

A P R I L 2 0 1 3

MALAIKA

Early Learning Center



Come Visit Us at Malaika Early Learning Center

Since the beginning of 2013, Malaika has actively opened its doors to visitors so that they too may experience our state-of-the-art facility and see the wonderful things that happen here first hand. Set tour times are available each Wednesday morning at 9:30 a.m. However, if a different time would be better for you or your guests, a tour can be scheduled at anytime. We invite you to share with your family and friends the difference you are making in the lives of the children who attend Malaika. You can show them that when you invest in Malaika Early Learning Center, you are doing more than buying school supplies; you are investing in the future of our students.

Volunteers Needed

Do you love kids? Do you want to help ensure children get on the bus safely? Now that the weather is nice, do you want an excuse to spend a little time outdoors?

If so, you are in luck! Malaika Early Learning Center is currently looking for a Bus Monitor to help out Thursdays and Fridays between the hours of 3:30 p.m. -5:30 p.m.

If interested, please call Tamara Johnson at 414-562-4997, or, if you prefer, you may email her at tjohnson@malaikaelc.org





The Easter Bunny Visits Malaika

Everyone from infants to kindergarten had the chance to participate in Easter festivities this year at Malaika! Egg hunts, art projects, and a special visit from the Easter Bunny kept the day full of fun and smiles on lots of little faces. A special thanks to all the parents who donated the plastic Easter eggs, stuffed them, and hid them around the school - another shining example of how involved the families of the children are at Malaika Early Learning Center. Without the dedication and desire to participate in the lives of the children in their life, Malaika would not be the same. Thank you!

Family Fun Nights

A special family fun night held at the Betty Brinn Children's Museum was a huge hit! With a very large turn out, everyone had a great time exploring exhibits such as the Hands-On Harley-Davidson Dealership, which focuses on teaching the children how a community works. The Adventures of Mr. Potato Head exhibit had fun ways of building fundamental skills. The ever-popular Service Center helps identify the source of the problem before attempting to fix it, while the Food Market teaches the value of healthy eating and the way a cash register works.



Thanks to the Kohl's Field Trip Grant Program, Malaika has been awarded three grants to be used towards future field trips to the Betty Brinn Children's Museum and the Milwaukee Zoological Society during the 2013-2014 school year.

We are also happy to announce that Malaika has received a grant for \$10,000 from the Herzfeld Foundation, which will be used towards the continued implementation of the Creative Curriculum Program.

Black History Month



During the month of February, the children were busy learning about African American leaders who have made an impact within our country. After choosing specific leaders, the children created special art projects and performed for their friends and families, reenacting the momentous achievements these leaders have made through skits, songs, and musical performances.



Week of the Young Child

The Week of the Young Child is an annual celebration sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. The purpose of the week is to focus public attention on the needs of young children and their families and to recognize the local, state, and national programs and services that help meet those needs. This is a special week to recognize and recommit ourselves to ensuring that each and every child experiences the best in the early years of their lives; at home, at school/child care, and in the communities they live in. For the children, it means a week of extra fun! Thanks to Ms. Pamela Harrell, Ms. LaKasha Johnson, and Ms. Danita Jackson, the week was well organized with wagon races, a handprint mural that will be displayed in the front foyer, an all school Sing-A-Long with Ms. Elise from the Milwaukee Conservatory of Music, a chance to bring their favorite stuffed animal to school to cuddle with while participating in a Read-A-Thon, and an Ice Cream Social to end the week! The children were not the only ones to benefit this week, thanks to the wonderful Board of Directors, the staff was provided with lunch from Panera. Executive Director, Tamara Johnson was kind enough to provide the parents with a continental breakfast on Wednesday morning as well!



Box Tops for Education

Malaika Early Learning Center is still actively seeking Box Tops for Education. For each Box Top turned in, Malaika will receive \$.10. Find Box Tops on these participating brands: NESTLÉ®, JUICY JUICE®, Ziploc®, Kleenex®, Scott®, Huggies®, Pull-Ups®, Goodnites®, Cottonelle®, Hefty®, Easy Grip®, Elegantware®, ZooPals®, The Gripper®, Cinch Sak®, Renew®, OdorBlock®, Ultra Flex®, EasyFlaps®, BlackOut®, Kitchen Fresh® Basics®, EZ Foil®, Supreme™, Superweight™, Land O'Lakes, BRITA, Yoplait, and General Mills products.

The 2012-2013 school year may be coming to an end, but 2013-2014 is just around the corner and it is never too early to start preparing! Here's a few ways in which you can help: funds are always needed to maintain student enrichment opportunities such as art, music, and UW Milwaukee College for Kids. When you choose to sponsor a scholar for \$187, one student will be able to participate in field trips and/or events that will help them better understand the community in which they are living. On average, it costs \$150 for Malaika to host a Family Fun Night/Parent Meeting – both of which we believe are essential to maintaining a high level of parent involvement. Donations of gift cards or items to be raffled off as parent incentives are always appreciated! Malaika Early Learning Center appreciates any sort of donation, which includes your time. We would love for you to experience the difference you are making first hand. Whether you come to help out in a classroom, go on a field trip, or help as a bus monitor; one thing is guaranteed, you will walk away confidently knowing that you made the right decision investing in Malaika Early Learning Center.



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