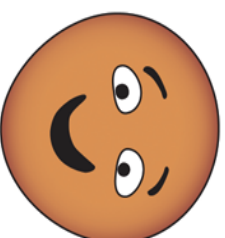
Angry



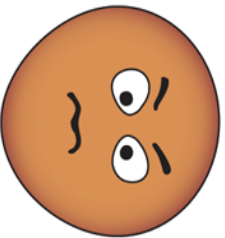
Scared



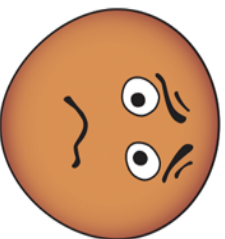
Sad



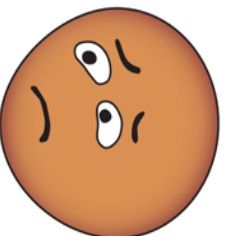
Happy



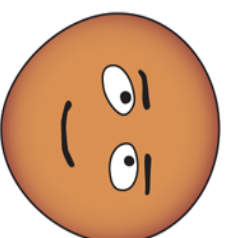
Frustrated



Anxious



Disappointed



Calm



Please make drop off and pick up times with your child.

NO CELL PHONE ZONES 😊

SMOKE-FREE ENVIRONMENT

We at **Children of Hope Child Development Center** are committed to providing a smoke-free environment for children, staff members, and childcare providers. Due to hazards from exposure to second-hand smoke and as a recognized Empower childcare facility, it shall be the policy of this childcare facility to provide a tobacco-free environment for children, staff members, childcare providers, and parents.

